SOCIAL ASPECTS

The following characterization and key questions were developed to describe the past, present and potential future human uses of the Lower Rogue River Watershed Analysis Area, below the Illinois River.

Cultural Characterization

The Lower Rogue River Watershed, below the Illinois River, can be characterized as a dynamic landscape. For millions of years, the Rogue River evolved without the influence of humans. Over the last several thousand years, Native Americans and early settlers discovered and utilized the river and the surrounding terrain functioning as integral parts in the evolution of the watershed as it appears today.

The river, the land, and the resources available have set limits and provided opportunities for prehistoric and historic inhabitants alike. Interactions between natural and human forces have shaped the human use of the area. Flat, open land, preferred for human use, is limited within the watershed. Aggregations of people are limited by topography.

Prehistorically, the stream and river corridors were used as resource procurement areas dealing with shellfish and anadromous fishes. Upland areas were also seasonally used as procurement areas and as travel routes. In historic times, the lure of mineral wealth or land to settle attracted people to this difficult terrain.

The history of human use within the lower Rogue River watershed, below the Illinois River, can be reconstructed and interpreted by examining the physical remains and historic records of previous inhabitants as well as observable changes which are the results of human activities. Remains, examined in conjunction with information provided by the natural environment and historical records, can reveal patterns of human behavior and adaptation. The lower Rogue River watershed contains both prehistoric and historic sites which represent every cultural milestone in the local history. Archaic to historic contact period prehistoric sites, early settlements, Indian war, mining, Depression Era sites and early Forest Service sites can all be found within the analysis area.

The prehistory and history of the watershed are treated in Stephen Beckham's *Cultural Resource Overview of the Siskiyou National Forest* (Beckham, 1978). Additionally, Dodge, Peterson and Powers have compiled general histories of the region and fragmentary local histories exist in the form of oral histories, family journals, manuscripts and photo collections.

Prehistoric uses of the watershed

Paleo-Indian to Northwest Coast Culture

The archeological record attests to a continuous human occupation of Southwest Oregon for at least the last eight to nine thousand years. Study of the Marial site (35CU84, Griffin, 1983) on the Rogue River provides several carbon-14 dates beginning at 8,560 before present (B.P.), clearly establishing the antiquity of human life in this portion of southwest Oregon. Excavations

carried out within the watershed, near the mouth of the Illinois River at the Tlegetlinten site (35CU59, Tisdale, 1986) unearthed materials from a later ancient culture, possibly dating from two major periods of use at 6,000 and 2,000 years ago. Human adaptations in southwest Oregon appear to have changed from a moderately mobile, hunting-gathering lifestyle to more sedentary, specialized economies. These changes are likely to have been influenced by the effects of population displacement and growth as a result of changing climates and environments in southwestern Oregon as well as in other areas. Parallels exist between ancient Oregon cultures and the lifeways of far-flung places. These similarities are based on the demands of human existence in habitats of a similar nature and illustrate the importance of adaptation to the environment as a factor in shaping human culture.

The Northwest Coast Culture

Native cultures of the Oregon coast belonged to the greater Northwest Coast culture area, which extends from Alaska, on the north, to Cape Mendocino, California, on the south. Although populated by a wide variety of different groups speaking a variety of languages, all of these groups shared a broadly similar way of life. Differences between them were solely due to local variations of the environment. On the current evidence, this riverine/maritime culture can be traced about 3,000 years into the past.

Athabascan speaking people occupied the watershed analysis area at the time of Euro-American contact, although they are considered relative latecomers to the region. The Athabascans may have brought with them a way of life more strongly oriented to riverine resources, displacing groups who followed a subsistence orientation characterized by a greater reliance on the uplands. The Athabascans are linked to changes in settlement pattern and technology which appear in the archeological record about 1,500 years ago along the coast and in the interior of southwest Oregon. These coastal groups, whose territories also extended up the coastal rivers, spoke various dialects of the Athabaskan language. Collectively these Athabaskans are referred to as the Tututni or Coast Rogues, although each band had its own name.

Ethnographically, the Tututni are representatives of the final Native American cultural period in southwestern Oregon. These Athabaskan peoples inhabited much of southwestern Oregon from the beaches to the upland forests. They occupied the region from south of Bandon, Oregon to northern California and extended up the major drainages like the Smith, Chetco, Pistol, Illinois and Rogue Rivers. The bands were numerous and the locations diverse.

In 1854 J.L. Parrish, Indian Agent for the Port Orford District, attempted to compile a map and census of the Tututni within his district. Parrish described the lands of three bands of Tututni which were located on the lower Rogue River. Starting at the mouth of the river, “are the Yahshutes (or Yahshules), whose villages occupy both banks of the To-To-Tin or Rogue River, at its mouth. These people claim but two and a half miles back from the coast, where the To-To-Tin commences. The Yahshutes claim the coast to some remarkable headlands about six miles south of Rogue river.” The latter headland must be a reference to Cape Sebastian. The 1854 census by Parrish reported the "Yahshules" numbered 130 individuals with their major "chief" being Ene-wah-we-sit. Moving inland up the Rogue River are, “the To-To-Tins, from whom is derived the generic name of the people speaking the language, resides on the north bank of the To-To-Tin river, about four miles from its mouth” (approximately the mouth of
country extends from the eastern boundary of the Yahshutes, a short distance below their village, up the stream about six miles, where the fishing grounds of the Mac-an-o-tins commence. Mac-an-o-tin village is about seven miles above that of the To-To-Tins, and is on the same side of the river” (near the mouth of Lobster Creek). “They claim about twelve miles of the stream.”

Parrish's census reported the "To-To-Tin" numbered 123 individuals in a single village, with their major "chief" being One-an-ta. The Mac-an-o-tins numbered 146 individuals led by "chief" Yap-see-o-we-lee. Parrish also mentions that between the three bands only the To-To-Tin possessed any firearms – they had three guns. Whether these groups maintained strict territorial boundaries delineating upland resource areas is unclear. At one point, Parrish describes the bands holdings as "reaching back from the coast indefinitely", while in a later reference he states, "As the Indians derive but a small portion of their sustenance from the country, they attach but little value to the surrounding mountains, for which reason their boundaries, except along the coast streams are in many cases undefined, and in others vague and indefinite.

A later map, a compilation of the works of Alex Ross and E-ne-a-ti, 1884, and a research paper by Jay Miller and William Seaburg indicates that the watershed was shared by a larger number of groups, or perhaps a finer division of the three groups noted by Parrish. This division includes the Ya-Shu-Wi-Tunne (Ya-Shute or Ya-Shule or Joshua) at the mouth of the Rogue on the north side, the E-Ni-Tunne on the south side of the Rogue, the Na-Tsu-Tunne also on the south side of the Rogue, but higher in elevation and further south, and the Tcet-Les-Can-Tunne or the "next south village". Again moving up the Rogue River these sources mention the Tu-Tu-Tunne (or Do-To-Dene') on the lower Rogue, the Tcet-Les-I-Ye-Tunne on the north side of the Rogue below Tu-Tu-Tunne, and the Macano-Dene' (or Mi-Kono-Tunne) on the Rogue River from Lobster Creek to the Illinois River.

The general pattern of Tututni settlement indicates that large winter villages, containing 50 to 150 individuals, were established along coastal areas, rivers and major streams. Houses constructed at village settlements were substantial. "Their houses are constructed by excavating a hole in the ground twelve to sixteen feet square and four or five feet deep inside of which puncheons or split stuff are set upright six or eight feet high. Upon the top of these boards or thatches, are places for the roof. In the gable end a round hole is made sufficiently large for the entrance of one person. The descent is by passing down a pole upon which rude notches are cut which serve as steps. These houses are generally warm and smokey." (Parrish, 1854) Each house had a central fire area with a small smoke hole above. The earthen floor was packed solidly to keep out moisture and was often covered with mats of cattail fibers. Another structure constructed in the village site was the sweathouse. Built by the men of the village this was a semi-subterranean, earth covered structure with an entry on one side and a hole for dropping down fire heated rocks on the other. The sweathouse could be sealed to more effectively hold in the heat. These villages served as semi-permanent habitation spots, where foods collected throughout the year could be stored for use in the winter. In the summer, when traveling to fishing sites or food gathering locations these people erected simple brush shelters around a central fire pit.

