

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
FOR MORROW COUNTY, OREGON**

AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE MORROW	)	Ordinance Number
COUNTY 2018 – 2038 PARKS MASTER PLAN AS A	)	ORD-2018-2
REFERENCE DOCUMENT IN SUPPORT OF GOAL 8	)	
RECREATION AND GOAL 4 FOREST USE	)	

**WHEREAS**, ORS 203.035 authorizes Morrow County to exercise authority within the county over matters of County concern; and

**WHEREAS**, Morrow County adopted a Comprehensive Land Use Plan which was first acknowledged by the Land Conservation and Development Commission on January 15, 1986; and

**WHEREAS**, the Morrow County Public Works Department and the Parks Committee determined the need to update the Parks Master Plan; and

**WHEREAS**, the Parks Committee appointed a sub-committee to review the previous Parks Master Plan and identify necessary and suggested changes, including changes that would define future growth and development in support of both guest and traveler services; and

**WHEREAS**, the sub-committee returned the Final Draft Parks Master Plan to the Parks Committee who then forwarded it to the Morrow County Planning Department for public hearings; and

**WHEREAS**, the Morrow County Planning Commission held multiple public hearings on Tuesday, March 27, 2018 and May 29, 2018, at the Port of Morrow Riverfront Center in Boardman, Oregon and on April 24, 2018, and June 26, 2018, at the Bartholomew Building in Heppner, Oregon, to consider the Final Draft Parks Master Plan; and

**WHEREAS**, the Morrow County Planning Commission received both oral and written testimony regarding the Master Plan. At the June 26, 2018, public hearing the Planning Commission considered the oral and written testimony, reviewing it with staff, and directed numerous changes to the Final Draft recommending that the Board of Commissioners do adopt the Parks Master Plan as it will be presented; and

**WHEREAS**, the Morrow County Board of Commissioners held a hearing to consider the Parks Master Plan recommendation from the Morrow County Planning Commission on August 1, 2018, at the Bartholomew Building in Heppner, Oregon; and

**WHEREAS**, the Morrow County Board of Commissioners accepted the Planning Commission recommendation to approve the Parks Master Plan and approved it as presented with a minor change in a 3-0 vote.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED THAT THE MORROW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ADOPTS THE MORROW COUNTY 2018-2038 PARKS MASTER PLAN.**

Section 1 Title of Ordinance:

This Ordinance shall be known, and may be cited, as the "2018 - 2038 PARKS MASTER PLAN."

Section 2 Affected and Attached Documents:

The Morrow County 2018-2038 PARKS MASTER PLAN.

Section 3 Emergency Clause and Effective Date:

The Morrow County Board of Commissioners does declare an emergency as the Parks Committee wants to move forward with additional planning work based on the Parks Master Plan.

This ordinance shall be effective 30 days after its second reading, or October 5, 2018.

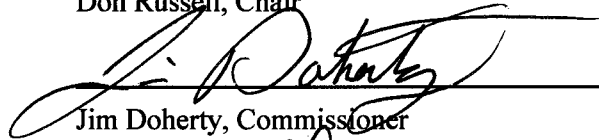
Date of First Reading: August 22, 2018  
Date of Second Reading: September 5, 2018

**ADOPTED BY THE MORROW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS THIS 5<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2018.**

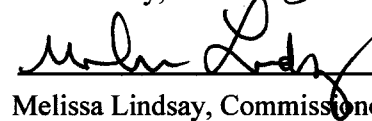
**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF  
MORROW COUNTY, OREGON**



Don Russell, Chair




Jim Doherty, Commissioner



Melissa Lindsay, Commissioner

Approve as to Form:

  
Morrow County Counsel  
Joshua Nelson  
OSB #074460

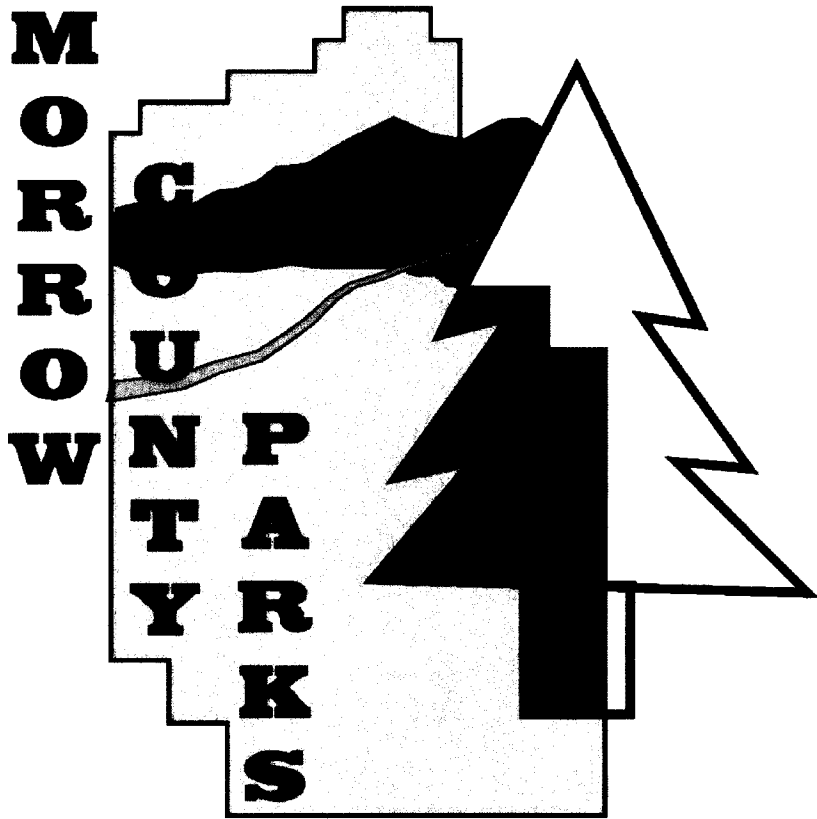
MORROW COUNTY, OREGON **CJ2018-0135**  
Commissioners' Journal 09/05/2018 4:21:57 PM



I, Bobbi Childers, County Clerk for Morrow County, Oregon, certify that the instrument identified herein was recorded in the Clerk records.

Bobbi Childers - County Clerk





**MORROW COUNTY  
2018 - 2038  
PARKS MASTER PLAN**



**MORROW COUNTY  
2018 – 2038  
PARKS MASTER PLAN**

**FIRST ADOPTED:**

**June 22, 1998  
Ordinance MC-C-6-1998**

**REVISED:**

**December 1, 2010  
Morrow County Court Order OR-10-2010**

**REVISED:**

**October 5, 2018  
Ordinance ORD-2018-2**

**REVISED 2017 BY THE PARKS PLAN SUB-COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

**Sheryll Bates  
Kirsti Cason  
Greg Close  
Kim Cutsforth  
Mike Gorman  
Carla McLane  
Burke O'Brien  
Thomas Wolff  
Clint Carlson**

## **FOREWORD**

The Parks Plan for Morrow County was first adopted as part of Ordinance MC-C-6-98 on June 22, 1998 which was part of a larger land use action amending the Comprehensive Plan Recreation Element, adopting the Parkland Overlay Zone, and applied the Parkland Overlay zone to both Anson Wright and Cutsforth Parks.

In 2003 the lands were purchased which created the Morrow County Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) Park. Due to the addition of lands and creation of a new park the Parks Master Plan was reopened in May 2003. Prior to the adoption of the Parks Plan; Grant County in 2007 purchased adjoining lands expanding the OHV property. A Memorandum of Agreement was established between the two counties, with Grant County permitting Morrow County to manage the additional lands in March 2009. All of which was included into the Parks Master Plan that was being worked on at the time. In December 2010 the Morrow County Parks Master Plan 2010-2030 was adopted by Morrow County Court by Order number OR-10-2010.

In 2014 a discrepancy between the 2010-2030 Parks Master Plan and the Parks Committee Bi-Laws that were adopted in November 2006 and a part of the Parks Plan was discovered. The Parks Committee at the January 14, 2014 meeting felt it was best to postpone matter until such time the Parks Master Plan was reopened.

In January 2017 the Parks Committee chose to create a Parks Plan Sub-Committee due to many of the goals in the current plan having been completed. The Sub-committee was tasked with updating the bi-laws and creating a uniform Parks Master Plan that would set objectives and projects for the future of the parks. This document when completed would be used as a reference document when the Planning Department began work on the County's Comprehensive Plan Recreation Element. October 5, 2018, Ordinance ORD-2018-2 officially marked the effective date of the revised plan.

## **MORROW COUNTY PARKS MISSION STATEMENT**

The Parks Department mission is to maintain, improve, promote and protect County Parks while providing quality facilities and diverse recreational opportunities with natural and historical conservation/preservation, education and inspiration for this and future generations.

## **VISION STATEMENT**

To promote and ensure a high quality of life, economic vitality, and a uniquely desirable identity through the delivery of reliable, affordable, and flexible services. To proactively collaborate with citizens, park users, and businesses to develop an environment that fosters safety and opportunity. To inspire passion for parks as part of people's lives, encouraging participation, learning and stewardship. To offer services that allow visitors to the parks to experience physical, mental, and social benefits through their leisure time participation. To provide opportunities for young people, adults, and senior citizens to live, grow, and develop their knowledge of the great outdoors.

## **GOALS**

- Be responsive to changing recreational needs of a diverse and growing area
- Maximize community resources
- Provide responsible stewardship of human, fiscal, natural, and historical resources
- Continue a citizen-driven and professional approach to provide safe, well-designed and properly maintained facilities and programs
- Promote health and wellness
- Develop and cultivate partnerships

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# **RECREATION IN MORROW COUNTY PARKS**

## **RECREATION IN MORROW COUNTY PARKS**

Morrow County's goal is to provide quality outdoor recreational opportunities to Oregonians, out of state visitors, and visitors from around the world.

Recreation is important to the county and can take many forms including, hiking, cross country skiing, snow shoeing, bicycling, hunting fishing, ice fishing, boating, snowmobiling, off-road trail riding, off-highway, vehicle riding, horseback riding, playing golf, wildlife viewing, visiting historical sites, photography and a variety of other recreational opportunities.

Other Morrow County Recreational resources range from the Oregon Trail, Blue Mountain Scenic Byway, Blue Mountain Century Scenic Bikeway to Umatilla National Forest.

Camping in Morrow County Parks is highly sought after. Camping opportunities include many sites that can accommodate from primitive tent camping up to larger recreation vehicles with tip outs and full-hookups. Campers begin reserving their campsites early in the year for the variety of recreational opportunities in the area.

**TOURISM AND RECREATION IN OREGON,  
EASTERN OREGON AND MORROW COUNTY**

## **TOURISM AND RECREATION IN OREGON, EASTERN OREGON AND MORROW COUNTY**

To better understand potential visitors to Morrow County recreational offerings and, more specifically, Morrow County Parks, there needs to be an understanding of the participation generally with outdoor recreation. A recent study, completed by the Outdoor Foundation, identified that a record number of Americans, at 142.6 million, participated in at least one outdoor activity and went on some 12.1 billion outdoor outings. Particular attention was paid to a younger population, ages 6 to 24, from all over America and indicates that the following are popular outdoor activities of interest to recreation providers in Morrow County: trail running, bicycling (road and mountain), fresh water fishing, camping, hiking, and bird and wildlife viewing. For older recreationists, those over 25, the following are popular outdoor activities: trail running, fresh water fishing, bicycling (both road and mountain), hiking, camping, bird and wildlife viewing, and hunting. Many of these activities are seeing an increase in interest with a growth over the three year period of 2010 to 2013 in the following activities: backpacking, bicycling (road and mountain), birdwatching, hiking, recreational kayaking, bow hunting, and wildlife viewing.<sup>1</sup>

### **Economics**

The outdoor recreation economy is also large and growing when apparel, footwear, equipment, vehicles, accessories and services are considered. Another aspect is also the food and drink, transportation, entertainment and activities, lodging, and souvenirs and gifts component of travel and recreation. In 2014 those 140 million Americans spent over \$646 billion which supports over 6 million direct jobs and some \$80 billion in federal, state and local tax revenue. Outdoor recreation employs more workers than the oil and gas industry, education, and construction.<sup>2</sup> With a more local view Dean Runyan Associates completes Oregon Travel Impacts studies for the Oregon Tourism Commission related to travel and recreation. In 2016 direct travel spending in Oregon was \$11.3 billion with an estimated 28.4 million overnight visitors traveling to Oregon destinations. Travel industry employment in Oregon is nearing 110,000 persons, with secondary impacts equivalent to almost 57,000 jobs. The study found that across Oregon's rural communities the travel industry, representing \$4.7 billion, is third behind the agricultural/food processing and logging/wood products industry for the State's Gross Domestic Product (GDP).<sup>3</sup> In Eastern Oregon it takes visitor spending of \$60,160 to support one job and that \$100 of visitor spending equates to employee earnings of \$34. That same \$100 of visitor spending also generates \$4.40 of local and state tax revenue. Visitor stays are not only captured at motels or hotels, but also at private homes and other situations. Visitors who stay in private homes typically comprise the largest share of overnight visitor volume, but visitors who stay overnight in commercial lodging usually have the greatest overall economic impact. These same economic impacts are also found in Morrow County with most overnights happening in private homes, with higher spending coming from those overnight stays in motels and hotels.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> The Outdoor Foundation: Outdoor Recreation Participation Topline Report 2014

<sup>2</sup> The Outdoor Industry Association: The Outdoor Recreation Economy, 2012

<sup>3</sup> Oregon Travel Impacts 1992-2016, Dean Runyan Associates, Prepared for Oregon Tourism Commission, May 2017

<sup>4</sup> Oregon Travel Impacts 1992-2016, Dean Runyan Associates, Prepared for Oregon Tourism Commission, May 2017

## **Day Travel**

Morrow County has at least three local opportunities that could induce local and regional residents to take a day trip: the Blue Mountain Scenic Byway, the Blue Mountain Century Scenic Bikeway, and the Columbia River Heritage Trail. This is a growing travel segment, however capturing reliable data and information is difficult. Day travel or trips often involve expenditures in multiple locations and of multiple types (gas, food, miscellaneous expenditures). Various day trip activities are: beach, cultural, fine dining, outdoor activity, rural sightseeing and shopping. Generally the party size for a day trip is between two and three individuals. The purpose of the day trip might be to visit friends and relatives, for pleasure, work related travel or for personal business. These types of trips are harder to account for and to determine the fiscal impact of.<sup>5</sup>

## **Bicycles**

Two recent studies, completed by Dean Runyan Associates, focus on bicycling in Oregon and discuss the economic impact and significance of bicycle tourism. The Blue Mountain Century Scenic Bikeway is one of 12 bikeways in Oregon, and three in Eastern Oregon, that are discussed. A local trip or ride on a bicycle will generate an average of \$19 with a day trip averaging nearly a \$100 in expenditures such as food and snacks, parking or other transportation costs, bicycling clothing and related gear, and recreation, entertainment and other retail expenditures. When overnight travel is incorporated those expenditures increase to an average of \$693, which is nearly \$50 per day higher than other Oregon travel.<sup>6 7</sup>

## **Motorized Vehicles**

Another form of two-wheel travel that brings a number of travelers to Eastern Oregon is the motorcycle. In June 2017 Travel Oregon published “Eastern Oregon, A Motorcyclist’s Paradise” written by Gregor Halenda outlining a road trip by motorcycle through Eastern Oregon. While no economics are cited within the article it is clear that food, lodging, gas and other expenditures occurred. Longwoods International<sup>8</sup> has tracked American travelers for over 30 years and does capture some information on motorcycle travel in Oregon and in Eastern Oregon. Interestingly motorcycle use in Eastern Oregon is higher than in Oregon as a whole by more than double, and even more so when compared with motorcycle use across the United States.

In 2015 the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department contracted a study of four categories of trail-related recreation: non-motorized trail, non-motorized boat, motorized (ATV/OHV), and snowmobile recreation.<sup>9</sup> The findings used here, focusing on ATV/OHV users, were published as the Oregon Off-highway Vehicle Participation and Priorities Report. Some interesting statistics from the Report include: Survey respondents overwhelmingly had taken a day-trip in the 12 months preceding the survey with those day trips within 60 miles of their home; more respondents have increased the number of their day and multi-day trip, then those that have decreased the number of trips; regional exploration and wildlife watching are common related

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<sup>5</sup> Oregon Travel Impacts 1992-2016, Dean Runyan Associates, Prepared for Oregon Tourism Commission, May 2017

<sup>6</sup> The Economic Significance of Cycling on Oregon Scenic Bikeways, 2014, Dean Runyan Associates, Prepared for Travel Oregon and State Parks and Recreation Department, June 2015

<sup>7</sup> The Economic Significance of Bicycle-Related Travel in Oregon, Dean Runyan Associates, Prepared for Travel Oregon, April 2013

<sup>8</sup> Oregon 2015, Regional Visitor Report: The Eastern Region, Longwoods Travels USA

<sup>9</sup> The Economic Impacts of Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) Recreation in Oregon, Oregon State University, Kreg Lindberg, September 2009



activities; and camping (in both dispersed areas and campgrounds) was the most common form of lodging. Spending by Oregon residents on OHV riding trips was an estimated \$100 million per year across the state. This expenditure created 869 jobs, \$35 million in value added, and \$23 million in labor income. When out-of-state visitors are included, the estimated amounts increase to 1,120 jobs, \$45 million in value added, and \$29 million in labor income.