As mentioned above, major Tututni villages were known to have existed at the mouth of the Rogue, at the confluence of the Rogue and Squaw Creek and at the confluence of the Rogue and Lobster Creek. No traces of these village sites have been discovered as of this date; they have never been excavated or documented. Although these village sites have never been excavated, parallels may be drawn to what life must have been like in these villages by comparing them to the Shasta Costa Village Site, 35CU161. Winthrop and Gray did a limited amount of testing at this site in 1988 due to the site being repeatedly vandalized and damaged by erosion.

The Shasta Costa village site was located at the south end of a terrace opposite a riffle in the river which provides an excellent fishing spot. A long time resident who lived along Shasta Costa Creek at the turn of the century, reported twenty-two housepit depressions, about 15 to 20 feet across and 2 to 3 feet deep at this location. Burials and trade beads were reported coming from this site, as well as abundant fresh water mussel shells (Lucas interview, 1971). Excavations at

this site indicate that Shasta Costa terrace was a significant habitation site over a very long period of time. Cultural materials thirty feet below river laid sediment suggest the antiquity of the site, although no date can yet be assigned to the lower component. The detailed descriptions of the site at the turn of the century, which include reports of intact housepits, fire rings, and mussel shell mounds as well as local reports of Indian fishing practices at Shasta Costa riffle suggest that the site was still occupied near the time of contact. Cultural investigations indicate that the site has several components, and has a complex range of artifacts relating to various tasks and demonstrating at least three stone working technologies. One of these technologies involves flaking river cobbles and using the flakes, a practice not previously recognized at sites investigated along the Rogue River. This technology may possibly be related to fish processing.

This site has been repeatedly disturbed. Early settlers reportedly cleared the flat of trees around the turn of the century, and later farmers leveled some areas along the top of the terrace (Rusty Hill interview, 1987). The 1964 flood inundated the terrace and deposited 6 to 18 inches of silt as other, older floods must also have done. Bank erosion has also been heavy in the past. This prehistoric site has also been repeatedly vandalized. Four potholes were visible on the site when it was investigated in 1987.

Village inhabitants usually consisted of families related through the male lineage. Marriages took place between individuals from different villages, with the bride going to the husband's home. This practice of marrying outside of your own village fostered mutual respect and cooperation between the villages, for the individual had certain ties and responsibilities with his in-law neighbors. Status within the group derived from wealth, measured in goods such as dentalium shells, woodpecker scalps, obsidian blades, bear and sea otter furs, sea lion teeth and slaves. The wealthiest man was the leader, and an individuals social standing depended upon the bride price of his mother.

Generally, the Tututni were hunter-gatherers, subsisting on a diet consisting primarily of salmon and acorns and supplemented by a variety of game and collected food items. A seasonal round of activities was practiced which is characterized by dispersed, small, task-specific groups utilizing the upland areas during the spring and summer months. These hunting and gathering groups would traverse the upland areas in search of game, plants, nuts, berries and other raw materials. Temporary camps in the uplands consisted of grass covered, brush or animal hide shelters. Fall signaled the time for communal fishing and acorn gathering and the occupation of winter villages by multi-family groups. In winter, these people would subsist largely on stored resources collected during the summer and fall.

The material found in the various sites in the watershed indicates considerable use of the river corridor and the resources contained in and adjacent to the river. Like other Indians along the northwest coast of this continent, the tribes of southwest Oregon made extensive use of fish resources, especially the salmon. The fish of the Rogue River and its tributaries were the most important of animal foods. Communal fish weirs and fishing scaffolds were erected in the waterways where, due to the abundance of the fish runs, the basic food resources for an entire year could be procured in a few weeks of work. In addition to fish weirs, these people used many techniques for taking fish: dip nets, basketry fish traps, hook and line, nets and spears were all used to collect this important resource. The indigenous people were also highly skilled in the construction and use of watercraft and the rivers were important transportation routes.

The coastal Athabaskans also had access to a vast array of subsidiary animal foods provided by the shoreline environment. Chitons, limpets, clams, snails, barnacles, sea urchins and crabs were easily collected by women and children in the estuaries and tide pools. Sea mammals such as

seals and sea lions were other marine animals exploited by the coastal natives along with an occasional beached whale. Inland groups probably made seasonal trips to visit their coastal relatives and obtain the resources provided by the ocean through trade and barter.

For the Athabaskans living away from the coast, the dependence upon camas and acorns was much more significant than for the residents along the sea. For inland peoples the acorn became the most important staple in the diet. The Athabaskans preferred the acorns of the tanoak, but in years of poor tanoak acorn production, the acorns of white and black oaks were also utilized. The acorns were ground into flour by use of a flat stone and a basket hopper with a open bottom. The acorns were then leached free of tannic acid by placing the flour in a bed of sand and repeatedly pouring water over the flour. The flour was then stone boiled in a basket to produce a mush. Camas and brodelia bulbs were baked in stone lined pits and were also important plant foods.

The hunting of big game, especially deer, elk and bear were also of great importance to the diet. Covered pits, and game drives utilizing deer fences and snares were commonly employed as well as the bow, arrow and spear. Small game, seeds, insects, berries, birds and eggs also rounded out the diet of these inventive peoples.

It has been typical of Euro-Americans in the past to assume that Native American hunting and gathering societies had very little direct control of or impact upon the territories they occupied. However, a re-examination of the literature, coupled with more careful interviews with Native informants, has turned up a wealth of data about intensive management techniques employed by indigenous peoples. The most powerful of all control methods was the use of fire. Reasons for the use of fire included game drives, maintaining wildlife habitat, procurement of tarweed and grass seeds, acorn gathering and oak grove management, hazel gathering and management, improving the quality of basketry materials, root and berry propagation, extraction of sugar pine sap and seeds, insect collection, tobacco cultivation, warfare, communication and ceremonial purposes.

Various tools and other artifacts not only establish site locations, but also reveal the types of resources being utilized and the types of technologies being performed. A number of sites and isolated finds have been located within the watershed and are representative of the common upland site types found in the Siskiyou National Forest. These include temporary campsites related to hunting and gathering activities such as 35CU203 (SK-689), the Wagon Wheel Meadow Lithic Site and 35CU204 (SK-683), the Lithic Spring Site. Typical artifacts found in these temporary camps include lithic debitage, the waste material from the manufacture of stone tools, and the tools themselves, such as projectile points and scrappers. Although no finished tools were found in either of these two sites, a biface was discovered at the Lithic Spring Site. The debitage found at both sites indicate the middle to late stage debris associated with the latter stages of the lithic reduction process. Lithic technologies at these two sites focused on the completion, re-tooling and repair of stone tools.

Temporary campsites are often located on or near major ridge lines which were used as travel routes, such as the Lithic Spring Site, or in areas where diverse vegetation encouraged the collection of unique resources, such as is found at the Wagon Wheel Meadow Lithic Site. Physical features at the latter site location such as a favorable southerly aspect, the presence of water on site and flat areas for setting up a camp indicate that the site was most likely a hunting and gathering campsite. The presence of vegetation utilized by prehistoric peoples such as tanoak, wild iris, sugar pine, beargrass and various wild berries, as well as meadow areas where grass seeds or flowering tubers such as camas and brodelia could be gathered, would be a strong encouragement to establish a temporary camp. A third example of a site based on resource

procurement is SK-162, the Moorsky Acorn Site. This site is located in a grove of tanoak and consists of fragments of granitic rock. The fragments have one convex face, smoothly polished and appear to be remnants of acorn processing tools. They may possibly be the bases of hopper mortars.

Another upland site type common on the Forest is the lithic quarry. It represents a site where the procurement of raw materials for the production of stone tools was the focus of activity. 35CU218 (SK-1121), the Rock Knob Quarry, and 35CU219 (SK-1122), Paul's Small Quarry, are examples of this type of site within the watershed. Pits dug into outcrops of chert, a cryptocrystaline stone capable of being knapped, and extensive surface rubble from lithic reduction activities typify this site type. The "testing" of chert cobbles found on the surface for purity (that is glassy texture, lack of fractures and absence of intrusions of other minerals) is also another indication of a quarry site. Debitage found at these sites is predominantly large blocky shatter and flake fragments typical of early core shaping activities. Hammerstones of a material not native to the site are also common. These hammerstones range from softball to pebble size. This range represents the lithic reduction sequence from course quarrying work to the fine work required to shape a biface.

Other types of sites which can be found within the watershed offer insights to the religious and spiritual nature of the Native Americans in the area. Religion played an important role in the lives of the indigenous inhabitants. The shaman was a person of considerable consequence in the hierarchy of the local group. An individual might seek direct contact with the supernatural during a vision quest, often conducted in the uplands away from the village. The vision quest was one of the most fundamental and widespread religious concepts of North American Indians, including the inhabitants of southwest Oregon. Certain rites of passage were key in the life cycle of these aboriginal people, the vision quest being one of the most important. This rite was performed by young men and women at puberty on the bald peaks and headlands of the region. The vision quest was undertaken to seek a guardian spirit and to obtain supernatural power. The vision seeker sought the aid of the spirit world through prayer, dreaming, fasting, dancing and going without sleep until a guardian spirit came to the candidate in a vision. An individual could undertake more than one vision quest in his or her lifetime in search of spiritual aid and guidance.

A number of vision quest sites are located within the watershed analysis area including: SK-012, the Agness Vision Quest Site, SK-124, the Waters Vision Quest Site and SK-060, the Signal Buttes Vision Quest Site. SK-060, the Signal Buttes Vision Quest Site, is typical of this type of site. The vision quest site consists of two rock rings situated on a rock pinnacle which is one of several in the immediate area. This site provides a commanding view of the Rogue River and Hunter Creek drainages as well as the Tututni village site. The vision quest rings are circular walls of stones approximately four feet in diameter and varying in height from a single course of rocks on one of the rings to a multiple tiers of rocks to 59 cm in height on the other ring. The pits are large enough to contain one person and are arranged in a semi-linear orientation. This site retains a high degree of physical integrity, although it is suspected that it has been disturbed in the past. The site was discovered by John McWade, part lower Klamath Indian, in the early 1970s. According to McWade, Yurok myths say that it was customary to have two rings during a vision quest, one for the spirit to descend into, and the other for the vision seeker to sit in. These sites are outstandingly significant, Class I cultural resources as they represent a traditional socio-religious practice of the native peoples. Not many of these vision quest sites have been found in southwest Oregon.

The major ridge tops which surround the watershed were also used by the aboriginal inhabitants as trade and travel routes. As previously mentioned, temporary campsites are often located along

these ridgetops. Evidence of trade can be assumed from the artifacts found in various sites. The presence of material such as obsidian, not native to the area, is proof of intercourse with the interior regions. Sourcing of obsidian from various excavations indicates a widespread trade network reaching into northern California, south central Oregon and the central Cascades. In exchange, coastal products such as shells, dried salmon, salmon oil, deerskins and camas root found their way inland. Historically, trails and later roads often followed these aboriginal travel routes.

From an examination of the historic and ethnographic record, it does not appear that the land inhabited by the Tututnis was heavily occupied at the time of white contact. However, there are some indications that the population had declined dramatically because of disease even before Euro-Americans arrived in southern Oregon. Dr. Lorenzo Hubbard, speaking about the Tututni residents of the lower Rogue River in 1856, said: "According to tradition, many years ago they were far more numerous than at the present time, wars and diseases having in some instances destroyed whole tribes. The marks of old towns and large settlements everywhere found, now entirely deserted, are strong evidence of the truth of their traditions." (Hubbard, 1861)

Glimpses of these people and their way of life have been made known to us through ethnographic information, the journals and manuscripts of the early white explorers and settlers, records and accounts from the Rogue Indian Wars and the archaeological record as it pertains to the Northwest Coast Culture area. The ethnographic information that exists for these people was acquired from research conducted at Siletz and Grande Rhonde reservations and the Smith River rancheria. However, by the time the interviews or ethnographic sketches were compiled in the late 1800s and the early part of this century, most sources of information were already a generation removed from tradition.

Historic uses of the watershed

The historic period in this portion of southwestern Oregon begins as early as the 16th and 17th centuries with the voyages of the Spanish explorers. The earliest recorded contact between the coastal natives and Europeans is noted in the logs of Captains George Vancover and Robert Gray in 1792. Within the next quarter century trappers and traders, including North West Company fur trader Peter Corney and an American party of trappers led by Jedediah Smith, appeared in southwestern Oregon. Russian fur hunters, traders and whaling ships of various nations also had contact with the native people on this portion of the coast.

The trapper Jedediah Smith was the first white man with a sizable company to make the land trip between California and Oregon along the sea coast instead of through the Umpqua and Willamette valleys. The year was 1828. The party, which had 300 horses and mules, numbered eighteen men, who trapped as they traveled. By late June Smiths party had entered the Oregon Territory and approached the Rogue River. Smiths journal entry reads as follows:

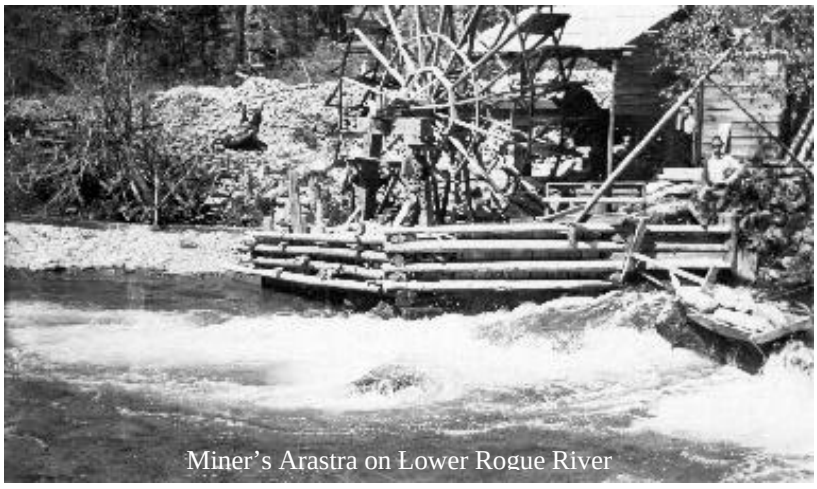
"June 27th North 7 Miles. With the exception of two or three steep points which I was obliged to pass over I was able during the day to travel along the beach. I encamped on the south side of a bay and close to its entrance which was 150 yards wide. The Bay itself was 3 Miles long and 1 Mile wide. At low water I found it quite fresh, from which circumstance I inferred that it received a considerable river. After encamping I made rafts that I might be ready to cross the bay early on the following morning. On each side of the Bay were several indian villages but the

indians had all run off. On a creek which I crossed 3 miles back was some beaver sign and also some in the bay."

There were a large number of Indian lodges on both sides of the river. Upon the approach of the strangers all the inhabitants fled, the women not even stopping to carry off their large burden baskets. Smith's party tore down one lodge to get puncheons to make rafts, as timber was scarce along the beach. The Indians raised smoke signals on the north side of the bay.

"June 28th N N West 6 Miles. Early in the morning as it was low water I commenced crossing. And when I had finished I had lost 12 or 15 drowned in the middle of the water. I know not the reason for their drowning unless it might perhaps be ascribed to driving them so much in a body. In three days I had lost by various accidents 23 horses and mules."

The Gold Rush


Miner's Arastra on Lower Rogue River

Some of the first Euro-American settlers in the area were miners attracted to the region during the gold rush era. In 1849 gold was discovered at Sutter's Mill in California and prospectors flocked through the inland valleys following the California-Oregon Trail. Very quickly, the richest gold producing areas of California were claimed and late coming prospectors spread out into the surrounding countryside in their quest for precious metals. By 1851 the prospectors had reached southwest Oregon and in that year the first discovery of gold in Oregon occurred on Josephine Creek. Other gold strikes were soon to follow. Gold was first discovered on the coast at places like Whiskey Creek and Gold Beach, named for the gold rich, black sand deposits found there. Later, gold deposits were found in the Rogue River. Early prospectors left little of the local country unexplored and in the ensuing years every area along the Rogue River with gold in sufficient concentrations was mined. Mining within the watershed lasted from the middle of the nineteenth century through the 1940s. The search for gold in the Rogue River has had and continues to have an effect on the social and economic conditions, past and present of Curry County.