### **Outdoor Activities**

The most recent *Fishing, Hunting, Wildlife Viewing, and Shellfishing in Oregon Report*<sup>10</sup> is from May 2009, dating the economic information with a focus on the economics of the great recession. The data should be tempered with an understanding that the overall economy has improved and other travel related studies indicate that participation and spending have both increased since 2009. Based on the Report in 2008 some 1.7 million Oregon residents and nonresidents participated in an outdoor activity where viewing wildlife was a planned activity. This is in addition to the 175,000 that went shellfishing, 282,000 that hunted, and 631,000 that fished. Those activities in 2008 resulted in \$2.5 billion in expenditures. From this study we know that travel-generated expenditures in Morrow County were: \$921,000 for fishing, \$2,652,000 for hunting, and \$4,942,000 for wildlife viewing, or \$8,514,000 for all three categories. Local recreation expenditures are only reported for fishing and hunting at \$593,000 and \$185,000 respectfully.

### **Camping**

Based on the 2014 *American Camper Report*<sup>11</sup> 40 million Americans, with an average age of 32, went camping in 2013 for a total of 597.7 million camping days. This represents a 14 percent participation rate with camping growing with young adults, ages 18 to 24. The average camper went on 5.4 camping trips, forty-three percent planned their trips at least a month in advance, and about a third did not make advanced camp site reservations. Most camping trips included friends; hiking was the most popular daytime activity with hanging out by the campfire being the most popular nighttime activity. In the Pacific, which includes Oregon, participation in the region is 18 percent, with 21 percent of the total participants across the United States (the highest of any region identified within the study). Of interest for this Parks Master Plan is that 43 percent of study participants identified they stayed at a State Park, 14 percent at a National Park, and 10 percent at a Local Park.

### **Conclusion**

In conclusion there is significant interest in and economic benefit from the recreation, travel and tourism industry. Morrow County Parks can clearly capitalize on the traveler whether they are local, regional, from across the country or traveling internationally. Current and future park amenities should be developed and maintained with an understanding of this traveling and recreating segment of the population. While overnight travel for those camping by tent or RV is an important segment, the growing day-trip trend should also be considered when making investments at the parks. Wildlife viewing, playgrounds, picnic areas and basic travel amenities such as restrooms should be considered for investment and improvement.

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<sup>10</sup> Fishing, Hunting, Wildlife Viewing, and Shellfishing in Oregon, Prepared for the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, May 2009

<sup>11</sup> 2014 American Camper Report, Prepared by the Outdoor Foundation with assistance from the Coleman Company, Inc.

# **PROFILE OF EXISTING COUNTY PARKS**

**PROFILE OF EXISTING COUNTY PARKS  
ANSON WRIGHT MEMORIAL PARK, CUTSFORTH PARK,  
MORROW COUNTY OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE PARK**

Morrow County operates three parks located near the scenic and recreational areas of the Umatilla National Forest. The parks have amenities designed to serve both overnight and day-use visitors.

**LOCATIONS:**

**Anson Wright Memorial Park**

47500 Highway 207, Heppner-Spray Highway, Heppner, Oregon 97836

**Cutsforth Park**

58430 Willow Creek Road, Heppner, Oregon 97836

**Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) Park**

71000 East Morphine Lane/Forest Service Road 21, Heppner, Oregon 97836

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION:**

Morrow County Parks consist of 8,264 acres of land of which 1,925 acres are located in Grant County. The Grant County land is managed as part of a recreational element of the OHV Park, with a memorandum of understanding that Morrow County manages the land. All parks are located in forested land and have ponds, streams, creeks, campsites, lodging amenities, BBQ areas, support office, restrooms and shower facilities located in and around the parks.

These parks are forested land with interspersed open meadows. The campgrounds are open seasonally until such time they can be open for operation year around; with the primary use being in the spring, summer and fall. Day Use areas located at Cutsforth and OHV Parks are open year around to allow for winter recreational use.

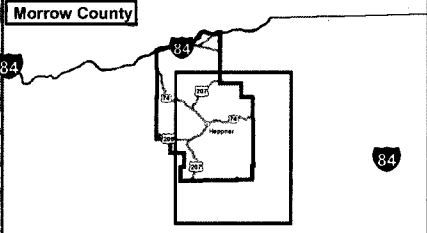
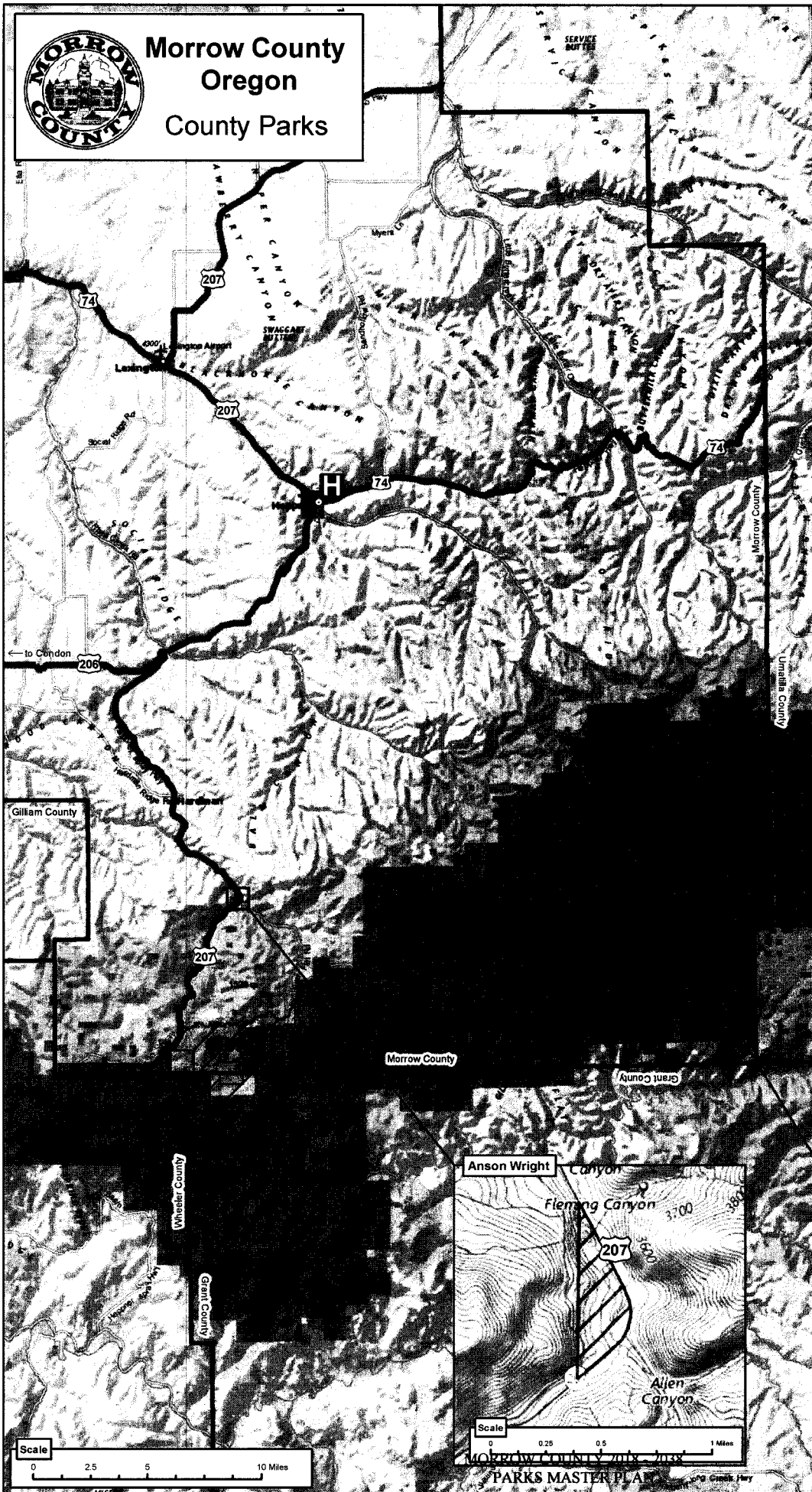
**IMPROVEMENTS OR FUTURE ACTIONS:**

The following improvements or actions are not required to correct current issues in the park but would enhance the use of the parks:

- **Improve Signage:** New signs at the entrances and adjacent to road to aid with park visibility to travelers.
- **Reduce Campsite Density:** Campsites that offer privacy, enhancing customer satisfaction, which increases repeat business.
- **Improve Campsites:** Improve campsite amenities by installing upgrades such as power, water or sewer.



# Morrow County Oregon County Parks



**Legend**

- County Boundary
- City Limits
- County Seat
- City
- Runway Length
- Airport
- Highway
- Arterial/Collector

Coordinate System: NAD 1983 NRS2007 StatePlane Oregon North FIPS 3601 Ft Int  
 Projection: Lambert Conformal Conic  
 Datum: NAD 1983 NRS2007

Cartography By: Stephen Wreccics  
 Date Saved: 7/31/2018  
 Morrow County Planning Department

This map (or data product) is for planning purposes only. It is not intended to be used for description, conveyance, authoritative definition of legal boundary, or property title. This is not a survey product. Users are encouraged to examine the documentation or metadata associated with the data for which this map is based on for information related to its accuracy, currentness, and limitations.

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### Park Information w/ Distances and drive times from Cities

**Anson Wright Park**  
 Adjacent to Rock Creek, Anson Wright Park provides a quiet relaxing atmosphere for camping and recreation. Guests often report seeing wildlife as they cross through the park.

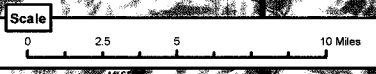
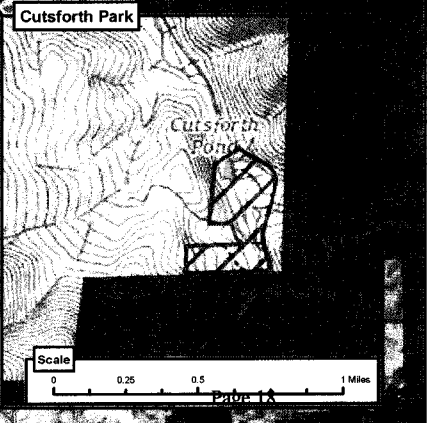
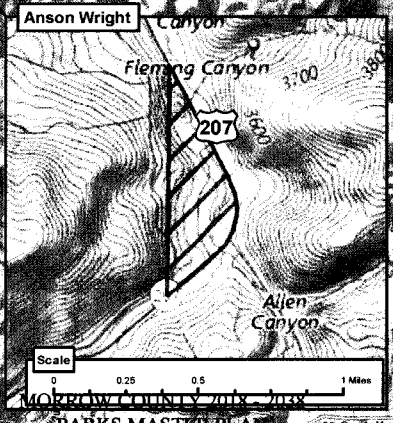
Condon	53.6 miles		1:27
Heppner	25.5 miles		0:35
Irrigon	72.1 miles		1:38
Spray	29.1 miles		0:47
Ukiah	70.0 miles		1:37

**Cutsforth Park**  
 Adjacent to National Forest Service (USFS) and Private lands, Cutsforth Park provides a forested atmosphere, retreat for camping, angling, hunting, family or public gathering, or relaxing. The park is located along the Blue Mountain and Blue Mountain Century Scenic Bikeways.

Condon	80.8 miles		1:46
Heppner	21.2 miles		0:29
Irrigon	67.8 miles		1:32
Spray	73.8 miles		1:47
Ukiah	25.5 miles		0:40

**Morrow-Grant County Off Highway Vehicle (OHV) Park**  
 Adjacent to Highway 207, the park has over 8125 acres in South Morrow and Grant County. Twenty four designated camp sites are available for self-contained recreational vehicles in addition to tent sites. Sites are equipped with outdoor fire rings, picnic tables and garbage containers. The park has a Track system that allows for various skill levels of riding. The OHV park provides a washdown area to inhibit the spread of noxious and other weeds.

Condon	72.8 miles		1:31
Heppner	32.8 miles		0:48
Irrigon	79.4 miles		1:51
Spray	21.8 miles		0:34
Ukiah	77.4 miles		1:51



**ANSON WRIGHT  
MEMORIAL PARK**

## **ANSON WRIGHT MEMORIAL PARK**

47500 Highway 207/Heppner-Spray Highway, Heppner, Oregon 97836

### **LOCATION:**

The park is located 26 miles South of Heppner on Oregon State Highway 207.

### **GENERAL DESCRIPTION:**

#### **Geography:**

The park is 32.83 acre park at an elevation of 3,400 feet above sea level. The campground is both visible and accessible directly from the Highway. Rock Creek flows through the park and is the water source for the pond located in the northwest section of the park. The west side of the park is characterized by steep terrain and moderate vegetation. The south end of the park is on a steep slope, which has a road cut into this slope to service the campsites. A foot bridge crosses Rock Creek in the southern section of the park.

#### **History:**

The park land was originally owned by Walter and Mildred Irene Wright. In March of 1963 the Wright's sold eleven acre tract of land to Morrow County with the condition that it be developed and used for public recreational purposes within five years from date of sale. In September of 1963, per articles from the Heppner Gazette Times, work began at the park with a field day by some Rhea Creek Grange members and continued for many months with individuals and other groups aiding in the work. In March of 1964 Morrow County entered into a twenty-five year lease agreement with adjacent land owners for an additional eighteen acres bringing the park to a total of twenty-nine acres. By August 1964 a water system was established, restrooms prepared, tables and fire pits were installed. In September 1967 Walter and Mildred granted a twenty-five year right-of way easement-agreement to construct, maintain, repair water lines to convey water from a spring "The Sunderlin Spring" for park purposes, in lieu of maintaining existing road to Wright's home, providing a water trough for cattle at spring with stock water having first consideration, and that if in future a dwelling was constructed domestic water would be provided from this system.

### **SIGNAGE:**

The park entrance can be seen from the state highway. However, the nature of the approach and travelers' speeds make it easy to miss the main entrance. This is especially true for travelers coming from the south, where the highway curves to the left at the southern end of the park. The current signage cannot be seen from far enough away to provide travelers with enough notice to slow down and prepare to turn into the facility. This does not affect visitors who are specifically planning on stopping at the park, but it can negatively affect the decisions of the travelers who might impulsively decide to visit the park. Signage within the park offer guidance and information regarding the park and surrounding areas.

## **CAMPSITES/CAMPGROUNDS:**

The park has fifty developed campsites. Tent or primitive sites are located throughout the park. The recreational vehicle (RV) sites are located primarily along the south end of the park with a few additional sites in the central area in conjunction with the handicapped restrooms and office. Nine RV campsites are back-in with 50/70 amp power, water and sewer that are located in the southeast portion of the park. The five pull-through sites that are centrally located can accommodate larger RV's. and have 20/30 amp power the remaining six full hook-up sites are also 20/30 amp with hopes to upgrade in future as currently will not accommodate the newer RV's that require higher-amp hookups. Sites are equipped with fire rings, picnic tables, and garbage disposal containers are located throughout the park for guest to use. Sites are largely open with little privacy. Sites continue to be developed as needed.

## **POND:**

A fishing pond fed by Rock Creek is located at the far northwest section of the park. The fishing pond is approximately 100 feet by 200 feet and is approximately six feet deep at its deepest point. The pond is a popular fishing area, with the number of fisherman using it on an annual basis. The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife stocks the pond with Rainbow Trout as part of its regular services to stimulate recreational activity. The pond is handicapped accessible from a handicapped fishing area located at the northwest section of the pond and adjacent to a parking area.

## **AMENITIES:**

Anson Wright provides a variety of amenities for park patrons.

**Visitor Center/Restrooms/Showers:** This structure is where the camp host office is located and guest can come to obtain information about the park and local area. Men's and women's restrooms are available. Showers are located in the restroom areas.

**ADA Restroom:** There is an ADA restroom near located to the southwest of the Visitor Center.

**Day-Use/Picnic Area:** This area is located north of the visitor center facility with the pond located on the northern end, and is accessible from the main entrance of the park off of Oregon State Highway 207 (HWY 207). This area is a large grassy area where the Grain-Zebo, and horseshoe pits and picnic area are located.

**Grain-Zebo:** Located in the northwest section of the park in the Day-Use. The Grain-Zebo is a covered gazebo area where small gatherings can be held. Called the Grain-Zebo as the top was formally a portion of a grain bin that was saved from a road construction project at the Spring Hollow Bridge and repurposed to provide an amenity for the park.

**BBQ Area:** Located to the west of the Grain-Zebo. BBQ a large brick structure with metal grates that was constructed by B.P.O.E. 357 (Heppner Elk's Lodge).

**Horseshoe Pits:** Are located at the southern end of the Day-Use/Picnic area. The pits have sand and stakes.

**Playground:** Located east of the Visitor Center/Showers/Restroom Facility, and to the west of HWY 207 with Rock Creek between the playground area and the highway.

**Pond:** The fishing pond is located at the far northwest section of the park. This is a popular fishing area that is handicapped accessible. This access is located at the northwest section of the pond and adjacent to a parking area.

**Parking:** Parking is located in various locations near amenities at the park.

**NEEDS ASSESSMENT:**

Two levels of need were identified for the park. The first covers (ACTIONS/MAINTENANCE) repairs and/or replacements needed to correct hazardous or noncompliant conditions. The second addresses (IMPROVEMENTS/GOALS) improvements, including facilities that would allow the park to better serve niche markets.