Mining is one of the most visible of the historic activities which occurred in the watershed. Only a handful of settlers and miners were living in the lower Rogue River region in the late 18th century and almost all were involved in some type of prospecting activity. Evidence of mining or prospecting for gold, nickel and chrome can be found within the analysis area. During World War I, and again in the years preceding World War II, the Federal Government began offering incentives for mining strategic minerals such as chrome. Although temporary in nature, this industrial development was significant in the history of the watershed. A mining district was established in the Signal Buttes area and the associated activities and impacts of mining are still visible today. Other mining sites can also be found in the surrounding areas and tributaries of the lower Rogue River.

When initial contact was made between Euro-American and native cultures along the southwestern Oregon coast relations can be characterized as generally friendly, or at least the cultures avoided one another. However, this situation rapidly deteriorated. During the period between 1840 and 1855 thousands of transient miners and permanent settlers entered southwest Oregon. They were soon followed by merchants, packers and farmers. Encouraged by the Donation Land Act of 1850, the majority of the newcomers who would become permanent residents entered the area in the years between 1850 and 1855. The consequence of this increased emigration was competition between the cultures for space and resources. This situation, coupled with racial and ethnocentric biases, eventually lead to armed conflict in 1853. Ultimately, ill feelings between the native populations and the Euro-Americans exploded into the Rogue River Indian Wars of 1855-56.

The Rogue River Indian Wars

Significant events of this conflict took place within the watershed analysis area. Early in the year 1856 stories of clashes, brutality and massacre in the inland valley of the Rogue had filtered down to the coastal peoples undermining what little confidence the Tututni had in their white neighbors. The arrival of inland refugees and agitators as well as the presence of armed volunteers (the Gold Beach Guard) camped directly across the river from the Tututni village created a volatile situation. Outrages and retaliation by both parties soon brought the situation to a boiling point and the coast warriors decided to strike first. On the night of February 22 the coastal bands attacked the camp of the volunteers and swept through the pioneer settlements killing twenty three persons and burning every building they found, including most of the town of Gold Beach. The offensive was well planned and executed. The survivors of the attack, most of who were attending an all night dance, as well as a few who had escaped to hide in the surrounding woods, ferried across the river to the north side of its mouth to a half completed structure they called Fort Miner. Reinforcing their "fort", the miners and settlers found themselves safe, but isolated and surrounded. The siege lasted until March 21st when the trapped survivors were rescued by the arrival of soldiers and volunteers from Crescent City and Fort Orford.

Colonel Robert Buchanan, commander of the coast military operations, now launched a campaign up the Rogue River against the Indian strongholds. His first inland expedition could not be deemed a success for although the soldiers burned the Shasta Costa village at the mouth of the Illinois River, poor weather and lack of supplies forced their retreat back to the coast. A portion of the force eventually reached Fort Orford "totally without provisions and nearly naked."

Buchanan hesitated to commit his forces to the wilderness when spring rains and insufficient supplies threatened his success in the field. However, he dispatched a force of 112 men commanded by Captains Ord and Floyd-Jones to the principle Mikonotunne village located in a meadow near Skookumhouse Prairie and the mouth of Lobster Creek. The soldiers reached the village and began to burn the plank houses and stores abandoned by the Mikonotunne. Seeing this, the Indians retaliated and close combat for the village ensued. Slowly the soldiers began to take the upper hand. At least five of the defenders died in the fight and another three drowned while trying to escape from the battle in their canoes. Two soldiers were also wounded in the engagement. Captains Ord and Floyd-Jones, unable to pursue the Indians across the river, withdrew at once towards the coast and Buchanan's camp. The troops mission was celebrated as a great success as it was the first to dislodge the Coast Rogues from one of their inland strongholds.

A second, though far less gallant, event of war took place at this same location just a short time later. SK-034, the Lobster Creek Battle Site (Massacre Rocks) is located at the confluence of

Lobster Creek and the Rogue River. Survivors of the Gold Beach Guard, supplemented by new recruits, were anxious to revenge their losses. On April 22, 1856 these forces traveled up the Rogue and concealed themselves in the massive boulders at the mouth of Lobster Creek. Shortly, two canoes containing twelve men and three women came down the stream. When they passed beneath the rocks, the volunteers opened fire and killed all but three of the unsuspecting people.

Following a treaty meeting at Oak Flat in May of 1856, Captain A.J. Smith and a reinforced company of Army Dragoons proceeded to the Big Bend of the Rogue River to accept the surrender of several of the Indian bands. However, an Indian force composed of various inland and coastal bands and led by Chief John, an Applegate River Takelma, advanced on the soldiers forcing them into defensive positions. The fighting at the Battle of Big Bend continued for 30 hours and it was only the arrival of Captain C.C. Auger with a company of infantry that saved the embattled force. The Indians were forced to withdraw from the field. The Battle of Big Bend was the last significant battle between the United States Army and the various tribes of southwest Oregon during the Rogue River Indian War. The result of the battle broke the fighting spirit of the Indians and essentially concluded the war. The bands soon surrendered and the "hold-outs" were tracked down and captured. The majority of the native population was forcibly removed to the Siletz and Grande Rhonde reservations. With the removal of the native inhabitants at the conclusion of the war, the area was opened to settlement.

Euro-American Settlement

Early settlers and miners trickled into the Rogue River area during the 1850s and 1860s. They often built their homes on the same river or stream terraces that had provided homes for the native inhabitants. The remoteness and difficult access precluded extensive development and most people followed a subsistence-oriented way of life. This lifestyle made maximum use of the available fish and game, supplemented with produce grown and animals raised on small farms. The grassy ridge tops were attractive to early stockmen and are often the sites of early homesteads. Goods and services were traded, bartered and scavenged. Cash earning activities were limited and population densities low. Small-scale mining, and the sale of livestock and fish provided some income to local residents. Archeological sites that chronicle historic settlement within the watershed include cabin remains, trails, mines and camps used by miners, homesteaders and packers.

The Huntley/Woodruff Homestead, SK-103, is a prime example of the homesteading efforts of these early Curry County pioneers. Located in Wagon Wheel Meadow these historic remains include the remnants of a horse corral, fence lines and a collapsed cabin. A pigpen, developed spring, outhouse, trash pit and a fruit tree orchard can also be found on the site. Research into the Curry County census records reveals that the earliest recorded homesteader associated with this site is Thomas Huntley. Thomas Huntley was the son of pioneer miner John Huntley (Curry County census, 1870) who mined the gold rich black sand deposits at Ellensburg (Gold Beach). Thomas Huntley occupied the site at Wagon Wheel Meadow as early as 1890 raising livestock including cattle, horses and pigs. The General Land Office (GLO) survey plat of 1893 shows the T. Huntley cabin at the intersection of the “Trail From Illinois River to Gold Beach” and the Wagon Road, SK-690. A Homestead Entry Survey (HES) for this property has not been located. Thomas and his wife Martha (Curry census, 1900) raised five children in the area.

Calvin Woodruff, son of early pioneer miner Lyman Woodruff (Curry census, 1860), was a contemporary of Thomas Huntley. It is not clear when he acquired title to the property from Huntley, but an early Siskiyou National Forest map of 1937 attaches the Woodruff name to the site. Calvin and his wife Hattie also raised five children on the homestead into the 1940s. In the

remains of the cabin can be found both round and square nails, as well as both hand split and milled lumber. The cabin structure therefore contains elements of both early and modern construction materials and building techniques. The cabin was probably repaired and/or rebuilt a number of times. Cedar stumps with springboard notches around the margin of the meadow display the local source of building and fencing material.

Another example of homesteading activity within the watershed analysis area is SK-684, the Moritz Fritsche Cabin Site, home of one of the more colorful characters in the local history. The Curry census of 1900 lists a "Mort Fritsche, age 39, birthplace Germany, as a resident of the county. His occupation is listed as stock raiser. He homesteaded in the Quosatana drainage near Wildhorse Prairie. The Siskiyou National Forest map of 1911 shows the trail which accessed the meadow where Fritsche had his homestead (SK-133, the Fritsche Trail), while the map of 1915 identifies a "Fritsche Ranch" in the same location.

John Adams, game warden, recounts that when he ran some cattle up to Wildhorse Prairie, "Old Moritz Fritsche had a fit … he considered that all his country." Adams referred to Fritsche as " o go in with him and they'ed put out the traps. Then Fritsche would run him off." Fritsche did lots of reading and " … liked to talk about it too. He was a hard-headed German; even if he knew he was wrong, he'd still be right." These oral accounts were from the 1930s. At that time Fritsche would have been in his late sixties. Apparently his sight was giving out, for according to Adams " … Fritsche met us and said, 'John, vill you tell me vere my @#!&#* cabin is?' He was pretty near in sight of it then, but he got lost every time he got out into the brush."

Little is left of the cabin site, although a sign marks its location. Near the sign is a leveled area with the remains of a shingled wall and several notched logs and scattered lumber. Fruit trees, fence lines and scattered trash are all that remain of the homestead of this unique individual.

The U.S. Forest Service

The Siskiyou National Forest was established on October 5, 1906. Henry Haefner, an early forester in the area states, "In 1909 the National Forest area was about as the Indians had left it. Nothing of importance had been done to improve the property or even find out what it contained in the way of timber or other natural resources." The early foresters duties included mapping, estimating the amount of timber and agricultural land, law enforcement, fire protection, as well as a multitude of other jobs involved with the administration of a large timberland. The rangers often built their own stations and headquarters.

Various trails, lookouts, camps, guard stations and telephone lines were constructed within the watershed during the first three decades of this Forest's history. Wildhorse Lookout, SK-689, was first established in 1929 as a fireman's cabin, and replaced in 1931 with an R-1 type lookout cabin. In 1935 this was upgraded to a 40-foot pole L-4 tower. The present structure was constructed in 1947 as a Standard '36 L-4 house mounted on a forty foot sawn lumber tower with a catwalk. The "Standard '36" model was characterized by a hipped roof, two-over-two light windows and door, and ceiling joists which extend two feet beyond the cabin to support the shutters. Major interior features include wood built-in cabinets and an Osbourne Firefinder. Wildhorse Lookout, as with such other lookouts including, SK-1101, Lake of the Woods Lookout, formed a protective ring around the rim of the watershed. Their presence is significant for its critical role in the development of the fire detection and suppression systems in rugged southwest Oregon. The lookouts helped assure that a reliable and abundant timber supply would support Curry County's post World War II economic growth.

Early communications in the watershed consisted of primitive phone lines connecting the various lookouts to the ranger stations and the towns of Agness and Gold Beach. Examples of these lines of communication are: SK-604, the Snow Camp Phone Line and SK-1113, the Pine Grove Trail #27A and Phone Line. SK-125, the Lake-O-Woods Trail, not only provided access to Lake of the Woods Lookout from Agness but also serviced the grabaphone – Kellogg telephone system installed in the stations in these early years. According to historian and Fire Control Officer for the Gold Beach Ranger District, George Morey, "The Forest Service started and completed a telephone line the seven miles from Agness to Lake-of-the-Woods Lookout in 1915." This date is verified in L.J. Cooper's "A History of the Siskiyou National Forest" in the section highlighting year-by-year accomplishments. As with other remnants of phone lines, portions of telephone wire and tree hung ceramic insulators can still be found today.

An important component of the historic fabric of the watershed is the trail system. These transportation corridors were the first travel routes within the watershed and many of these paths followed older aboriginal routes. "Chief" Elwin Frye identified SK-1113, the Pine Grove trail #27A and SK-125, the Lake-O-Woods Trail as Indian travel routes. Frye was a packer for the Forest Service and the grandchild of early Rogue River settlers John and Adeline Billings. Other historic trails within the watershed include: SK-615, the Gold Beach-Agness Trail, SK-110, the Lower Rogue River Trail and IF-315, the Hume Trail remnant. Trail systems effectively linked the coastal area with the interior of the Forest, and the interior with the Rogue Valley. Many were routes that the miners, and the packers that supplied them, established to get their materials to and from the prospects. Others were used to drive cattle to summer pasture. During the first three decades of this National Forest's history, the trail systems were improved and expanded. Today many Forest roads follow these historic trail routes. Other remnants of these trail routes form a portion of today's recreational trail system.

The Depression Era

The Depression of the 1930s brought an influx of people to the public forest lands. Numerous out of work individuals sought survival in the mountains undertaking a subsistence economy lifestyle just as the earlier settlers had. These people were also engaged in prospecting and small-scale mining encouraged by the revaluation of gold. Some of the older claims and gravel bars along the river were probably re-worked at this time.

In the 1930s the federal government created through New Deal legislation a number of programs of work-relief to combat the impact of the depression. In southwest Oregon the development of the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) formed an important chapter in the local history. Fire prevention and suppression, tree planting and timber stand improvement, range improvement, soil conservation, road building and forest facilities construction were all undertaken by the CCC volunteers. The Civilian Conservation Corps provided employment and a measure of financial relief for the enrollees and their families.

After completing their basic training at Fort Lewis, Washington, the first CCC units were assigned to Agness, Oregon (SK-695) near the mouth of the Illinois River. The original contingent of thirty men were soon re-enforced by more and more CCC units. At Agness the challenges involved the difficulty of getting supplies, equipment and materials to the project areas. During their first summer and fall the Agness unit cut the first cat road between Agness and Illahe. During the same time period, they also constructed a new suspension bridge across the Rogue River, layed out an airport in Illahe, constructed their own camp and erected four new

buildings at the Agness Ranger Station (SK-119). The Agness Ranger Station is a premiere example of Civilian Conservation Corps construction methods, materials and techniques.

The Modern Era

Perhaps the single most effective factor shaping life along the river has been its isolation from the rest of the world. The first road did not reach the upper reaches of the watershed until well into the twentieth century. Not until the 1960s did a road provide access from Agness to the coast, or did power lines bring electricity to the local residents. In the early decades of the twentieth century recreational use of the streams, rivers and forests has added a new economic emphasis to the area. Guides and packers often adapted older cabins and camps to their new enterprises and a new breed of recreational hunters, fishermen and ecologically inspired tourists provide an alternative income to the local economy. Agness maintained its position as an important terminous for the river boats and enjoyed the added benefit of income generated by tourists. Logging became a major regional industry only after the Second World War as roads were constructed in the area.

The Smith Ranch, SK-282, and the Smith Ranch Home Site, SK-691, are examples of how a single locality can display a variety of uses over time. The Smith Ranch locality is a broad flat, consisting of several river terraces, encompassing about fifty acres. Two major prehistoric sites are in the near vicinity and, although no specific references relate this flat to prehistoric activities, the location suggests that it was used. Also, the terrace accumulates silt during floods and may contain buried deposits. The flat was originally homesteaded by the Smith brothers between the years 1913 and 1918, though the old cabin is long gone. The brothers lived a subsistence lifestyle and were locally well known for the honey they produced from several hives of bees. There was also a lumber mill in the area. A large steam boiler was brought up the river by barge for this mill. Too heavy to salvage, the boiler remains on the site today. As the years passed the property changed hands a number of times and the last owners created a different sort of "homestead" for themselves. This was the recreational residence, and the cabins that were built on the terrace during this period date from the 1940s and 1950s.

Even though the historic element is by far more tangible than that of the prehistoric, much of this cultural fabric within the watershed is little known. Many of the sites in the watershed have not been formally documented or evaluated for their historic significance.

Does the watershed contain any culturally significant traditional use areas?

There is no evidence which suggests that the area within the watershed is presently used for traditional activities by local Indian groups. Recognized tribes consulted (Tolowa, Karok, Coquille and Siletz) did not provide any additional information regarding traditional use in the watershed analysis area. The Confederated Tribes of Siletz has expressed an interest in gathering traditional forest products such as pine nuts, lodge poles and beargrass. If requested, the gathering of forest products would be administered by the standard permit system.