**ACTIONS/MAINTENANCE:** The following actions are recommended to correct hazardous and noncompliant conditions that may exist at the park.

- **Erosion Stabilization:** Evidence of soil erosion has been identified in areas throughout the park. Corrective measures, including channeling water run-off from the roads and ground stabilization through plant management, should be taken. Conditions should be assessed annually; as this is an ongoing problem and work is done each year to aid with the issue.
- **Forest Management:** The trees in the park will be managed to promote a healthy forest environment, and any funds generated from timber harvest shall be invested in the park.
- **Wiring Upgrades:** An annual analysis of the electrical wiring should be done and the park's electrical system kept into compliance with the current code.

**Playground Area:** A review and upgrade of the playground equipment to insure/meets current standards.

- **Visitor Center/Restrooms/Showers:** A review of the structure needs to be completed to insure that the facility is compliant with the American Disability Act (ADA) standards.

**IMPROVEMENTS/GOALS:** The following improvements are recommendations that are not required to correct current issues in the park, but would enhance it.

- **Improve Signage:** New signs, especially at the southern entrance to the park, will increase visibility for travelers coming from the south.
- **Reduce Campsite Density:** Campsites that offer privacy enhance customer satisfaction, which increases repeat business, and word-of-mouth referrals. Eliminating 25 to 33 percent of the sites will increase campers' sense of privacy.
- **Add Vegetation:** Adding vegetation between RV sites increases privacy. Special attention should be paid to utilizing native plants for this process.



- **Hiking/Bicycle/Equestrian Trails:** Create hiking trails through park with possibilities of working with adjacent land owners for future expansion of trails.
- **Vending or Store Amenities/Services:** Create facility or area/s in which food, vending or other customer services could be provided or distributed either by vendor or on-site structure at park.
- **Connectivity:** Create access points to which multimodal travel could access other recreational areas (parks, riding areas, trails, etc.)
- **Upgrade Amenities:** Provide year around service and host events at the park to promote outdoor recreation and knowledge. Upgrade camping area to the south of the playground area that has primitive tent camping sites only.

**ANSON WRIGHT  
MEMORIAL PARK  
MANAGEMENT**

# **ANSON WRIGHT MEMORIAL PARK MANAGEMENT**

## **MAINTENANCE PERSONNEL**

### **Parks General Manager of Operations (GMO):**

Position Overview: Under the limited supervision of the Public Works Director, the Parks General Manager of Operations (GMO) will be responsible for keeping all aspects of all three Morrow County Parks functioning properly. This is a partially grant funded position and may be vacated due to changes in grant availability. The GMO will be required to work a flex schedule in order to facilitate their presence on weekends and during park hosted events. The GMO will have a tremendous amount of interaction with the public and must be able to assist park guests and answer questions in order to keep guests informed, satisfied and to enhance their experience at the parks. Included is the supervision of the Parks part time help, contracted service providers, and Contracted Park Hosts. This could be from three to twenty people at any given time. The GMO will be in charge of the day to day operations of the three Parks (Anson Wright Park, Cutsforth Park, OHV Park). This will include assigning work duties to part time park help and supervising the work being performed. The scheduling of maintenance and repairs, managing and staffing events, consulting with the park hosts in regard to operations and conditions at the parks. The GMO will be responsible for establishing and maintaining a formal line of communication with Public Works Director and staff to ensure smooth operations. The ability to develop a work plan and follow it successfully throughout the park season is essential.

The ability to operate computers and electronic devices proficiently as well as use Excel and Word will be required on a daily basis. This person must maintain accurate records of park business activities as well as some cost accounting. A daily log of activities will be required and completed electronically to serve as a basis for some Park Grant applications. A strong background in the use of GPS equipment is required.

A background in maintenance and repair of buildings and park related infrastructure such as, but not limited to, driveways, trails, small bridges, signage and other park equipment is necessary. Also a background in maintenance of all types of equipment, from pickups to weed eaters, is desirable.

A full job description of the Parks General Manager of Operations position is available from the Morrow County Human Resources Department.

### **OHV Park Ranger:**

Position Overview: Under the limited supervision of the Parks General Manager, the Park Ranger performs a variety of maintenance tasks throughout the three County Parks. This position is grant funded. If funding ceases, this position may be vacated. The Park Ranger is responsible for keeping all aspects of the Parks System operating and in good condition. They will be responsible for the accurate reporting of purchases, inventory of all maintenance materials used, and will provide a daily activity log to Parks General Manager, by email, to keep them informed of activities. The Park Ranger will oversee any and all construction projects at the parks as well as supervise all volunteer help and projects to ensure quality work and safety practices are

followed. This may be from two to ten people. They will be responsible for tracking and managing all projects which are carried on in the park during the absence of Parks General Manager. This person will keep an accurate list of those projects and see to it that they are implemented properly, following the Park Master Plan.

The person in this position will be required to have the ability to work a flex schedule in order to facilitate their presence on weekends and during large and small park-hosted events.

This position requires the knowledge and ability to use a computer and GPS, hand tools and several different types of equipment including truck, back hoe, CAT Skid Steer and all related attachments, as well as chain saws, quads and other 4 x 4 maintenance equipment. The person in this position must be able to maintain any and all related equipment including chain saws. This person must also be capable of using timber related equipment and have knowledge of timber falling and timber practices

The person in this position must possess a thorough knowledge of mechanics in order to repair and maintain park equipment.

A full job description of OHV Park Ranger position is available from the Morrow County Human Resources Department.

#### **Parks Part-time Laborer:**

**Position Overview:** Under the limited supervision of the Parks General Manager and Park Ranger, the Part-time Laborer performs a variety of maintenance tasks throughout the three County Parks. This position is grant funded. If funding ceases, this position may be vacated. The Part-time Laborer is responsible for keeping all aspects of the Parks System operating and in good condition. They will be responsible for the accurate reporting of purchases, inventory of all maintenance materials used, and will provide a daily activity log to Parks General Manager or Park Ranger, by email or paper, to keep them informed of activities. The Part-time Laborer will work on any and all construction projects at the parks as well as work with and supervise all volunteer help and projects to ensure quality work and safety practices are followed. This may be from two to ten people. They will be responsible for tracking and managing all projects which are carried on in the parks during the absence of Parks General Manager and Park Ranger. This person will keep an accurate list of those projects and see to it that they are implemented properly, following the Park Master Plan.

The person in this position will be required to have the ability to work a flex schedule in order to facilitate their presence on weekends and during large and small park-hosted events.

This position requires the knowledge and ability to use a computer and GPS, hand tools and several different types of equipment including truck, back hoe, CAT Skid Steer and all related attachments, as well as chain saws, quads and other 4 x 4 maintenance equipment. The person in this position must be able to maintain any and all related equipment including chain saws. This person must also be capable of using timber related equipment and have knowledge of timber falling and timber practices.

The person in this position must possess a thorough knowledge of mechanics in order to repair and maintain park equipment.

A full job description of the Parks General Manager of Operations position is available from the Morrow County Human Resources Department.

## **PARK HOST**

1. It is intended that the Park Host shall live at the Park during the Park season and be present at the Park at all times. Park Host shall be available to greet and assist visitors, collect user fees, do maintenance and caretaking of the Park, provide information about Park usage and facilities, receive public comment, and be aware of activities occurring in the Park. In order to appropriately perform these responsibilities, the

### **Park Host must:**

- Be knowledgeable about Park rules and regulations;
  - Input guest reservations as necessary with park guest details and payment information into reservation system
  - Be observant for activities or conditions occurring in the Park that require immediate attention;
  - Be visible representative of the County in the Park;
  - Set an appropriate example for compliance with Park rules and courtesies;
  - Keep Park grounds and buildings, including restrooms and Park camping sites, clean and free of litter and debris;
  - Keep restroom dispensers filled with toilet tissue and paper towels;
  - No outside garbage or refuse is to be deposited at the Park refuse collection site.
  - In parks with cabins follow the appropriate procedure for care of those cabins outlined by the County.
2. County hereby waives Park Host's user fees applicable to the campsite that Park Host occupies during the term of this Agreement.
  3. County shall reimburse Park Host as per written agreement/contract with the County.
  4. County shall provide Park Host with materials and supplies necessary to maintain restrooms, dispose of garbage, post rules and regulations and otherwise as may be required to fulfill the intentions of this Agreement.
  5. Park Host is not required to, and shall not attempt to personally deal with emergency situations arising at the Park during the term of this Agreement; Park Host shall contact the appropriate emergency personnel, including medical personnel and law enforcement officers, when in the judgment of the Park Host, such emergency services become necessary.
  6. The parties acknowledge that the Park Host is not an employee of Morrow County. Either party may cancel this Agreement at any time by giving the other forty-eight (48) hours' notice of intent to cancel.

7. By signing this Agreement, Park Host agrees to, and does release Morrow County from any liability arising by reason of personal injury suffered by Park Host which is not covered by Worker's Compensation Insurance.

### **TIMBER HARVEST**

Timber harvesting will occur on the property in a manner that benefits recreation, wildlife, water resources, and fire prevention. Given that the site is a recreation facility, emphasis will be placed on preserving the scenic qualities and aesthetics of the forest. Revenue for timber harvest will be used for future site development or facility maintenance.

### **FIRE PLAN**

The State Forester and Morrow County has a working agreement with the State of Oregon. The county maintains and stores fire-fighting equipment at the park in case of fires. The OHV Park has a conditional-use waiver to operate ATVs on trails during fire season. Permits are obtained from Oregon Department of Forestry for conditional usage of equipment and campfires within the park.

Ponds have been assigned GPS coordinates and are identified on maps, making them easy for fire-fighting crews to locate. Access for engines and helicopters will be maintained where possible.

Grazing helps reduce fine fuels that can ignite, starting wild fires. Timber harvest, primarily thinning, will be used to maintain the forest in the fire-safe condition. Harvest will occur to prevent buildup of fine fuels and ladder fuels that could increase the intensity of wildfires.

### **FUNDING SOURCES FOR THE PARK**

Morrow County derives income to support the park from a variety of sources. Income directly from the park include facility rentals, camping fees, propane sales, pop machine income, concessions, and sales of maps and apparel including hats with the OHV logo. Other sources of income include the grazing leases and timber sales discussed earlier, ATV stickers sold to riders for their vehicle, gas tax, and the Oregon State RV tax.

### **VOLUNTEERS**

Volunteers are a major resource for operating the park. They build trails, move rock, dig trenches, mow, patrol the park, fight fires, and do emergency medical work.

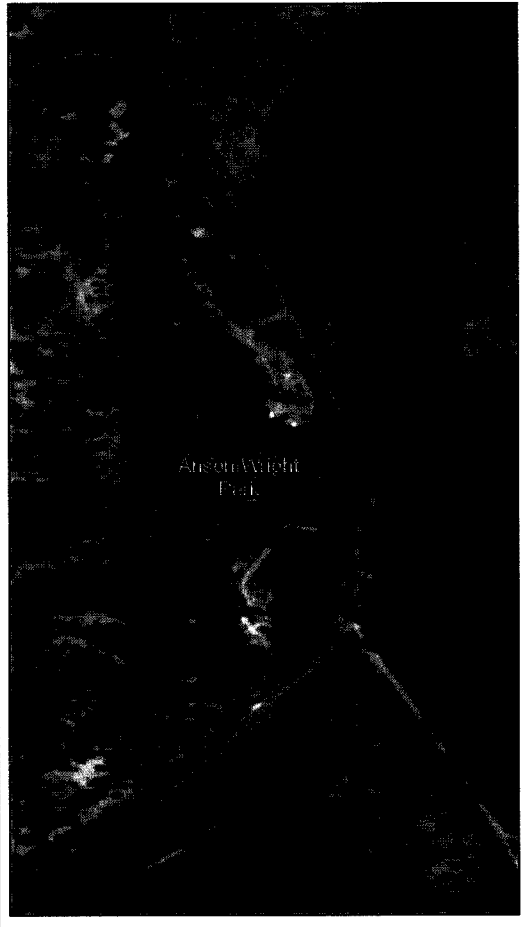
### **OUT REACH**

Park out reach includes sportsmans' shows in Portland and the Tri-Cities, Washington, the Morrow County Fair, the Oregon State Fair, the Park website, brochures, newspaper ads, and radio and television coverage. Many clubs have covered the park in their monthly magazines. Along with the website and a list of e-mail addresses, the OHV Park has an advertising and marketing plan for reservations. The County also uses other forms of advertising such as power point presentations, brochures, and trail maps.

**ANSON WRIGHT MEMORIAL  
PARK MAPS**

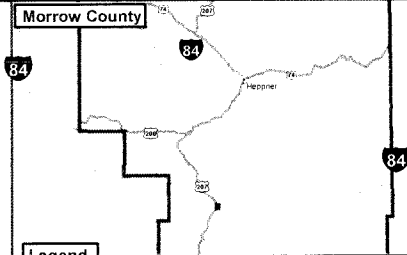


**Morrow County  
Oregon  
Anson Wright  
Park**



Anson Wright  
Park

Fleming Canyon



**Legend**

- County Boundary
- County Seat
- City
- Runway Length
- Airport
- City Limits
- Highway
- Arterial/Collector

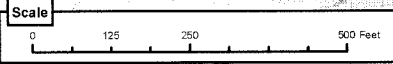
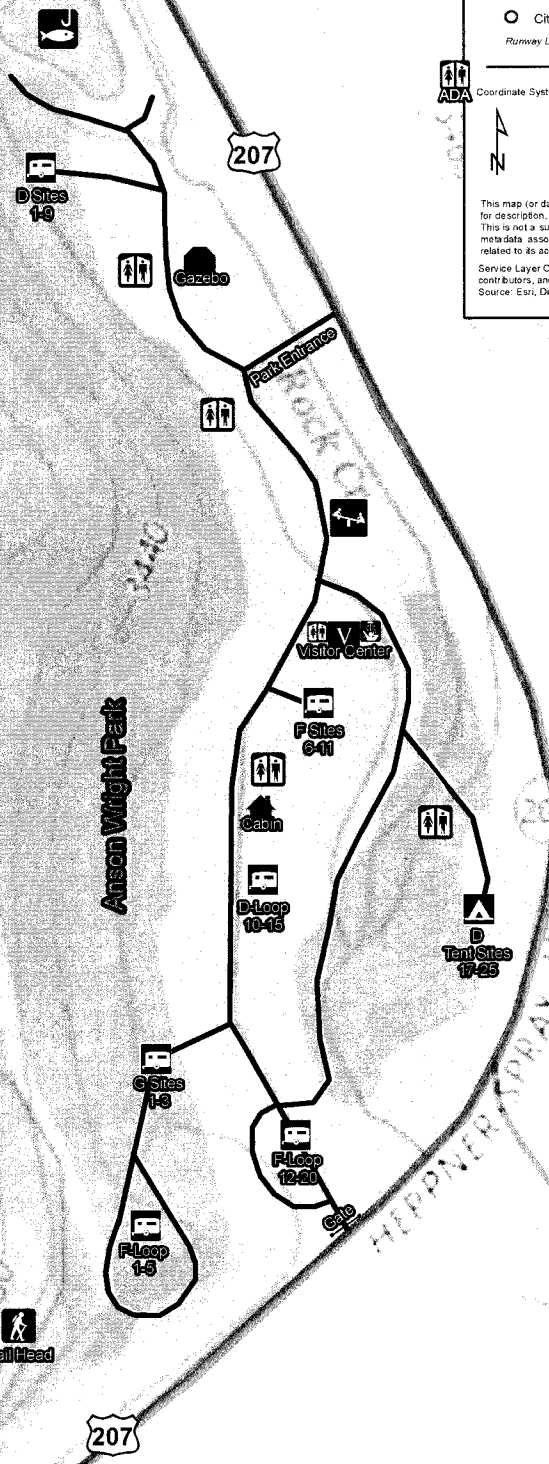


Coordinate System: NAD 1983 NRSR2007 StatePlane Oregon North FIPS 3601 Ft Int  
Projection: Lambert Conformal Conic  
Datum: NAD 1983 NRSR2007

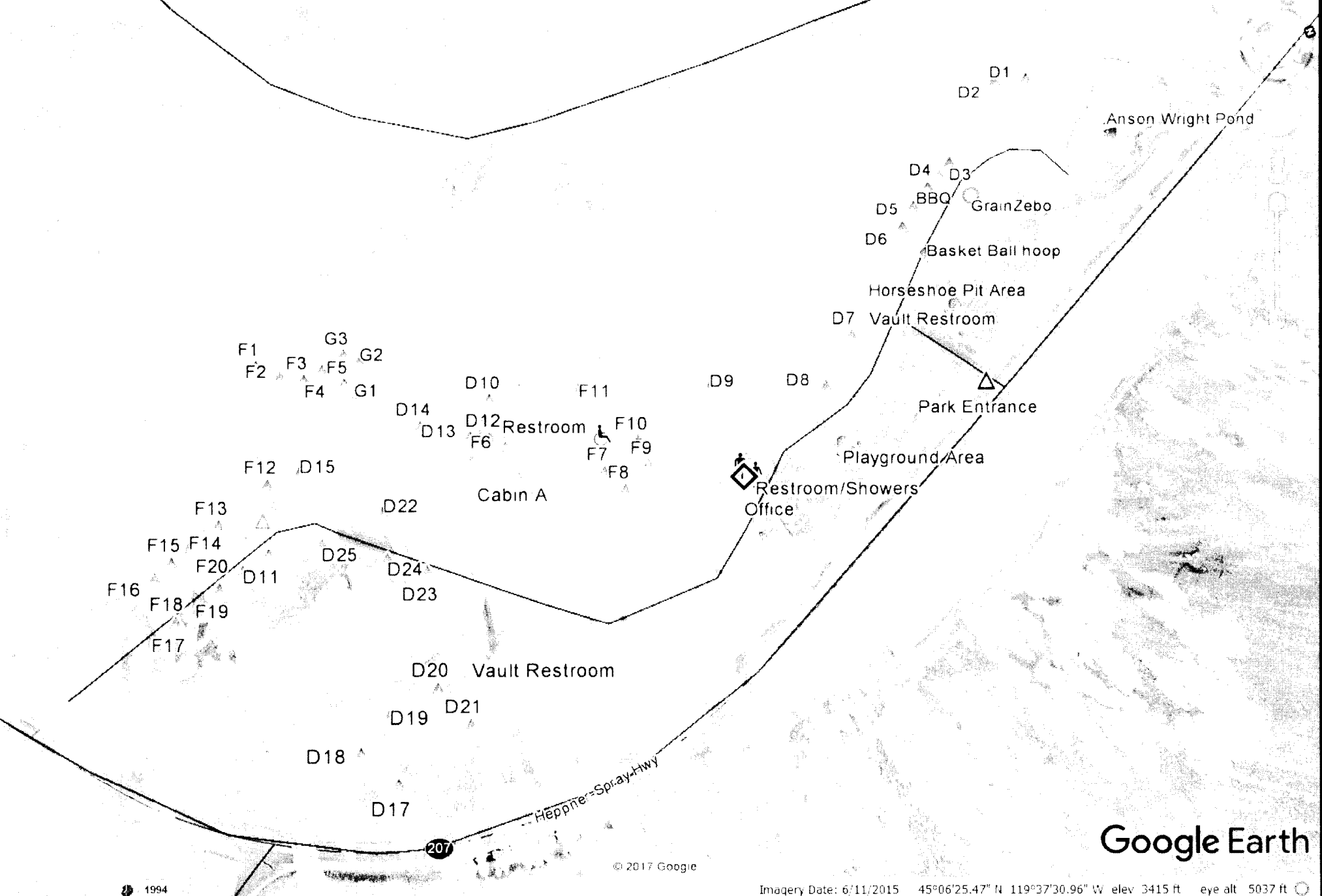
Cartography By: Stephen Wreccics  
Date Saved: 10/16/2017  
Morrow County Planning Department

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Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA.







Google Earth

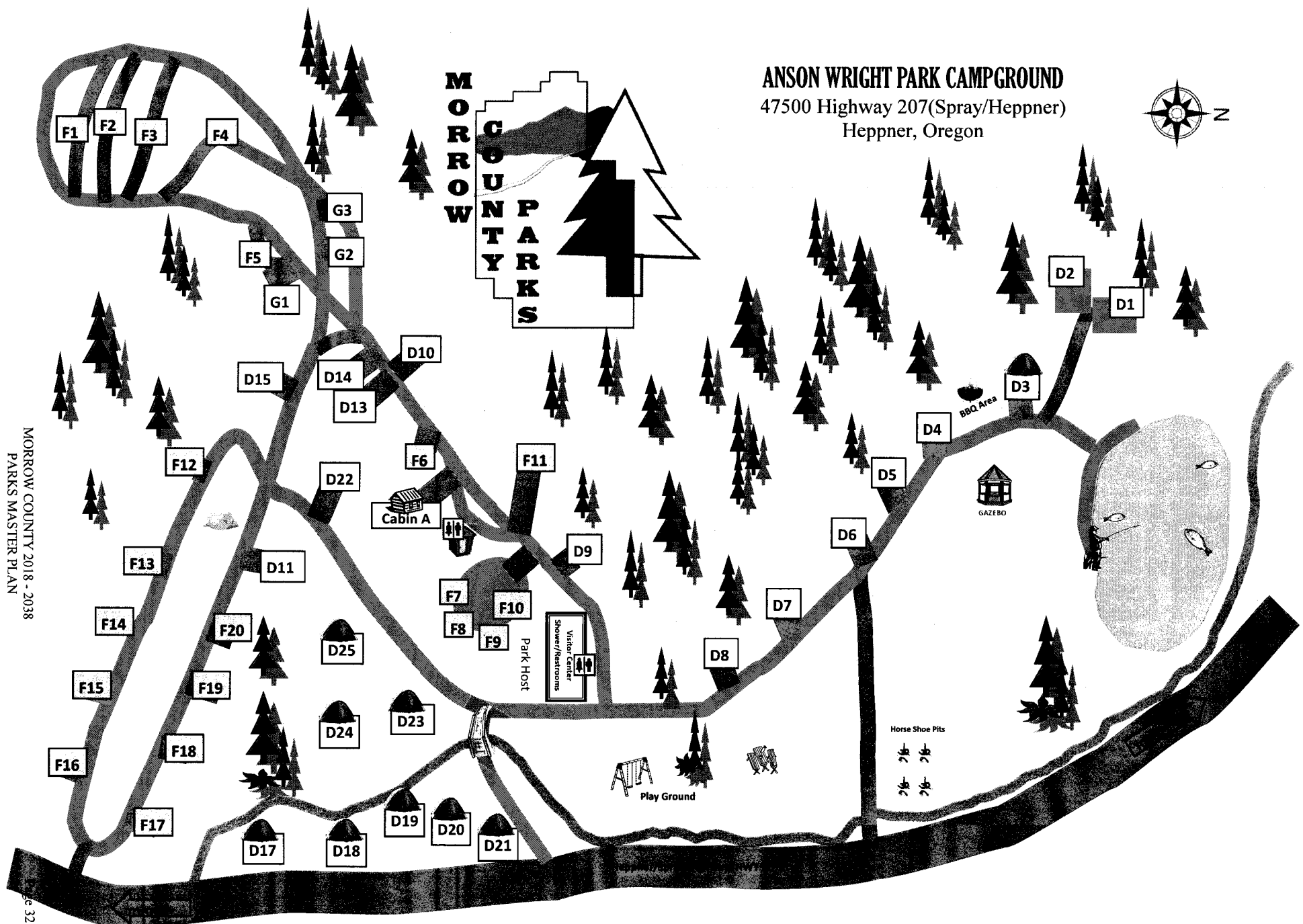
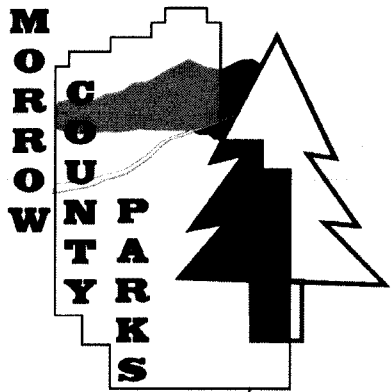
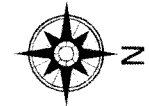
© 2017 Google

Imagery Date: 6/11/2015 45°06'25.47" N 119°37'30.96" W elev 3415 ft eye alt 5037 ft

1994





# ANSON WRIGHT PARK CAMPGROUND

47500 Highway 207(Spray/Heppner)  
Heppner, Oregon



MORROW COUNTY 2018 - 2038  
PARKS MASTER PLAN

Page 32

-  = owned by Morrow County Parks 14'x14'
-  = Full Hook-up Power/water/sewer
-  = Partial Hook-Up Power/Water
-  = Dry Site

*Not to scale or exact design  
And may change without notice*

# **CUTSFORTH PARK**

## **CUTSFORTH PARK**

58430 Willow Creek Road, Heppner, Oregon 97836

### **LOCATION:**

Cutsforth Park is located twenty miles southeast of Heppner and twenty-six miles northwest of Ukiah on County Road 678, also known as Willow Creek Road. The 31.08-acre park is at an elevation of 4,200 feet.

### **GENERAL DESCRIPTION:**

#### **Geography:**

The park is 31.08 acres at an elevation of 4,200 feet above sea level. Willow Creek flows through the park and is the water source for the ponds located on the northern end of the park. The campground is both visible and accessible directly from Willow Creek Road. The northern portion of the park is level with the southwest portion being located on a steep slope, which a road has been cut into to service campsites. The park is bordered on the south by the Umatilla National Forest and by private lands on the west.

#### **History:**

The property where Cutsforth Park now exists had multiple land acquisitions over the years. The land was originally owned by Orville (O.W.) Cutsforth who sold acreage to Philip William (P.W.) and Hazel Mahoney in 1951. In 1956 Mahoneys sold 14.4 acres to Cutsforth Forest Park Corporation (CFP). In 1957 additional land was purchased by CFP from Fred and Beulah Mankin. In the summer of 1960 Mahoneys sold an additional tract of land to CFP. In 1959 an error was discovered with the 14.4 acre sale of the property from Mahoneys to CFP; a correction deed was issued as the land was actually sold to CFP by O. W. and Barbara Cutsforth not Mahoneys. In 1960 P. W. and Hazel Mahoney sold another tract of land to CFP. In May of 1964 the CFP board of directors (President O. W. Cutsforth and Secretary P. W. Mahoney) sold the lands owned by Cutsforth Forest Park Corporation to Morrow County. October 1969 and in 1976 Kenneth and Beatrice Keeling sold two tracts of land to Morrow County. October 1976 O. W. Cutsforth Sr. and Barbara, Kenneth and Beatrice Keeling generously gave the County additional property. In February 1986 Alvin and Betty Bunch provided a land sale option to Morrow County for additional property. The last parcel of land acquired by Morrow County for Cutsforth Park was from Gladys Lowry Van Winkle in October of 1998.

### **SIGNAGE:**

The entrance to the park can be clearly seen from Willow Creek Road, however, the nature of the approach and road's grade make it easy for travelers to miss the entrance. The north entrance is located immediately after travelers coming from Heppner have rounded a sharp curve. The current signage cannot be seen from far enough away to give travelers enough opportunity to slow down and prepare to turn into the facility. This does not affect visitors who are specifically planning on stopping at the park, but it can negatively affect the decisions of travelers who might impulsively decide to visit Cutsforth Park. Signage within the park offers guidance and information regarding the park and surrounding areas.

**CAMPSITES/CAMPGROUNDS:**

Cutsforth has forty-one developed campsites. The RV campsites are located in six areas of the park. The central area has six campsites, the office and the American Disability Act (ADA) restroom/shower facility. The Southern area has ten full hook-ups, five partial RV campsites with Willow Creek Road on the eastern boundary, Willow Creek on the north boundary. The Southwest area of the park is located on a plateau above the rest of the park and contains nine campsites with full hook-ups. The Southwest corner of the park which is located above the Southwest area on an inclined slope has nine partial campsites. The Northwest area has four partial campsites that is southwest of the pond across Willow Creek. The Northeast area also known as the Day Use area has the large 4-H/Darcy Coil building, Gazebo, two cabins, and seven dry/tent campsites.

All sites have picnic tables, fire rings and garbage containers.

**PONDS:**

Cutsforth Park has two fishing ponds. The largest pond is approximately one hundred-twenty feet by two hundred-fifty feet, and is approximately nine feet deep at the steepest point. The second pond is adjacent to the large pond and is sixty feet by one hundred feet, and about four feet deep at the deepest point. An intake diversion from Willow Creek feeds the ponds. The smaller pond has an outflow that returns the water to the creek. About 1,500 people use the ponds each year. The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife stocks the pond with Rainbow Trout as part of its regular services provided to stimulate recreational activity. The larger pond has a handicapped-accessible dock at the east end. While a path with a foot bridge surrounds the large pond, it is not handicapped accessible.

**AMENITIES:**

Cutsforth Park provides a variety of amenities for park patrons.

**Visitor Center/Restrooms/Showers Facility:** This structure is where the camp host office is located, and guests can obtain information about the park and local area. The structure has a main room, and maintenance utility room, two separate unisex rooms that contain a restroom and shower amenities in each, two separate ADA unisex rooms that contain a restroom and shower amenities in each.

**Outdoor Education Facilities:** The outdoor education facilities are commonly referred to as the 4-H/Darcy Coil Building. Located adjacent to the picnic area and playground, the building is bordered by the entrance to the day-use area on the north and Willow Creek on the west and south. Constructed through volunteer labor, the building is primarily one large open multi-purpose room with limited amenities, including basic cooking facilities.

**Picnic and Day Use Area:** The picnic and day use areas are located to the east of the ponds. A parking lot located northwest of the playground serves the ponds, playground and day use areas. A large brick fireplace barbecue grill is available for groups to rent and use for the day. The day-use area has picnic tables, garbage containers, playground equipment, and horseshoe pits. It can be used for picnics and family reunions.

**Playground:** The playground is located to the east side of the ponds near the picnic area. Parking is located to the northwest and serves both the ponds and playground.

**Vault Restrooms:** Both vault restrooms are a dual vault restroom that have a storage area and two unisex restrooms, the first unit is located near the pond area, the second unit is located near the horse pens and the trail head accessing the Umatilla National Forest Service trail system.

**Gazebo:** The gazebo is located between the outdoor education facility and the pond. This area has picnic tables and propane BBQ grills.

**Ponds:** The fishing ponds are located on the northern portion of the park. This is a popular fishing area that is handicapped accessible.

**Loading Area:** To attract both snowmobilers in the winter and horse campers in the spring and summer, a loading area was included near the park facilities. The loading area can accommodate snowmobile trailers and can also be used to off load horse-packing supplies and feed. This loading area is located on the east site of the highway across from the entrance to Cutsforth Park in the new paved parking area.

#### **NEEDS ASSESSMENT:**

Two levels of need were identified for Cutsforth the park. The first covers (ACTIONS/MAINTENANCE) repairs and/or replacements needed to correct hazardous or noncompliant conditions. The second addresses (IMPROVEMENTS/GOALS) improvements, including facilities that would allow the park to better serve niche markets.

**ACTIONS/MAINTENANCE:** The following actions are recommended to correct hazardous and noncompliant conditions that currently exist at the park.

- **Erosion Stabilization:** Evidence of soil erosion has been identified in areas throughout the park. Corrective measures, including channeling of water run-off from the roads and ground stabilization through plant management, should be taken. Conditions should be assessed annually as this is an ongoing problem and work is done each year to address the issue.
- **Riparian Management:** Riparian areas have been stripped of vegetation at various points along Willow Creek throughout the park. A riparian plan that is complementary to and supportive of the *Umatilla National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan* should be considered. A riparian management plan should be implemented as part of the overall management process.
- **Forest Management:** The trees in the park will be managed to promote a healthy forest environment, and any funds generated from timber harvest shall be invested in the park.

- **Wiring Upgrades:** A complete analysis and upgrade of the electrical wiring should be done, and the park's electrical system brought into compliance with the current code.
- **Restrooms:** The only available restrooms are located in the central park area near the office. Twenty campsites have sewer hook-ups, but the number and location do not meet the needs of visitors to the ponds, day-use area, or the playground. Additional restroom facilities with external entrances could be added to the 4-H Building to serve the day use visitors.
- **4-H Building Waste Water System:** To meet code and sanitation requirements, the French drain system should be replaced with a new sand filter system.
- **Playground area:** A review and upgrade of the playground equipment to insure/meets current standards. Equipment is functional, but is a few decades old and should be replaced to meet current standards.

**IMPROVEMENTS/GOALS:** The following improvements are recommendations that are not required to correct current issues in the park, but would enhance it.

- **Improve Signage:** New signs at the bend in the county road will increase visibility for travelers coming from Heppner. The County uses Oregon Department of Transportation sign standards for all county signs.
- **Reduce Campsite Density:** Campsites that offer privacy enhance customer satisfaction, which increase repeat business, and work-of-mouth referrals. The RV sites, especially on the south end are quite close together. Eliminating twenty-five to thirty-three percent of the sites will increase campers' sense of privacy.
- **Add Larger RV Sites:** Cutsforth Park does not have any sites that will accommodate RVs requiring 50-amp or higher electrical hookups and minimum fifty foot by twenty-eight foot pads. Reallocating the space created by eliminating some smaller sites will make room for three to five larger sites complete with 50-amp or higher hookups.
- **Equestrian Corrals:** Cutsforth Park has three horse pens. To attract horse campers; at least four to eight corrals should be added to the park facilities. These corrals can stand alone or can be in a four-stall block design. These stalls are simply posts and tow rails with a chain across the entrance to serve as a gate. Cutsforth Park is adjunct to Willow Creek Trail #3063 of the Heppner Ranger District of the Umatilla National Forest, which has three trails where one can experience horseback riding or hiking on the Bald Mountain Loop. These trails are Bald Mountain Trail, Hells Half Acre Trail, and the Willow Creek Trail.

- **Outdoor Education Facilities:** The 4-H Building needs significant repair and upgrades if it is to continue to serve as an educational center as well as attract group visitors such as snowmobile, bicycle, RV, and hiking groups, and family reunions.
- **Student Lodging Facilities:** Most outdoor school experiences include overnight camping experiences. To make the facilities attractive as an outdoor education option, feasibility, design, and funding for a student-lodging facility should be pursued either as part of the 4-H Building or as a separate structure.
- **Vending Amenities/Services:** Create facility or area/s in which food, vending or other customer services could be provided or distributed either by vendor or on-site structure at park.
- **Connectivity:** Create access points to which multimodal travel could access other recreational areas (parks, riding areas, trails, etc.)