Information Needs: The complete status and number of cultural sites in the watershed are unknown. Formal site evaluations of many sites have not been conducted.

Management Opportunities: Cultural resource surveys will precede all ground disturbing projects. All sites discovered will be documented and added to the Forest inventory. The significance of inventoried sites shall be evaluated for eligibility for the National Register of

Historic Places. Suitable cultural resource properties may be interpreted for recreational use and educational benefit of the general public. There is an opportunity for partnership with the recognized tribes in the development of recreational and educational programs.

Recreational Uses

What are the major recreational uses in the watershed and where do they occur?

The Rogue River watershed from Agness to the mouth is a diverse watershed for recreational use on the Gold Beach Ranger District. This section of the Rogue River corridor receives the highest number of visitors of all watersheds on the District. Today, recreational activities include motorboating, viewing the river and scenery by tour boats, fishing, hiking, hunting, swimming, camping, picnicking, recreational driving and a small amount of downriver floating with rafts, drift boats, canoes and kayaks.

The Rogue River was one of the eight original rivers designated as Wild and Scenic by Congress in 1968. From Agness to Blue Jay Creek, it is classified as "Recreational" (1.5 miles). From Blue Jay Creek to Slide Creek (7.5 miles), it is classified as "Scenic"; from Slide Creek to Lobster Creek (7 miles), it is classified as "Recreational". The Wild & Scenic designation ends at Lobster Creek. From Lobster Creek to the mouth of the Rogue River it is designated as an Oregon Scenic Waterway.

The Rogue River and trails provided original primary access in the watershed. Trails were improved and a road was constructed from Agness to Illahe and from Agness to Powers. Beginning in the 1950s and continuing to the 1990s, roads were constructed primarily for timber harvest activities. With these roads, and the road from Gold Beach to Agness being completed in the early 1960s, recreational driving, hunting, and camping increased as a recreational activity.

River Use

The Rogue River is internationally known for its fisheries which account for much of the early recreation on the river. Drift boats were used for salmon and steelhead fishing through the Rogue River canyon and motorboats were used to bring people upriver. In the 1920s and 1930s, the Rogue became famous for sport fishing, due in part to pioneer river guides like Glenn Wooldridge, who made the first motorboat trip from Gold Beach to Grants Pass in the early 1940s. The writing of Zane Grey also contributed to is fame. The number of people fishing and recreating increased to support lodges along the river and in Agness. Known internationally for decades as a "fish highway", the Rogue River attracts anglers vying for its four annual runs of fish: spring chinook salmon (April through June), summer steelhead and fall chinook salmon (August through November), and Winter Steelhead (December through March). Most of this fishing is from motorized boats, although there are a large number of anglers that fish from the river bars and from drift boats. Fishing continues to provide the largest and most important social and economic segment of non-commercial and commercial recreational use on the Rogue River.

Commercial tour boats provide another major recreational use of the Rogue River in this watershed. Tour boats take visitors up the river to view and experience its whitewater, scenery, wildlife, and other resources. Tour boats began with the Rogue River Mailboats taking passengers as well as mail from Gold Beach to Agness. This started in 1938 and became more popular in the 1940s after an article about the trip was published in Sunset magazine (Personal communication with Ed Kammer, September, 1999). Today, there are two tour boat companies that operate out of Gold Beach. Virtually all tour boat operation occurs between May 1 and the end of September. Approximately 50,000 passengers annually take tour boat trips from Gold Beach to the Agness area and further upstream.

Noncommercial boat trips for sightseeing, fishing, and camping are not limited on the Rogue River below Agness; the annual number of trips is large, but the average number of passengers per boat is far smaller than that of the commercial tour boats. Commercial and non-commercial anglers use the river heavily as the fish run during spring and fall, with less use in winter and summer.

Riverside Camping

There are numerous sites where people camp along the river between Agness and the mouth. This camping is divided into roaded and unroaded river access. Unroaded river bar camping use in the summer is steady, with peak times occurring on Jet Boat Marathon Weekend in early June, and the July 4th and Labor Day holiday weekends. The focus of this camping use seems to be boating and camping. A few hikers use the sites that are on the north side of the river along the Lower Rogue River Trail. Roaded river bar camping use is much larger, and its focus is on camping and fishing from near-by camp trailers or motor homes, with very little boating involved.

There are also numerous private recreational vehicle parks and campgrounds and one river lodge on or very close to the river shoreline. These businesses accommodate thousands of riverine campers annually. Those located on the north side of the river are accessed off U.S.Highway 101 by the North Bank Rogue River Road, while those on the south side are accessed off U.S.Highway 101 by Jerry's Flat Road. Some of these facilities provide boat launching, while the customers of the other facilities use the area's primary boat ramps at Forest Service campgrounds (Lobster Creek and Quosatana Creek) and at the Port of Gold Beach.

Trails

Trails in the watershed provided access for Native Americans, followed by miners and settlers. The most heavily used trails in this watershed are the Frances Shrader Old Growth Trail, the Myrtle Tree Trail, and the Lower Rogue River Trail. Other trails include the Fritsche Cabin, Woodruff Meadow, and Pine Grove Trails.

The 13-mile Lower Rogue River Trail from Agness to Silver Creek is the main extended hiking trail used in the watershed. It is accessed by the Agness Road at the east trailhead and the North Bank Road at the west trailhead, approximately 15 miles from Gold Beach. It parallels the north side of the river and offers beautiful views of the river downstream of the Agness area. This trail is used primarily by hikers and mountain bikers. Recent budget allocations have reduced the level of annual maintenance. In 1999 the trail was closed due to fallen trees and logs and was recently re-opened to hikers only. The recreational use of the trail has increased over time, prior to the closure trail use was estimated at 1,000 to 1,500

hikers a year. The Gold Beach Ranger District is working this year to reopen the trail.

The Frances Shrader Old Growth Trail is approximately one mile long and features an easy grade, with 14 interpretive points to inform users about a coastal old growth forest. A pit toilet is located in the parking lot. Located approximately 12 miles from Gold Beach, it receives approximately 4,000 visitors, the largest use of any trail in this watershed. Its close proximity to the Myrtle Tree Trail and their relatively short distances from Gold Beach and U.S.Highway 101 accounts for the high amount of use. Last year, the gravel surface on the Shrader Trail was replaced with funds from the Trail Park Pass Program and with work provided by volunteers.

The Myrtle Tree Trail is 1/4 mile long, moderately steep, and switchbacks up to the world's largest known myrtle tree. Located approximately 10 miles from Gold Beach, it receives 2,000 to 2,500 visitors annually. A pit toilet is located at the parking area.

The Pine Grove Trail is seven miles long. The trail travels through an impressive Jeffrey pine grove about 2 miles from the Wildhorse trailhead. The trail ends at the Illinois River Bridge.

The Woodruff Meadow Trail accesses a pioneer homestead and a number of meadows. The trail has been re-opened by volunteers.

Information Needs: The number of commercial fishing guide clients in the segment of river from Agness to Lobster Creek has not been tabulated separately from the number of clients from Agness to Watson Creek. The number of non-commercial boat trips and anglers (boat and bank) in this segment is not known either. The number of private recreational boat trips and passengers, and the number of riverside campers in the area from Agness to the mouth is not known.

Management Opportunities: The Lower Rogue River Trail needs to be re-opened. The Myrtle Trail needs more gravel surfacing. The Woodruff Meadow trail could be improved and extended.

Campgrounds and Dispersed Recreation

There are two developed campgrounds in the watershed: Lobster Creek and Quosatana Creek.

Lobster Creek Campground is located approximately 10 miles from Gold beach on Forest Road 33 (Agness Road). It has six camping sites on one paved asphalt loop, with picnic tables, fire rings, two flush toilet restrooms, and a paved concrete public boat ramp. There is no potable water available. Camping is also available on the gravel bar (approximately 10 sites) adjacent to the boat ramp. Although this campground receives some local use, the majority of users travel from U.S. Highway 101. They use both the campground and the gravel bar, with the gravel bar receiving slightly more use than the campground.