# **CUTSFORTH PARK MANAGEMENT**

## **CUTSFORTH PARK MANAGEMENT**

### **MAINTENANCE PERSONNEL**

#### **Parks General Manager of Operations (GMO):**

Position Overview: Under the limited supervision of the Public Works Director, the Parks General Manager of Operations (GMO) will be responsible for keeping all aspects of all three Morrow County Parks functioning properly. This is a partially grant funded position and may be vacated due to changes in grant availability. The GMO will be required to work a flex schedule in order to facilitate their presence on weekends and during park hosted events. The GMO will have a tremendous amount of interaction with the public and must be able to assist park guests and answer questions in order to keep guests informed, satisfied and to enhance their experience at the parks. Included is the supervision of the Parks part time help, contracted service providers, and Contracted Park Hosts. This could be from three to twenty people at any given time. The GMO will be in charge of the day to day operations of the three Parks (Anson Wright Park, Cutsforth Park, OHV Park). This will include assigning work duties to part time park help and supervising the work being performed. The scheduling of maintenance and repairs, managing and staffing events, consulting with the park hosts in regard to operations and conditions at the parks. The GMO will be responsible for establishing and maintaining a formal line of communication with Public Works Director and staff to ensure smooth operations. The ability to develop a work plan and follow it successfully throughout the park season is essential.

The ability to operate computers and electronic devices proficiently as well as use Excel and Word will be required on a daily basis. This person must maintain accurate records of park business activities as well as some cost accounting. A daily log of activities will be required and completed electronically to serve as a basis for some Park Grant applications. A strong background in the use of GPS equipment is required.

A background in maintenance and repair of buildings and park related infrastructure such as, but not limited to, driveways, trails, small bridges, signage and other park equipment is necessary. Also, a background in maintenance of all types of equipment, from pickups to weed eaters, is desirable.

A full job description of the Parks General Manager of Operations position is available from the Morrow County Human Resources Department.

#### **OHV Park Ranger:**

Position Overview: Under the limited supervision of the Parks General Manager, the Park Ranger performs a variety of maintenance tasks throughout the three County Parks. This position is grant funded. If funding ceases, this position may be vacated. The Park Ranger is responsible for keeping all aspects of the Parks System operating and in good condition. They will be responsible for the accurate reporting of purchases, inventory of all maintenance materials used,

and will provide a daily activity log to Parks General Manager, by email, to keep them informed of activities. The Park Ranger will oversee any and all construction projects at the parks as well as supervise all volunteer help and projects to ensure quality work and safety practices are followed. This may be from two to ten people. They will be responsible for tracking and managing all projects which are carried on in the park during the absence of Parks General Manager. This person will keep an accurate list of those projects and see to it that they are implemented properly, following the Park Master Plan.

The person in this position will be required to have the ability to work a flex schedule in order to facilitate their presence on weekends and during large and small park-hosted events.

This position requires the knowledge and ability to use a computer and GPS, hand tools and several different types of equipment including truck, back hoe, CAT Skid Steer and all related attachments, as well as chain saws, quads and other 4 x 4 maintenance equipment. The person in this position must be able to maintain any and all related equipment including chain saws. This person must also be capable of using timber related equipment and have knowledge of timber falling and timber practices

The person in this position must possess a thorough knowledge of mechanics in order to repair and maintain park equipment.

A full job description of OHV Park Ranger position is available from the Morrow County Human Resources Department.

#### **Parks Part-time Laborer:**

Position Overview: Under the limited supervision of the Parks General Manager and Park Ranger, the Part-time Laborer performs a variety of maintenance tasks throughout the three County Parks. This position is grant funded. If funding ceases, this position may be vacated. The Part-time Laborer is responsible for keeping all aspects of the Parks System operating and in good condition. They will be responsible for the accurate reporting of purchases, inventory of all maintenance materials used, and will provide a daily activity log to Parks General Manager or Park Ranger, by email or paper, to keep them informed of activities. The Part-time Laborer will work on any and all construction projects at the parks as well as work with and supervise all volunteer help and projects to ensure quality work and safety practices are followed. This may be from two to ten people. They will be responsible for tracking and managing all projects which are carried on in the parks during the absence of Parks General Manager and Park Ranger. This person will keep an accurate list of those projects and see to it that they are implemented properly, following the Park Master Plan.

The person in this position will be required to have the ability to work a flex schedule in order to facilitate their presence on weekends and during large and small park-hosted events.

This position requires the knowledge and ability to use a computer and GPS, hand tools and several different types of equipment including truck, back hoe, CAT Skid Steer and all related attachments, as well as chain saws, quads and other 4 x 4 maintenance equipment. The person in this position must be able to maintain any and all related equipment including chain saws. This person must also be capable of using timber related equipment and have knowledge of timber falling and timber practices

The person in this position must possess a thorough knowledge of mechanics in order to repair and maintain park equipment.

A full job description of the Parks General Manager of Operations position is available from the Morrow County Human Resources Department.

### **PARK HOST**

1. It is intended that the Park Host shall live at the Park during the Park season and be present at the Park at all times. Park Host shall be available to greet and assist visitors, collect user fees, do maintenance and caretaking of the Park, provide information about Park usage and facilities, receive public comment, and be aware of activities occurring in the Park. In order to appropriately perform these responsibilities, the

#### **Park Host must:**

- Be knowledgeable about Park rules and regulations;
  - Input guest reservations as necessary with park guest details and payment information into reservation system
  - Be observant for activities or conditions occurring in the Park that require immediate attention;
  - Be visible representative of the County in the Park;
  - Set an appropriate example for compliance with Park rules and courtesies;
  - Keep Park grounds and buildings, including restrooms and Park camping sites, clean and free of litter and debris;
  - Keep restroom dispensers filled with toilet tissue and paper towels;
  - No outside garbage or refuse is to be deposited at the Park refuse collection site.
  - In parks with cabins follow the appropriate procedure for care of those cabins outlined by the County.
2. County hereby waives Park Host's user fees applicable to the campsite that Park Host occupies during the term of this Agreement.
  3. County shall reimburse Park Host as per written agreement/contract with the County.
  4. County shall provide Park Host with materials and supplies necessary to maintain restrooms, dispose of garbage, post rules and regulations and otherwise as may be required to fulfill the intentions of this Agreement.

5. Park Host is not required to, and shall not attempt to personally deal with emergency situations arising at the Park during the term of this Agreement; Park Host shall contact the appropriate emergency personnel, including medical personnel and law enforcement officers, when in the judgment of the Park Host, such emergency services become necessary.
6. The parties acknowledge that the Park Host is not an employee of Morrow County. Either party may cancel this Agreement at any time by giving the other forty-eight hours' notice of intent to cancel.
7. By signing this Agreement, Park Host agrees to, and does release Morrow County from any liability arising by reason of personal injury suffered by Park Host which is not covered by Worker's Compensation Insurance.

### **TIMBER HARVEST**

Timber harvesting will occur on the property in a manner that benefits recreation, wildlife, water resources, and fire prevention. Given that the site is a recreation facility, emphasis will be placed on preserving the scenic qualities and aesthetics of the forest. Revenue for timber harvest will be used for future site development or facility maintenance.

### **FIRE PLAN**

The State Forester and Morrow County has a working agreement with the State of Oregon. The county maintains and stores fire-fighting equipment at the park in case of fires. The OHV Park has a conditional-use waiver to operate ATVs on trails during fire season. Permits are obtained from Oregon Department of Forestry for conditional usage of equipment and campfires within the park.

Ponds have been assigned GPS coordinates and are identified on maps, making them easy for fire-fighting crews to locate. Access for engines and helicopters will be maintained where possible.

Grazing helps reduce fine fuels that can ignite, starting wild fires. Timber harvest, primarily thinning, will be used to maintain the forest in the fire-safe condition. Harvest will occur to prevent buildup of fine fuels and ladder fuels that could increase the intensity of wildfires.

### **FUNDING SOURCES FOR THE PARK**

Morrow County derives income to support the park from a variety of sources. Income directly from the park include facility rentals, camping fees, propane sales, pop machine income, concessions, and sales of maps and apparel including hats with the OHV logo. Other sources of income include the grazing leases and timber sales discussed earlier, ATV stickers sold to riders for their vehicle, gas tax, and the Oregon State RV tax.

### **VOLUNTEERS**

Volunteers are a major resource for operating the park. They build trails, move rock, dig trenches, mow, patrol the park, fight fires, and do emergency medical work.

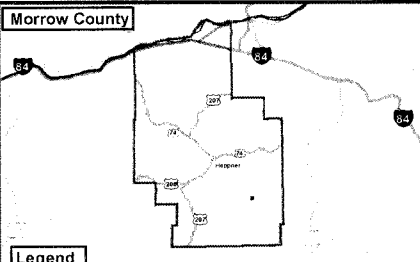
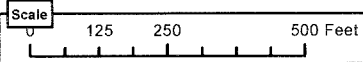
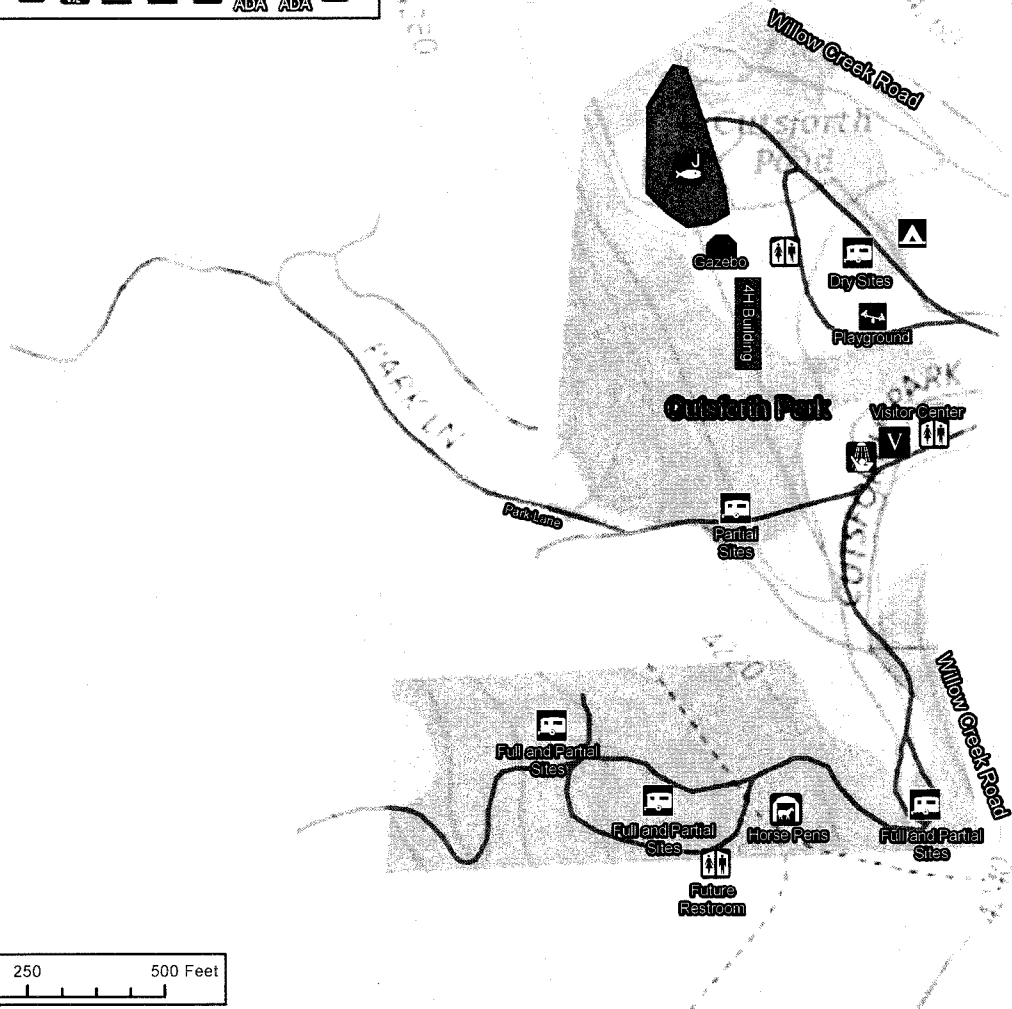
## **OUT REACH**

Park out reach includes sportsmans' shows in Portland and the Tri-Cities, Washington, the Morrow County Fair, the Oregon State Fair, the Park website, brochures, newspaper ads, and radio and television coverage. Many clubs have covered the park in their monthly magazines. Along with the website and a list of e-mail addresses, the OHV Park has an advertising and marketing plan for reservations. The County also uses other forms of advertising such as power point presentations, brochures, and trail maps.

# **CUTSFORTH PARK MAPS**



# Morrow County Oregon Cutsforth Park



Legend	
	County Boundary
	City Limits
	County Seat
	Highway
	City
	Runway Length
	Airport
	Arterial/Collector

Coordinate System: NAD 1983 NSRS2007 StatePlane Oregon North FIPS 3601 Ft InS  
 Projection: Lambert Conformal Conic  
 Datum: NAD 1983 NSRS2007

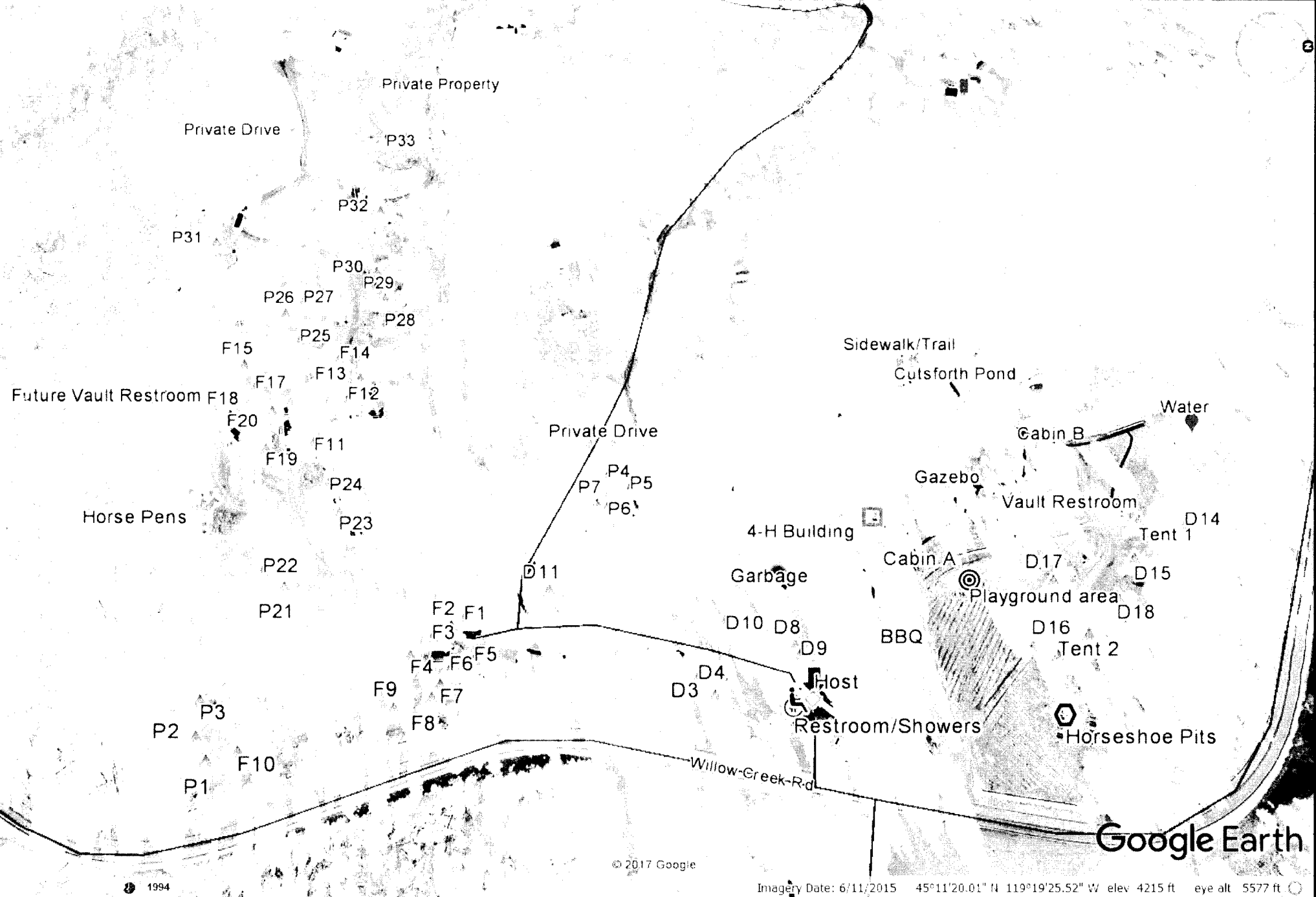
Cartography By: Stephen Weocsics  
 Date Saved: 4/4/2018  
 Morrow County Planning Department

This map (or data product) is for planning purposes only. It is not intended to be used for description, conveyance, authoritative definition of legal boundary, or property title. This is not a survey product. Users are encouraged to examine the documentation or metadata associated with the data for which this map is based on for information related to its accuracy, currentness, and limitations.

Service Layer Credits: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, MapmyIndia, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS user community  
 Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA,







Private Property

Private Drive

P33

P32

P31

P30

P29

P26 P27

P28

P25

F15

F14

F17

F13

F12

Future Vault Restroom F18

F20

F11

F19

P24

Private Drive

P4

P5

P7

P6

Horse Pens

P23

P22

P21

F2

F1

F3

F6

F5

F4

F9

F7

F8

P2

P3

F10

P1

D11

4-H Building

Garbage

D10

D8

D9

D3

D4

Host

Restroom/Showers

Willow-Creek-Rd

Sidewalk/Trail

Cutsforth Pond

Cabin B

Gazebo

Vault Restroom

Water

D14

Tent 1

D17

D15

Playground area

D18

D16

Tent 2

BBQ

Cabin A

Horseshoe Pits

Google Earth

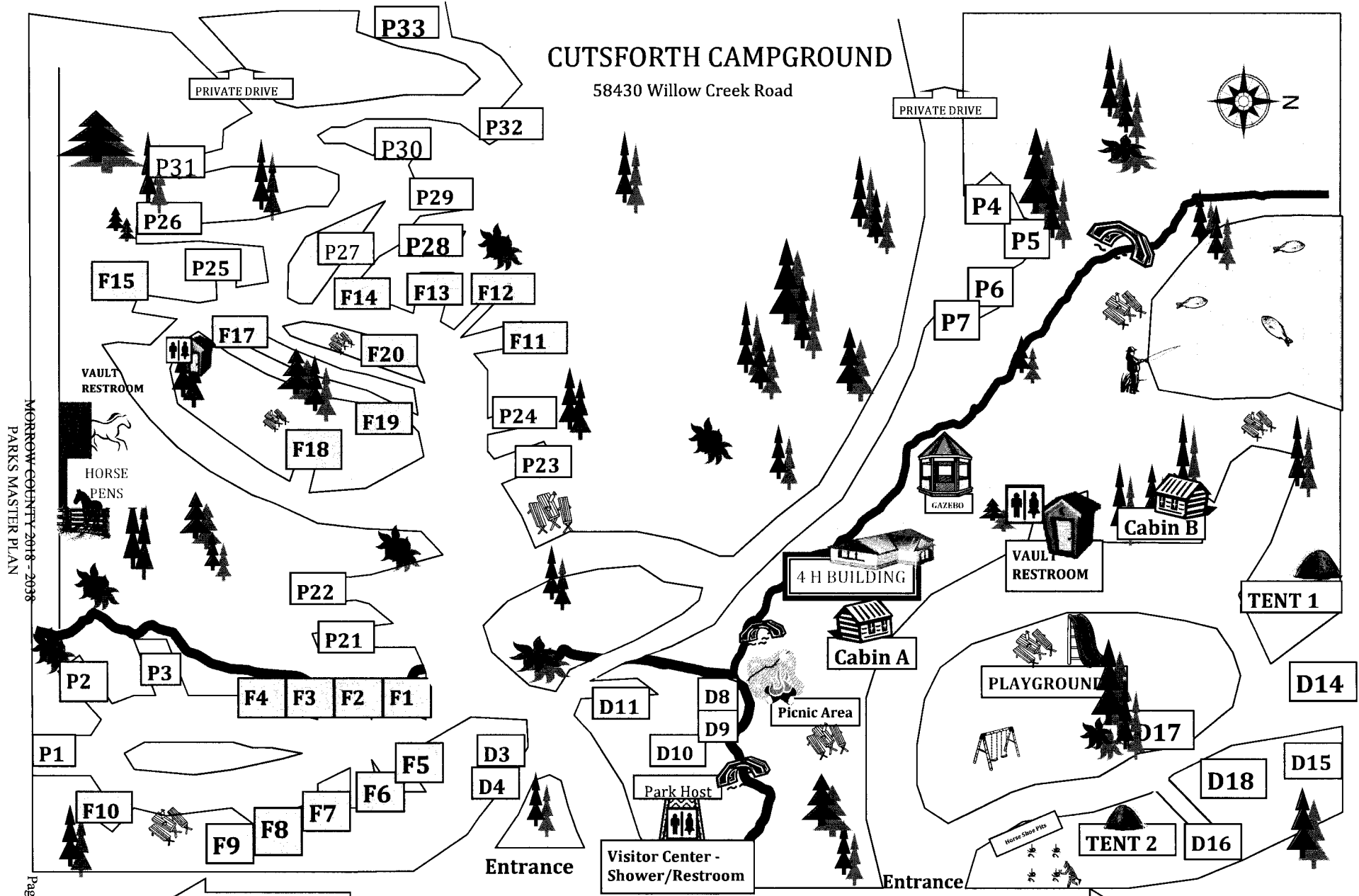
© 2017 Google

Imagery Date: 6/11/2015 45°11'20.01" N 119°19'25.52" W elev 4215 ft eye alt 5577 ft

1994

# CUTSFORTH CAMPGROUND

58430 Willow Creek Road







MORROW COUNTY 2018-2038  
PARKS MASTER PLAN

Page 48

TO UKIAH GOING, SOUTH

WILLOW CREEK HIGHWAY

TO HEPPNER, NORTH

-  = Morrow County 10'x16' Cabin
-  = Full Hook-up Power/water/sewer
-  = Partial Hook-up Power/Water
-  = Dry Site

*Not to scale or exact design*

*And may change without notice*

**MORROW COUNTY  
OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE PARK  
(OHV)  
Includes Grant County Lands**

## **MORROW COUNTY OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE (OHV) PARK**

71000 East Morphine Lane/ Forest Service Road 21, Heppner, Oregon 97836

### **LOCATION:**

The Morrow County OHV Park is approximately 28 miles south of Heppner at the edge of the Umatilla National Forest and approximately 32 miles north of Spray. The site is located in the southernmost part of Morrow County and is bordered by Grant County to the south. The primary access to the site is the Oregon State Highway 207 (HWY 207). The park also can be reached via U.S. Forest Service roads and county roads from the south (Bull Prairie), southeast (Monument), east, and northeast.

### **GENERAL DESCRIPTION:**

**GEOGRAPHY:** The park has 6,200 acres in Morrow County and 1,925 acres in Grant County which is at an elevation of 4,200 feet above sea level. This park is forested land interspersed with open meadows. The park's elevation is 4,200 feet above sea level. The park and campground are open year-round with the primary use being in the spring, summer, and fall. The property was heavily logged before the sale to Morrow County, however, many trees and a variety of vegetation remain. Porter Creek, a fish-sensitive stream, flows through one corner of the property, which also contains many other springs and ponds. The park is boarded on the North by Forest Service Road 21, on the west by State Highway 207, on the south by the Umatilla National Forest at the 45<sup>th</sup> parallel, and on the east by Sunflower Flat Road and the Umatilla National Forest.

**HISTORY:** Morrow County purchased 6,200 acres of forested land was on February 28, 2003. The funding for this purchase was provided by an 80/20 grant program through Oregon Parks and Recreation Department and their ATV Fund Grant Program. A Conservation Easement ensures continued public recreation use of the property. Grant County acquired 1,925 acres in 2008 through one of Oregon Parks and Recreation Department Grant Programs. Morrow and Grant Counties have a memorandum of agreement regarding the 1925-acre parcel. The total acreage for the Morrow-Grant OHV Park is 8,125 acres. The parks rely on grant funds and user fees for personnel, improvements, equipment, maintenance and operations of the park.

### **SIGNAGE:**

Signage can be clearly seen in multiple locations along Highway 207. Traveling south from Heppner there are signs at the HWY 207/HWY206 intersection at Ruggs, mileage signage after the intersection at Ruggs, and a sign near East Morphine Lane/USFS 21 for the park. Traveling north from Spray there is a sign indicating mileage. There is also a business sign for The Landing dining facility at the park. These signs have all been placed in coordination with Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT). Two signs located near the intersection in the of HWY 207 and East Morphine Lane/USFS 21 in the northwest portion of the OHV Parks main

campground, one for the park and other for The Landing. Additional signage for The Landing can be seen traveling from Spray near the vacated section of the Kinzua Road, with another being located at Anson Wright. The Parks main entrance sign approximately quarter mile from HWY 207 to aid and guide travelers to the park. Signage within the park and the boundary of the park offers guidance and information regarding the park and the surrounding areas.

**CAMPSITES/CAMPGROUNDS:** The campground area consists of six individual camping areas. The main campground located in the northwest area has thirteen full hook-up sites, six water only, and twelve dry/tent campsites. The full hook-ups are pull-through and back-in sites with 50/70 amp power. The “B” campground is located south-east of the main campground and consists of twelve full hook-ups pull through sites. The “C”/Cabin area sets to the south-east of the “B” area and to the south of Trout Lake and the Helipad, and has nine cabins of various styles, three full hook-ups, one partial, one water only, and two dry/tent sites. The full hook-up sites are pull-through and back in sites that have 50/70 amp power. The “D” area is located east of the “C”/Cabin area. This area has eight water only, and three dry campsites. The “E” area located to the south of the “D” camping area consists of fifteen water only and four dry campsites. The overflow/staging/group area consists of five large group sites that can hold up to ten camping units each. The remainder of the area is utilized for additional camping, and serves as the primary Day Use Parking.

**PONDS:** The park has multiple spring-fed fishing ponds. Trout Lake Pond, located near the cabin area, is a half-acre in size and fourteen feet deep. Red Rock Pond, located in the day-use area, is three quarters of an acre in size and eighteen feet deep. The Oregon Fish and Wildlife Department annually stocks ponds with Rainbow Trout as part of their regular services to provide and stimulate recreational activity. The ponds are a popular fishing area, with a number of fisherman using them on an annual basis. The ponds are also used as water sources for fighting fires. Several other smaller ponds located throughout the property are used primarily for watering livestock. Wilson Prairie Pond was originally used as a source of rock for logging roads in the area. After being used the quarry filled with water and became a water hole for livestock. However, after the property was made part of the OHV Park the pond was upgraded, cleaned and fish were introduced for fishing. A weather shelter was added, and the pond was fenced off from livestock. The pond is approximately eight feet deep and, three-hundred feet long and fifty feet wide. O’Brien Lake was originally a Kinzua rock quarry that furnished rock for the 21 Road and the main haul route through the mountains from the Kinzua Mill to the Reload Yard which is currently the OHV Park’s large group site camping/overflow/day use area. Morrow County acquired the pit with the purchase of the OHV Park property. Morrow County mined the quarry site two different times since then. Each time the pit became deeper and larger. Springs feed into the pit and create a small lake approximately nine feet deep with habitat for fish. Sand was added at the South end of the lake and used as a beach for kids to enjoy the cool water and provide additional family recreation. The park has stocked this lake since 2007 which furnishes fishing for fly fishermen and others.

## AMENITIES:

The OHV Park provides a variety of amenities for park patrons.

- **Main Compound Area:** Located south of the main entrance and serves as the primary staging area for the park and trails maintenance projects. The maintenance compound area consists of multiple structures that house the maintenance office, single bay shop, parts room, wood working shop, fueling station, equipment washdown, and equipment storage. There is an operational well that furnishes potable water. Security fencing exists around the perimeter of the maintenance compound.
- **Welcome/Support Building:** Located south of the main entrance to the park. The building houses the campground reservation reception area, Morrow County Sheriff Department's field office, Volunteer Emergency Medical Services Office and an exam room. There is additional area for storage and a small office space. This building also includes a large meeting area, an ADA-accessible shower/restroom, a kitchen area, garage, an upstairs storage/staff area, and a patio area on the back side of the building. This facility acts as the main communication center for the park.
- **Trails:** Located outside the camping and day-use areas; the approximate 205 miles of trails are mapped and signed. The trail system provides opportunities for Oregon Class I (all-terrain vehicles [ATV], quads), Class II (4-wheel drive vehicles, jeeps sandrails), Class III (motorcycles) and Class IV (side-by-side, Utility Travel Vehicle [UTV], Sport Utility Vehicles [SUV]) vehicles. Trails vary in width to provide a range of opportunities, experiences, and challenges to all OHV users. While the trail system is suited primarily to Class I ATV's, with 160 miles of trail designed for quads and 3-wheelers, 20 miles of specific single-track trails (less than 50 inches wide) are provided for Class III motorcycles and 25 miles of wider trails and rock-crawl areas are suitable for Class II vehicles, including jeeps, sand rails, sport-utility vehicles (SUV), and side-by-sides (e.g., Rhino, Ranger, Mule). The OHV park allows side-by-sides to also use the Class I trails. Future trail opportunities still exist. Trail maps are available upon request.
- **Day-Use Facility:** Centrally located in the 8,000+ acre park approximately three miles from HWY 207, accessed by County 2128 Road that runs through the middle of the park. This area has loading and unloading facilities, a pond, picnic area, and a vault restroom. Overnight camping is not permitted, unless approved with written permission from the Morrow County Parks Operation Manager.
- **Safety Training Facility:** Located adjacent to the main campground, this area provides two separate training areas and a covered shelter for ATV training. The facility is designed to provide evaluating/training for youth and adults through various programs to aid individuals in obtaining and meeting necessary requirements for riding ATV's.

- **Overflow/Staging Area:** Located within the main compound, This area provides visitors with an open lot where they can park and unload ATV to ride for the day.
- **Loading Areas:** The first of two areas are located within the main compound and has a back-up ramp for loading and unloading ATV's from vehicles. The second is located within the Day-Use Facility.
- **Cat-A-Q (BBQ) Area:** Located within the main compound and east of the Welcome/Support building. The repurposed D6 Caterpillar bulldozer serves as a large grill for BBQ'ing.
- **Playground:** A large sawmill themed playground structure is located to the southwest of the Welcome/Support Building. The playground was funded by the County Opportunity Grant program from Oregon Parks and Recreation Department and was completed in 2013.
- **Maintenance Infrastructure:** Located southeast from the park entrance and serves as the primary staging area for park and trail maintenance projects. The maintenance compound area consists of multiple structures that house the maintenance office, single bay shop, parts room, wood working shop, fueling station, equipment wash-down, and equipment storage. There is an operational well that furnishes potable water. Security fencing exists around the perimeter of the maintenance compound.
- **Lagoon System:** Located to the east of the maintenance compound, was completed and became operation in May of 2007, with grant funding assistance from Oregon State Parks and Recreation Department, and labor and equipment from the Oregon National Guard. With the installation of this system the park installed a RV dump station, and is able to provide sanitation amenities for the park. A security fence is located around the perimeter of the lagoons.
- **ATV Wash Down:** Located between the Cat-A-Q/BBQ area and the maintenance compound. This structure was once an old scale complex that has been developed into the ATV wash down facility.
- **Vault Restroom:** Located in the Day Use Facility area is a single vault restroom.
- **Wildlife Viewing:** Wildlife viewing has been a positive part of the recreation experience for many people. The OHV Park is home to chucker, turkey, bluebird, deer, elk, bobcat, cougar, and many other species of birds and animals. The park has a resident elk herd of twenty, but a heard of two-hundred has been sighted within the park boundaries.
- **Aggregate Resources:** The Park has a Goal Five-listed rock quarry, which is being used for development of the park infrastructure and maintenance projects. Currently over 14,000 yards of rock have been mined for these purposes. A variety of rock types can be found throughout the park and will be identified as a point of interest in the future.

- **Watershed and Natural Resources:** The property has more than 30 springs, which are a significant part of the watershed that feeds the Wilson Creek drainage. Currently, projects are being planned in cooperation with the John Day Watershed Council and the local USFS Fish Biologist to improve and protect this important John Day Basin Water resource. Porter Creek and Wilson Creek are the two fish-bearing streams in the OHV Park.

## **OTHER RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES**

- **U.S. FOREST LAND:** Wilson Prairie, Bull Prairie, Porter Creek, and Wilson Creek are among the U.S. Forest land available for recreation near the OHV Park. Access to the Bull Prairie area is via U.S. Forest Service land south of the site. This area is open to cross country travel, but travel by motorized vehicles is allowed only in designated areas and routes. This access is from the riding areas in the National Forest and comes into the park on the southeast boundary. Riders in the National Forest are allowed in this part of the Forest and enter the trail system at a point that does not have fencing at this time. Morrow County Public Works Department is working with the U.S. Forest Service to develop an access point that is acceptable to both Morrow County and the Forest Service.
- **OTHER AREAS OF INTEREST:** Nearby areas also provide recreational opportunities. These include the John Day River for fishing and rafting, the towns of Spray, Kimberly, Monument, Service Creek, Twickenham, Richmond, Long Creek, Shaniko, Antelope, Clarno, Fossil, and Ritter, Wetmore Summit, with an elevation of 4,612 feet, the ghost town of Hardman, and the John Day Fossil Beds (a national monument).

## **NEEDS ASSESSMENT:**

Two levels of need were identified for the OHV Park. The first category covers **ACTIONS/MAINTENANCE** repairs and/or replacements needed to correct hazardous or noncompliant conditions. The second addresses **IMPROVEMENTS/GOALS** improvements, including facilities that would allow the park to better serve niche markets.

**ACTIONS/MAINTENANCE:** The following actions are recommended to correct hazardous and noncompliant conditions that may exist at the park.