Quosatana Creek Campground is located approximately 14 miles from Gold Beach on Forest Road 33 (Agness Road). It has 43 camping sites on two asphalt paved loops, with picnic tables, fire rings, three flush toilet restrooms, asphalt paved footpath overlooking the river, RV dumping station, fish cleaning station, potable water, and concrete paved public boat ramp. There is a large gravel bar adjacent to the boat ramp, but camping is not permitted there. This campground has long been favored by the public for its wooded camping areas, large, sunny, open spaces for recreating, accessibility to blackberries, and prime location for fishing at the gravel bar or upriver from the boat ramp.

Dispersed camping sites include the private gravel bar downstream of Lobster Creek Campground, Hawkins Bar, Dunkleberger Bar, Smith Orchard (Bar), the Lower Rogue River Trailhead, and Bradford Creek. The gravel bars are totally unimproved. The Lower Rogue River Trailhead has a pit toilet, and the Bradford Creek site has a picnic table.

Other dispersed recreational activities include driving to view scenery, hunting, bank fishing, swimming, wildflower viewing, and agate hunting. Road 33 from Gold Beach through Powers to Highway 42 has been designated as the Rogue-Coquille National Scenic Byway. The portion of the Byway within the watershed goes from Gold Beach to Agness and provides beautiful views of the Rogue River.

Information Needs: The amount of dispersed recreation use is not known. Monitoring trips to determine the amount and types of use can be completed if funding is available.

Management Opportunities: Occupancy in both National Forest campgrounds could be increased through press releases in area newspapers. In addition, camp hosts can supply area information centers with information and displays, a feature article in a local commercial newsletter, and signing at relevant road junctions. Another option for increasing occupancy is to offer amenities unavailable in the past, including firewood, ice, and soda sales. Potable water would substantially increase the occupancy at Lobster Creek Campground. Furnishing showers would substantially increase occupancy at Quosatana Campground.

The deferred maintenance backlog in the campgrounds needs to be addressed. Picnic tables and fire rings need to be replaced and the roads need to be re-paved. There is also an opportunity to provide the Bradford Creek dispersed camping area with a pit toilet.

Commodities

What commodities can be produced from the watershed?

Timber

At the present time, 86 percent of the National Forest portion of this watershed is being managed for late Successional Reserve, Riparian Reserve, and other non-timber resources. Ten percent is in the Matrix allocation, where commercial timber harvest is an objective. This is primarily in the Quosatana and Wakeup Rilea Watersheds. An additional four percent is in Partial Retention Visual, where commercial timber harvest must meet visual objectives, as seen from the Rogue River. This is in the Bradford, Bill Moore, Tom East, and Bridge Creek Watersheds.

Within Late-Successional Reserve, commercial timber harvest activities would be limited to removing tree encroachment from meadows and oak savannas, stand treatment to accelerate growth and development of early and mid-seral stands into stands with late seral structure, salvage of hazard trees adjacent to open roads, and salvage of trees if catastrophic events (fire or wind) occur in the future.

Special Forest Products

The special forest product in highest demand in this watershed is beargrass. Other special forest products include boughs, vine maple, huckleberry brush, Christmas trees, mushrooms, firewood, and salal. Impacts to the resources of the watershed have been minimal. Bough collection in the

Coos-Curry Powerline corridor is a priority project to minimize trees growing up into the powerlines.

Management Opportunities: Special forest products may continue to be collected as the market dictates and in accordance with management area objectives and requirements. Beargrass will continue to be collected at a higher rate than other special forest products in this watershed.

What is the current and historic level of grazing in the watershed?

Grazing probably began in the watershed in the 1850s. Morris Fritsche ran a small herd of cattle from 1890s to 1944 on Fritsche Prairie, Wildhorse Prairie and surrounding lands prior to and after the Siskiyou National Forest was established. For many years he "held domain" over the surrounding country, claiming it as his own. After the Forest Service took over he greatly resented the enforcement of a fee for the grazing of his cattle and threatened to kill Dick Helm, an early Agness Ranger who tried to collect the grazing fee (Haefner, 1975). The 1937 Siskiyou National Forest Range Management Plan stated Fritsche had applied for a permit to graze two head of cattle on the prairie (Martinek 1993).

The Adams Ranch on Adams Prairie was owned by George Richard "Dick" Adams from 1910 through 1947. The Adams' raised cattle, horses, sheep, goats and hogs on the ranch and surrounding country. The family also owned half of Skookumhouse Prairie, Soldier Camp Prairie, and Second Prairie (also known as Rock Prairie). Cattle grazed all of these prairies as well as the surrounding forested lands. The Adams' usually ran about 60 head of cattle from 1910 to 1960. The cattle were run down to the Miller Ranch where they were transported to market. The sheep mostly grazed Skookumhouse Prairie and secondarily at Adams Prairie. The goats stayed primarily on Adams Prairie. The family raised horses and used them as work animals on the ranch. Jack Adams purchased the ranch from his father in 1947. The family sold off the goats and sheep. Jack bought a tractor in 1948. The workhorses were still used after they bought the tractor, but to a lesser extent. The hogs were set out after weaning to run the country and fatten up on the falling acorns. Every year, in late winter or early spring, about 200 hogs were rounded up and either barged down the river on Fred Lowry's barge, or run down the Lower Rogue River trail and sent to market. In 1956 a road was built to the ranch and after that the hogs and cattle were transported out of the ranch by pickup truck (Information in this paragraph is from a March 17, 2000 Interview with Wayne Adams who lived on the ranch from his birth in 1944 until 1960).

The U.S. Forest Service maintained a pack string in the watershed until 1970 or 1971. From 1960 to 1970 or 1971, the horses were kept at Adams Prairie during winter, where the barn was available for the horses to get in out of the bad winter weather. During summer, the horses were kept at the old Agness Guard Station, where a barn and a tack room were available for use. Adams Prairie was also used for gathering hay through a special use permit from the late 1960s through mid 1970s (Joe Genre, personal communication).

In 1974, Glenn Hensley received a grazing allotment at Adams Prairie (USDA, 1989), and started a second grazing allotment at Skookumhouse Prairie in 1979 (USDA, 1989a). He ran between 30 and 40 cow/calf pair at the allotments until 1989, when he did not renew his permit. The private land below Skookumhouse (Lowry property) had cattle through the 1999. These cattle trespassed onto National Forest lands in the vicinity of Skookumhouse Prairie, but no legal allotment was ever established.

Another grazing allotment in the Bridge, Sundown, Stonehouse, Painted Rock and Morris Rogers watersheds was present beginning in 1936 or earlier (USDA 1966). Permittee L. Blondell ran 5 to 7 cow/calf pair in 1948. When the allotment was transferred to W.R. Scherbarth in 1956, cattle used the allotment from June through mid-October, but only 22 animal unit months were realized (4 cow/calf pair). The allotment was originally called the Lobster Range, but was changed to the Sundown Allotment after grazing in the South Fork of Lobster Creek was eliminated. Several meadows lost their forage value because they were "encroached by tree species and undesirable vegetation". This allotment was terminated in 1966 due to lack of access to available forage and incompatibility with industrial forestry.

There are no active grazing allotments in the watershed currently.

Special Use Permits

A number of Special Use Permits have been issued in this watershed for private uses on National Forest including boat docks, waterlines, and electric sites. A buried telephone line and an overhead powerline parallel Road 33. These lines supply telephone and electric service to residences along the road and to the town of Agness.

Road Summary

Table 1. Miles of Roads in the Watershed

Watershed	Roads	Miles of Road
Quosatana Watershed	47	52.2
Bradford Watershed	12	5.1
Remainder of the Watershed (National Forest System Roads Only)	106	116.8
Total	**165**	**174.1**

More information on roads within Quosatana Creek and Bradford Creek watersheds is in their respective watershed analyses.

Which roads are needed for future access in the National Forest portion of the watershed and which roads need treatment to protect the resources of the watershed?