- **Communications:** Upgrade current communications system to better serve park patrons and their safety.
- **Erosion Stabilization:** Evidence of soil erosion has been identified in areas throughout the park. Corrective measures, including channeling of water run-off from the roads and ground stabilization through plant management, should be taken. Conditions should be assessed annually as this is an ongoing problem and work is done each year to address the issue.



- **Riparian Management:** Riparian areas have been stripped of vegetation at various points throughout the park. A riparian plan that is complementary to and supportive of the *Umatilla National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan* should be considered. A riparian management plan should be implemented as part of the overall management process.
- **Forest Management:** The trees in the park will be managed to promote a healthy forest environment, and any funds generated from timber harvest shall be invested in the park.
- **Wiring Upgrades:** An annual analysis of the electrical wiring should be done, and the park's electrical system kept in compliance with the current code.
- **Welcome/Support Building:** Annual review of the structure should be completed to ensure that the facility is compliant with the Americans with Disability Act (ADA) and any other applicable standards.
- **Restroom/Shower Buildings:** Annual review of the structures should be completed to ensure that the facility is compliant with ADA and any other applicable standards.
- **Playground Area:** Annual review of the structure shall be completed to ensure that the equipment is compliant with ADA and any other applicable standards.
- **Maintenance Infrastructure:** Annual inspection of the structures should be completed to ensure that the facilities are to code.
- **Lagoon System:** Annual inspection of the lagoon system shall be completed to ensure that the system is to code.

**IMPROVEMENTS/GOALS:** The following improvements are recommendations are not required to correct current issues, but would enhance the park.

- **Electrical Upgrades:** Upgrade a portion of the current sites to provide electrical, water, and sewer to sites. Electrical wiring shall be in compliance with current code and demands and needs of the users at park.
- **Campsite Improvements:** To accommodate larger RV's with rear access doors and slides on both sides of RV. Provide full hook-up amenities (power, water, sewer) to meet demands and request of users.
- **Gazebo:** Provides a covered outdoor recreational use area for gatherings.
- **Restroom/Vault Restrooms:** To provide better sanitation amenities in camping area and high-volume traffic areas throughout park.

- **Equestrian Corrals:** To attract horse campers at least four to eight corrals should be added to the park facilities. These corrals can be stand alone or can be in a four-stall block design. These stalls are simply posts and tow rails with a chain across the entrance to serve as a gate.
- **Outdoor Education Facilities:** Currently there is only the hands-on training area and shared space in the Welcome/Support Building that with large groups interfere with actions of the park and access to the medical exam room. This would serve as an educational center as well as attract group visitors such as snowmobile, bicycle, RV, and hiking groups, and family reunions.
- **Outdoor Sports Areas:** Create areas for outdoor sports recreation to providing additional outdoor recreational opportunities for park visitors. Examples include but not limited to archery, basketball, frisbee golf, tennis and volleyball.
- **Student Lodging Facilities:** Most outdoor school experiences include overnight camping experiences. To make the facilities attractive as an outdoor education option, feasibility, design, and funding for a student-lodging facility should be pursued.
- **Connectivity:** Create access points to which multimodal travel could access other recreational areas (parks, riding areas, trails, etc.)
- **Rental Services:** could be located throughout the Park with a focus on providing recreational rental equipment.
  - **Rental Stores:** could be available in the compound area and would serve events and activities at the park as well as travelers along HWY 207.
- **Vending Amenities/Services:** Create facility or area/s in which food, vending or other customer services could be provided or distributed either by vendor or on-site structure at park.
- **Food Service Options:** Food services at the OHV Park will range from special event vendors, deli services, snack shack vendors to full service options
  - **Special Event Vendors:** would serve events and activities held at the OHV Park and could be located throughout the Park
  - **Deli Services:** could be available in the compound area of the Park and compliment other business opportunities (ie: Convenient Store)
  - **Snack Shacks:** could be located throughout the Park with a focus on providing limited food options appropriate to the season, location or in support of scheduled special events.
  - **Fast Food and Full Service:** options could be available in the compound area of the Park and could service Park attendees or travelers along HWY 207.

- **Shopping, Fueling, Repair Opportunities:** to best serve Park guest and the traveling public, multiple shopping and fueling options could be considered.
  - **Convenience Stores, Pro Shops, Gift Shops:** are examples of the types of shopping that could be made available to Park guests and travelers. These types of retail options could be included in a singular store or be offered in a variety of ways. While most of these options would be found within the compound, satellite operations could be offered to support special events throughout the Park.
  - **Fueling Stations:** offering everything from gas to propane, and equipment parts would serve Park guest and travelers. Also to be considered would be limited services options for equipment operated by Park guests.
  
- **Large Event Arena:** An area where a large group of people can gather and watch or partake in a venue such as a concert.
  
- **Motocross Track:** A track where multimodal events can be held with an area for spectators to view the event.
  
- **Lodging Opportunities:** to support the variety of Park visitors and travelers along HWY 207, a variety of lodging options should be considered. The Park already offers a large recreational vehicle (RV) park, but also to be considered are cabins, lodge type facilities, motel and possibly a hotel or resort offering improved amenities.
  - **Cabins:** could range from sleeping units with limited amenities to full service cabins
  - **Lodges:** could be considered that could offer rooms and other food and shopping amenities
  - **Motels:** could offer overnight accommodations with as few as four to as many as twenty-four units.
  - **Hotels or Resorts:** could serve Park visitors and the traveling community with overnight accommodations, food service, shopping, as well as other amenities that could include but not limited to swimming pool, spa, gym, and lounge.

**MORROW COUNTY  
OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE PARK (OHV)  
MANAGEMENT**

## **OHV PARK MANAGEMENT**

### **MAINTENANCE PERSONNEL**

#### **Parks General Manager of Operations (GMO):**

Position Overview: Under the limited supervision of the Public Works Director, the Parks General Manager of Operations (GMO) will be responsible for keeping all aspects of all three Morrow County Parks functioning properly. This is a partially grant funded position and may be vacated due to changes in grant availability. The GMO will be required to work a flex schedule in order to facilitate their presence on weekends and during park hosted events. The GMO will have a tremendous amount of interaction with the public and must be able to assist park guests and answer questions in order to keep guests informed, satisfied and to enhance their experience at the parks. Included is the supervision of the Parks part time help, contracted service providers, and Contracted Park Hosts. This could be from three to twenty people at any given time. The GMO will be in charge of the day to day operations of the three Parks (Anson Wright Park, Cutsforth Park, OHV Park). This will include assigning work duties to part time park help and supervising the work being performed. The scheduling of maintenance and repairs, managing and staffing events, consulting with the park hosts in regard to operations and conditions at the parks. The GMO will be responsible for establishing and maintaining a formal line of communication with Public Works Director and staff to ensure smooth operations. The ability to develop a work plan and follow it successfully throughout the park season is essential.

The ability to operate computers and electronic devices proficiently as well as use Excel and Word will be required on a daily basis. This person must maintain accurate records of park business activities as well as some cost accounting. A daily log of activities will be required and completed electronically to serve as a basis for some Park Grant applications. A strong background in the use of GPS equipment is required.

A background in maintenance and repair of buildings and park related infrastructure such as, but not limited to, driveways, trails, small bridges, signage and other park equipment is necessary. Also, a background in maintenance of all types of equipment, from pickups to weed eaters, is desirable.

A full job description of the Parks General Manager of Operations position is available from the Morrow County Human Resources Department.

#### **OHV Park Ranger:**

Position Overview: Under the limited supervision of the Parks General Manager, the Park Ranger performs a variety of maintenance tasks throughout the three County Parks. This position is grant funded. If funding ceases, this position may be vacated. The Park Ranger is responsible for keeping all aspects of the Parks System operating and in good condition. They will be responsible for the accurate reporting of purchases, inventory of all maintenance materials used,

and will provide a daily activity log to Parks General Manager, by email, to keep them informed of activities. The Park Ranger will oversee any and all construction projects at the parks as well as supervise all volunteer help and projects to ensure quality work and safety practices are followed. This may be from two to ten people. They will be responsible for tracking and managing all projects which are carried on in the park during the absence of Parks General Manager. This person will keep an accurate list of those projects and see to it that they are implemented properly, following the Park Master Plan.

The person in this position will be required to have the ability to work a flex schedule in order to facilitate their presence on weekends and during large and small park-hosted events.

This position requires the knowledge and ability to use a computer and GPS, hand tools and several different types of equipment including truck, back hoe, CAT Skid Steer and all related attachments, as well as chain saws, quads and other 4 x 4 maintenance equipment. The person in this position must be able to maintain any and all related equipment including chain saws. This person must also be capable of using timber related equipment and have knowledge of timber falling and timber practices

The person in this position must possess a thorough knowledge of mechanics in order to repair and maintain park equipment.

A full job description of OHV Park Ranger position is available from the Morrow County Human Resources Department.

#### **Parks Part-time Laborer:**

**Position Overview:** Under the limited supervision of the Parks General Manager and Park Ranger, the Part-time Laborer performs a variety of maintenance tasks throughout the three County Parks. This position is grant funded. If funding ceases, this position may be vacated. The Part-time Laborer is responsible for keeping all aspects of the Parks System operating and in good condition. They will be responsible for the accurate reporting of purchases, inventory of all maintenance materials used, and will provide a daily activity log to Parks General Manager or Park Ranger, by email or paper, to keep them informed of activities. The Part-time Laborer will work on any and all construction projects at the parks as well as work with and supervise all volunteer help and projects to ensure quality work and safety practices are followed. This may be from two to ten people. They will be responsible for tracking and managing all projects which are carried on in the parks during the absence of Parks General Manager and Park Ranger. This person will keep an accurate list of those projects and see to it that they are implemented properly, following the Park Master Plan.

The person in this position will be required to have the ability to work a flex schedule in order to facilitate their presence on weekends and during large and small park-hosted events.

This position requires the knowledge and ability to use a computer and GPS, hand tools and several different types of equipment including truck, back hoe, CAT Skid Steer and all related attachments, as well as chain saws, quads and other 4 x 4 maintenance equipment. The person in this position must be able to maintain any and all related equipment including chain saws. This person must also be capable of using timber related equipment and have knowledge of timber falling and timber practices

The person in this position must possess a thorough knowledge of mechanics in order to repair and maintain park equipment.

A full job description of the Parks General Manager of Operations position is available from the Morrow County Human Resources Department.

### **PARK HOST**

1. It is intended that the Park Host shall live at the Park during the Park season and be present at the Park at all times. Park Host shall be available to greet and assist visitors, collect user fees, do maintenance and caretaking of the Park, provide information about Park usage and facilities, receive public comment, and be aware of activities occurring in the Park. In order to appropriately perform these responsibilities, the

#### **Park Host must:**

- Be knowledgeable about Park rules and regulations;
  - Input guest reservations as necessary with park guest details and payment information into reservation system;
  - Be observant for activities or conditions occurring in the Park that require immediate attention;
  - Be visible representative of the County in the Park;
  - Set an appropriate example for compliance with Park rules and courtesies;
  - Keep Park grounds, Welcome support building clean and free of litter and debris; dusting and daily cleaning will need to be completed.
  - Assist the Operation Maintenance Manager with restrooms and Park camping sites, keep clean and free of litter and debris.
  - Keep restroom dispensers filled with toilet tissue and paper towels;
  - No outside garbage or refuse is to be deposited at the Park refuse collection site
  - In parks with cabins follow the appropriate procedure for care of those cabins outlined in cabin rental policy.
  - At the OHV park, be aware of motorized rules and capable of selling State Parks licenses for OHV equipment.
2. County hereby waives Park Host's user fees applicable to the campsite that Park Host occupies during the term of this Agreement.
  3. County shall reimburse Park Host as per written agreement/contract with the County.
  4. County shall provide Park Host with materials and supplies necessary to maintain restrooms, dispose of garbage, post rules and regulations and otherwise as may be required to fulfill the intentions of this Agreement.

5. Park Host is not required to, and shall not attempt to personally deal with emergency situations arising at the Park during the term of this Agreement; Park Host shall contact the appropriate emergency personnel, including medical personnel and law enforcement officers, when in the judgment of the Park Host, such emergency services become necessary.
6. The parties acknowledge that the Park Host is not an employee of Morrow County. Either party may cancel this Agreement at any time by giving the other forty-eight (48) hours' notice of intent to cancel.
7. By signing this Agreement, Park Host agrees to, and does release Morrow County from any liability arising by reason of personal injury suffered by Park Host which is not covered by Worker's Compensation Insurance.

### **TIMBER HARVEST**

Timber harvesting will occur on the property in a manner that benefits recreation, wildlife, water resources, and fire prevention. Given that the site is a recreation facility, emphasis will be placed on preserving the scenic qualities and aesthetics of the forest. Revenue for timber harvest will be used for future site development or facility maintenance.

### **GRAZING**

Grazing has been done on this area for at least the past 97 years (as of 2017). Grazing will continue on the park primarily to reduce fine fuels that would feed wild fires. Secondly, allowing grazing on the park helps the local economy. The overall land-based objectives for park management are that the water is protected, the area looks like a park (aesthetics), and the County receives income. Grazing is permitted from May through October. Fences, cattle-guards, and signs identify the grazing area. The revenue from the grazing will be used to pay the property taxes.

The ranchers who lease grazing land in the park shall have a history of maintaining a well-managed operation. The lease holders must be interested in maintaining the lease and managing their grazing program to meet the park's objectives.

### **FIRE PLAN**

The State Forester and Morrow County has a working agreement with the State of Oregon. The county maintains and stores fire-fighting equipment at the park in case of fires. The OHV Park has a conditional-use waiver to operate ATVs on trails during fire season. Permits are obtained from Oregon Department of Forestry for conditional usage of equipment and campfires within the park.

Ponds have been assigned GPS coordinates and are identified on maps, making them easy for fire-fighting crews to locate. Access for engines and helicopters will be maintained where possible.



Grazing helps reduce fine fuels that can ignite, starting wild fires. Timber harvest, primarily thinning, will be used to maintain the forest in the fire-safe condition. Harvest will occur to prevent buildup of fine fuels and ladder fuels that could increase the intensity of wildfires.

#### **FUNDING SOURCES FOR THE PARK**

Morrow County derives income to support the park from a variety of sources. Income directly from the park include facility rentals, camping fees, propane sales, pop machine income, concessions, and sales of maps, and other souvenir items. Other sources of income include the grazing leases and timber sales discussed earlier, ATV stickers sold to riders for their vehicle, gas tax, and the Oregon State RV tax.

#### **VOLUNTEERS**

Volunteers are a major resource for operating the park. They build trails, move rock, dig trenches, mow, patrol the park, fight fires, and do emergency medical work.

#### **OUT REACH**

Park out reach includes sportsmans' shows in Portland and the Tri-Cities, Washington, the Morrow County Fair, the Oregon State Fair, the Park website, brochures, newspaper ads, and radio and television coverage. Many clubs have covered the park in their monthly magazines. Along with the website and a list of e-mail addresses, the OHV Park has an advertising and marketing plan for reservations. The County also uses other forms of advertising such as power point presentations, brochures, and trail maps.

**MORROW COUNTY PARKS  
EMERGENCY MEDICAL  
SERVICES RESPONDER PLAN**

## **MORROW COUNTY PARKS EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES (EMS) RESPONDER PLAN**

### **PROGRAM HISTORY**

Emergency Medical Services (EMS) is dedicated to serving the Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) Park with fast efficient medical services and transport to definite care of the sick and injured. This program started in the spring of 2003 when the OHV Park opened. When medical personnel were at the park and came upon an accident, people were treated and the need for emergent care was a realization. The medical technician/s started treating with the blessing of Morrow County Health District and Morrow County Public Works. In 2003 an EMS grant was submitted to Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD) for a small transport vehicle (Polaris Ranger) and medical equipment. In 2005 a rebuilt job trailer was put into existence for a treatment room. In 2006-2007 a new support building was built with another OPRD grant and volunteers; to add law enforcement and EMS treatment room. In 2012 an OPRD grant was awarded for a larger transport vehicle and a quick response vehicle. This gave EMS the proper equipment to act to different medical scenarios as well as search and rescue.

### **ENFORCEMENT PHILOSOPHY**

The EMS goal is to provide definitive care to all that come to the park. As well as providing training, leadership and a clear working relationship with all agencies and park guests.

### **PERSONNEL**

All OHV EMS personnel are volunteer and are accredited through the State of Oregon and Morrow County Health District; or are in good standing with their accredited agency and the State of Oregon

### **FUNDING**

All funding for EMS is through grants, donations and fund raisers that provides for equipment only at this time.

**MORROW COUNTY  
OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE PARK (OHV)  
LAW ENFORCEMENT PLAN**

## **MORROW COUNTY OHV PARK LAW-ENFORCEMENT PLAN**

### **PROGRAM HISTORY**

Law Enforcement is dedicated to keeping a presence at the OHV Park to ensure that the park remains a place for safe family-oriented entertainment.