History

Most early access to what is now the National Forest portion of the watershed was by river or trail. Wagon roads led to early home sites on prairies and river terraces. As early as 1890, a wagon road accessed the area near Wagon Wheel Meadow. By the time of the 1940 aerial photos, there were roads to homesites and ranches on both sides of the Rogue River near Agness, connecting to the Illahe Road that was constructed by the Civilian Conservation Corps in the 1930s. There was also a road to Wildhorse Lookout, accessed from the Pistol River Road; and wagon roads or well-developed trails bordering the northern ridges of the watershed and connecting to the farm on Adams Prairie.

In the 1950s logging roads were constructed on both sides of the Rogue River near Agness. After the bridge over the Illinois River just below Lawson Creek washed out in the 1955 flood, a ferry across the Rogue River downstream of the mouth of the Illinois provided access for logging trucks to haul timber from the hillsides on the south bank of the Rogue to the Agness-Illahe Road on the north bank, and to the mill. The ferry was replaced in 1964 by the Agness Road bridge over the Illinois.

The major road building effort to access National Forest land for timber harvest began in the early 1960s in this watershed. Within the decade, most of the watershed was roaded, and construction of spur roads continued through the early 1990s (see Map 21, Regeneration Harvest and Roads). Although they were originally constructed for timber harvest, today roads in the National Forest portion of the watershed are used for recreation, hunting, access to special forest products, fire suppression, and administrative access.

Present Road Conditions

Agness Road 33 was constructed in 1964, providing roaded access between Gold Beach and Agness. The culverts in this road are now past their life expectancy and many are in poor condition and need to be replaced. The road crosses the many geologic faults and slump-earthflow features that the Rogue River flows through. These cause chronic road failures, drainage, and maintenance problems. Silver Creek Road 3533 on the north bank of the river

upstream of Lobster Creek was also constructed in the early 1960s. Ditches and culverts are old, in poor condition, and beginning to cause road washouts. Roads in other subwatersheds may be in similar condition.

Information Needs: Comprehensive road condition surveys need to be conducted. Many culverts are older than their life expectancy, in poor condition, and may fail, blocking roaded access as well as contributing to resource damage. Roads need to be evaluated for their contribution to access, with changing patterns of use in the watershed. High priority sites are roads with known poor culvert conditions such as Agness Road 33 and Silver Creek Road 3533; areas of "stacked roads" such as Bridge Creek; and subwatersheds with high road densities such as Nail Keg and Wakeup Rilea.

Management Opportunities: Culverts that are in poor condition need to be replaced on primary access roads. Other roads that are needed for present and future access can be stormproofed to reduce the potential for both road damage and resource damage. Roads no longer needed for access can be decommissioned. Waste areas should be identified and developed as appropriate in the watershed.

Road Classification

Roads within the National Forest System are categorized in many ways; however, two principal categories are used in planning. The first is a general grouping of three types, based on a road's long-term use and need for monitoring of hydrologic function. This does not directly relate to the standard to which a road is constructed or maintained. The groupings are: *primary, secondary and candidate*. A road is considered "primary" if it is planned for long-term retention and is considered a main through-road. If a road is considered "secondary," it is usually a dead-end-road, is planned for retention based on administrative or public need for access and subject to re-evaluation as the needs change or diminish. A "candidate" road is usually used for access to an area for the purpose of a specific project and may be closed or decommissioned when that project work ends.

The second principal type of categorization, *Maintenance Level*, is more specific and is based on the first groupings in conjunction with other factors, such as type of vehicle that will be utilizing it. For example, "primary" roads usually provide access to mainstream activities such as campgrounds, boat ramps and picnic areas; therefore, they are maintained at the highest standard in order to accommodate the "low-clearance" vehicular traffic they receive. Maintenance Levels (MLs) range from one to five, where a "ML(1)" would be a low standard road, or "candidate" road that is not maintained, and an "ML(5)" would be a two-lane paved "primary" road that is regularly maintained for use by a passenger vehicle. Most roads range from ML(2) to ML(3) and are secondary roads which have a crushed-rock (aggregate) surface course and are maintained for either high-clearance four-wheel drive vehicles (ML2) or passenger vehicles (ML3).

Table 2. List of Roads on National Forest Lands

Road Number	Length (miles)	Maintenance Level	Transportation Network Analysis
3300000	17.2	5	Primary
3300090	5.2	3/2/1	Primary
3300094	1.7	1	Candidate
3300095	0.6	1	Candidate
3300120	1.2	2	Secondary

Road Number	Length (miles)	Maintenance Level	Transportation Network Analysis
3300121	0.2	2	Candidate
3300200	1.2	2	Candidate
3300202	0.1	2	Candidate
3300204	0.1	2	Candidate
3300220	1.5	2	Candidate
3300222	1.0	2	Candidate
3300225	0.2	2	Candidate
3300226	0.2	1	Candidate
3300240	0.5	1	Candidate
3300250	2.8	1	Candidate
3310000	0.5	3	Primary
3313000	1.0	2	Secondary
3313110	1.0	1	Candidate
3313118	0.2	1	Candidate
3318000	7.5	3	Primary
3318020	0.4	2	Candidate
3318040	0.2	2	Candidate
3318050	2.9	2	Candidate
3318051	0.2	2	Candidate
3318052	0.1	2	Candidate
3318053	2.0	2	Candidate
3318054	0.4	2	Candidate
3318055	1.7	2	Candidate
3318056	0.4	2	Candidate
3318057	1.0	2	Candidate
3318058	0.4	2	Candidate
3318060	0.1	1	Candidate
3318070	1.6	2/1	Secondary
3318072	1.0	1	Candidate
3318073	0.5	1	Candidate
3318074	0.5	1	Candidate
3318075	0.3	1	Candidate
3318076	0.1	1	Secondary
3318080	5.2	2	Secondary
3318081	1.0	2	Secondary
3318082	0.2	2	Candidate
3318083	0.5	2	Candidate
3318085	2.6	2	Secondary
3318086	0.6	2	Candidate
3318087	0.3	1	Candidate
3318088	0.5	2	Secondary
3318090	0.9	2	Candidate
3318092	0.3	2	Candidate
3318093	0.1	2	Candidate
3318100	0.2	2	Candidate
3318110	1.8	2	Secondary
3318113	0.6	2	Secondary

Road Number	Length (miles)	Maintenance Level	Transportation Network Analysis
3318990	0.1	2	Candidate
3318992	0.2	1	Candidate
3318993	1.1	2	Candidate
3318995	0.3	2	Candidate
3318996	0.4	2	Candidate
3318997	0.2	2	Candidate
3318998	0.5	2	Candidate
3318999	0.2	2	Candidate
3336000	1.5	3	Primary
3340000	4.0	3	Primary
3340170	0.2	2	Candidate
3340180	0.1	2	Candidate
3340200	1.0	2	Candidate
3340201	0.4	2	Candidate
3340202	0.4	2	Candidate
3340203	0.1	2	Candidate
3340220	1.5	2	Secondary
3340221	0.3	1	Candidate
3340222	0.2	1	Candidate
3340226	0.4	1	Candidate
3340227	0.2	1	Candidate
3340230	0.6	2	Candidate
3340260	1.5	2	Candidate
3340265	0.4	2	Candidate
3340500	0.4	2	Candidate
3340505	0.5	2	Candidate
3340700	1.7	2	Candidate
3340710	0.2	2	Candidate
3340712	0.1	2	Candidate
3340720	0.2	2	Candidate
3340850	0.9	2	Candidate
3340900	4.3	2	Secondary
3340905	0.2	2	Candidate
3340907	0.2	2	Candidate
3340909	0.2	2	Candidate
3340910	3.2	2	Secondary
3340913	0.2	2	Candidate
3340915	0.2	2	Candidate
3340920	0.1	2	Candidate
3340925	0.1	2	Candidate
3340926	1.5	2	Candidate
3340928	0.4	2	Candidate
3340930	0.6	2	Candidate
3340935	0.2	2	Candidate
3340940	1.1	2	Candidate
3533000	8.8	3/2	Secondary
3353250	0.2	2	Secondary

Road Number	Length (miles)	Maintenance Level	Transportation Network Analysis
3353300	0.5	2	Secondary
3353310	0.2	1	Candidate
3353320	0.3	2	Secondary
3353340	0.6	2	Secondary
3353350	0.7	2	Candidate
3353380	0.2	2	Candidate
3353390	0.5	2	Secondary