The ATV Deputy position was created by the Morrow County Sheriff's Office when the park was opened in May of 2003. This was made possible through an Oregon Parks and Recreation Department Grant. The deputy was hired in July of 2003, and was issued uniforms, equipment, a patrol vehicle, and an ATV. Radio, emergency, and other equipment were acquired through the deputy working with other agencies. ATV's have been updated through the years by the Oregon Parks and Recreation grant. Patrol vehicles are upgraded as needed by the Sheriff's Office. In addition to patrol duties the Morrow County Sheriff's Deputies assigned to the OHV Park have assisted with safety training and Search and Rescue missions at the OHV Park and adjoining Eastern Oregon Counties. Additional ATV's and trailers are available for use from the Morrow County Sheriff's Office Equipment. Morrow County Sheriff's Search and Rescue has access to and uses all ATV equipment and resources if necessary in the off-season ATV's are stored at the SAR building in Heppner. The OHV Deputies and equipment respond to calls throughout the county if necessary and to emergency calls where ever needed.

### **ENFORCEMENT PHILOSOPHY**

The enforcement goal is to ensure that guests receive consistent services from law enforcement at every OHV park. Having a uniformed deputy and marked patrol vehicles on site encourages people to abide by the rules and helps ensure a safe and fun atmosphere for park visitors. Giving verbal warnings for no ATV sticker, then directing the violator to the park host to purchase one has been positive for the park. Enforcement through education has been an effective tool in gaining compliance with park rules and State Laws.

### **PERSONNEL**

The OHV Park is open from May- November each year. OHV Deputies have daily discussions with park management about any issues or potential problems that arise. The addition of a second Deputy through the parks grant several years ago enabled having a Deputy available at the park seven days a week during the season. Recent reduction in grant funding at the State level has led to staffing the OHV Park Deputies at one-and-a-half Deputies for the next two seasons reducing the hours of coverage at the park. The Sheriff's Office patrols have been directed to focus on law enforcement roles and safety and security for park visitors and the public.

### **FUNDING**

If funding continues to decrease positions dedicated to the OHV Park will be vacated and Law Enforcement services will be provided on a call for service basis as Deputies are available.

**MORROW COUNTY  
OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE PARK (OHV)  
MAPS**



# Morrow County Oregon

## Morrow-Grant County OHV Park



MORROW COUNTY PARKS MASTER PLAN

207

207

Amzua Rd

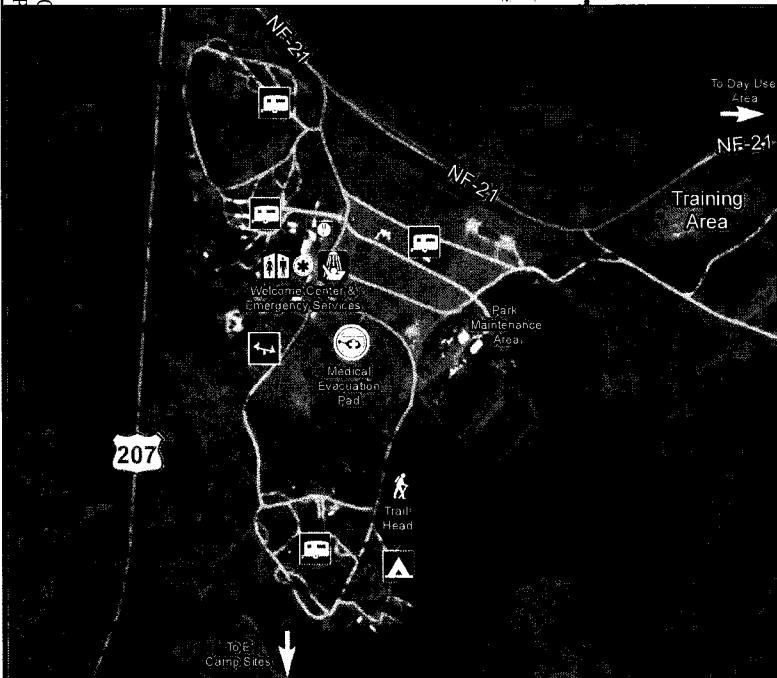
### Morrow-Grant County OHV Park



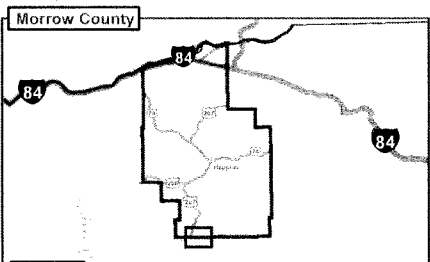
Wheeler County

Morrow County

Grant County



### Day Use Area



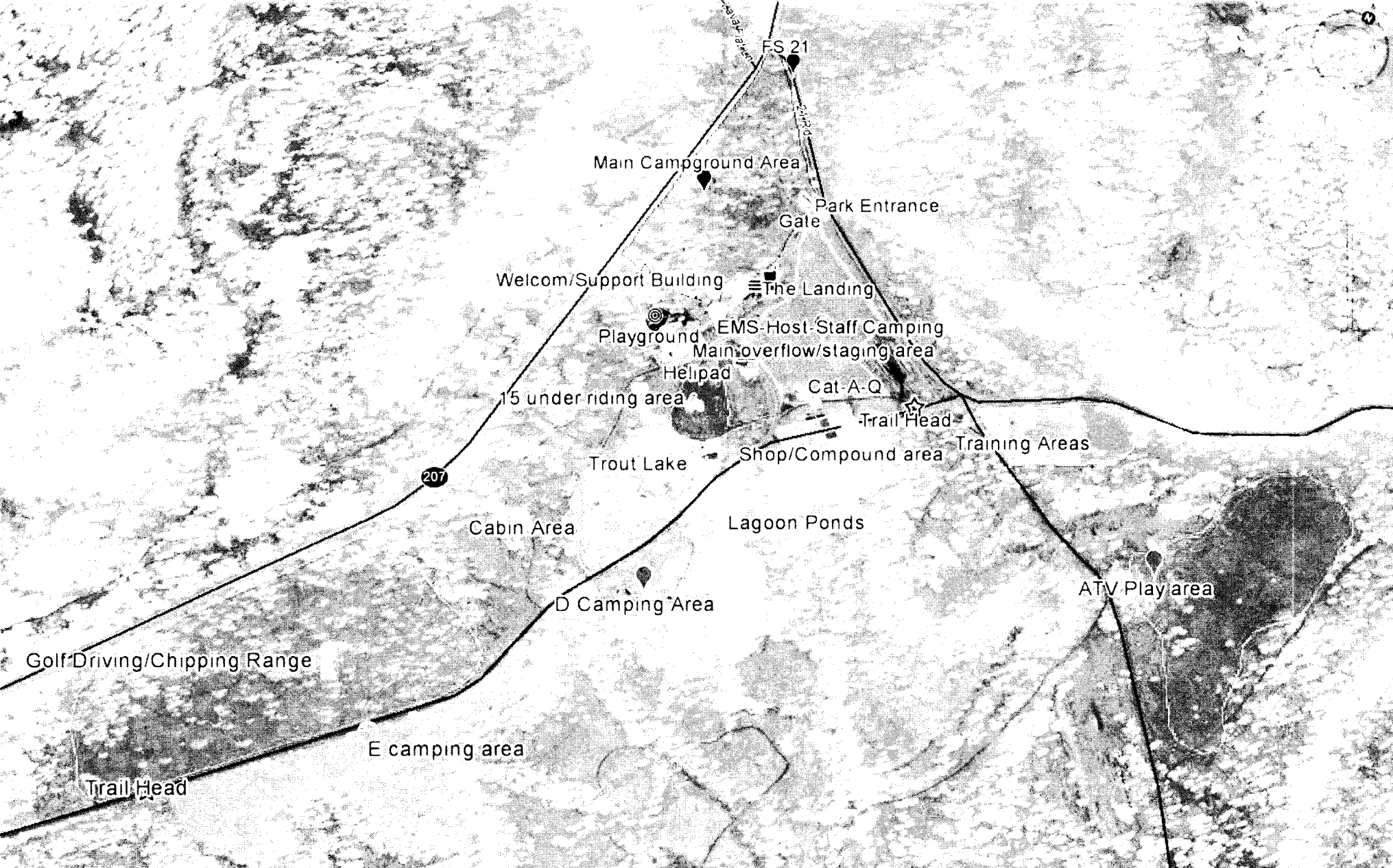
Legend	
	County Boundary
	County Seal
	City
	Highway
	Airport
	City Limits
	Arterial/Collector

Coordinate System: NAD 1983 NAD83/2007 StatePlane Oregon North FIPS 3601 F3 Unit: Feet  
 Projection: Lambert Conformal Conic  
 Datum: NAD 1983 NAD83/2007

Cartography By: Stephen Wrocsics  
 Date Saved: 10/18/2017  
 Morrow County Planning Department

This map for 850a product is for planning purposes only. It is not intended to be used for description, conveyance, authoritative definition of legal boundary, or property title. This is not a survey product. Users are encouraged to examine the documentation or metadata associated with the data for which this map is based on for information related to its accuracy, currency, and limitations.

Service Layer Credits: Sources: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBase, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance Survey, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Swisstopo, MapmyIndia, © OpenStreetMap



FS 21

Main Campground Area

Park Entrance Gate

Welcom/Support Building

The Landing

Playground

EMS-Host-Staff Camping

Main overflow/staging area

Helipad

15 under riding area

Cat-A-Q

Trail Head

Trout Lake

Shop/Compound area

Training Areas

207

Cabin Area

Lagoon Ponds

D Camping Area

ATV Play area

Golf Driving/Chipping Range

E camping area

Trail Head

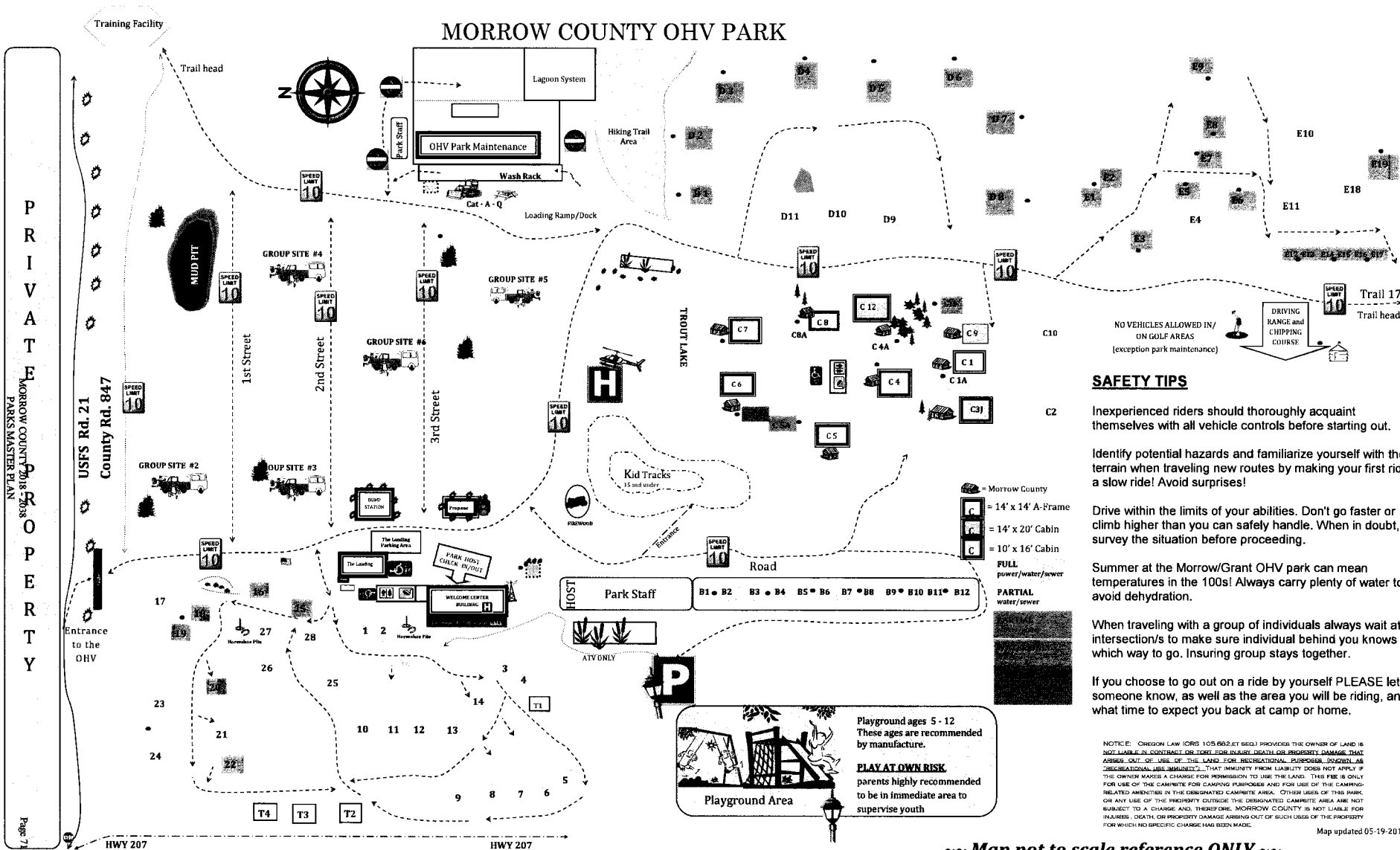
Google Earth

© 2017 Google

Imagery Date: 8/19/2016 45°01'13.57" N 119°40'29.14" W elev: 4304 ft eye alt: 9829 ft



# MORROW COUNTY OHV PARK



NO VEHICLES ALLOWED IN/ ON GOLF AREAS (exception park maintenance)

DRIVING RANGE and CHIPPING COURSE

### SAFETY TIPS

- Inexperienced riders should thoroughly acquaint themselves with all vehicle controls before starting out.
- Identify potential hazards and familiarize yourself with the terrain when traveling new routes by making your first ride a slow ride! Avoid surprises!
- Drive within the limits of your abilities. Don't go faster or climb higher than you can safely handle. When in doubt, survey the situation before proceeding.
- Summer at the Morrow/Grant OHV park can mean temperatures in the 100s! Always carry plenty of water to avoid dehydration.
- When traveling with a group of individuals always wait at intersection/s to make sure individual behind you knows which way to go. Insuring group stays together.
- If you choose to go out on a ride by yourself PLEASE let someone know, as well as the area you will be riding, and what time to expect you back at camp or home.

**Playground Area**

Playground ages 5 - 12  
These ages are recommended by manufacture.

**PLAY AT OWN RISK**  
parents highly recommended to be in immediate area to supervise youth

NOTICE: OREGON LAW (ORS 105.602.ET SEQ.) PROVIDES THE OWNER OF LAND IS NOT LIABLE IN CONTRACT OR TORT FOR INJURY, DEATH OR PROPERTY DAMAGE THAT ARISES OUT OF USE OF THE LAND FOR RECREATIONAL PURPOSES, INsofar AS "RECREATIONAL USE IMAGINELY" THAT LIABILITY FROM LIABILITY DOES NOT APPLY. IF THE OWNER MAKES A CHARGE FOR PERMISSION TO USE THE LAND, THIS FEE IS ONLY FOR USE OF THE CAMPGROUND FOR CAMPING PURPOSES AND FOR USE OF THE CAMPGROUND-RELATED AMENITIES IN THE DESIGNATED CAMPGROUND AREA. OTHER USES OF THE PARK OR ANY USE OF THE PROPERTY OUTSIDE THE DESIGNATED CAMPGROUND AREA ARE NOT SUBJECT TO A CHARGE AND, THEREFORE, MORROW COUNTY IS NOT LIABLE FOR INJURIES, DEATH OR PROPERTY DAMAGE ARISING OUT OF SUCH USES OF THE PROPERTY FOR WHICH NO SPECIFIC CHARGE HAS BEEN MADE.

Map updated 05-19-2017

~~ Map not to scale reference ONLY ~~

PRIVATE PROPERTY  
 MORROW COUNTY Parks & Recreation  
 PARKS MASTER PLAN  
 Page 7

**Please Ride Responsibly**  
**Stay on Marked Roads and Trails**

**NO ATVS**  
**USFS 21**  
**County Road 847**  
**East of Morphine Lane**

USFS 21  
 County Road 847  
 East of Morphine Lane

County  
 Road 670

County  
 Road 670  
 To Monument

Total	Mileage	Total	Mileage
1	22.9	49	0.6
1A	0.5	50	0.3
1B	1.6	51	1.0
1C	2.7	52	0.6
1E	2.7	53	0.5
1F	0.2	54	3.0
1H	2.0	55	1.2
1J	0.8	56	0.8
2	1.1	57	0.4
3	0.2	58	2.4
4	0.2	58 to 45	0.1
5	0.5	59	2.9
6	2.3	60	2.1
7	0.4	61	3.6
8	2.1	70	0.9
9	0.3	71	1.5
10	0.6	72	2.3
11	2.0	73	1.6
12	1.0	75	1.5
13	0.6	76	0.3
15	0.4	77	0.3
16	1.9	78	1.1
17	8.6	79	3.0
18	2.9	80	0.5
19	1.0	82	0.4
20	1.6	85	0.4
21	3.5	86	0.9
22	0.7	87	2.1
40	3.1	61	9.3
41	0.7	62	0.5
42	1.9	63	3.1
43	1.1	64	1.7
44	1.5	66	1.3
45	2.1	67	2.5
46	0.9	68	1.7
47	0.2	69	1.4
48	0.5	View Point	0.6



USFS 21  
 County Road 847  
 East of Morphine Lane

OHV Park  
 Entrance

Trail  
 Heads

Day Use  
 County  
 Road  
 728

Private  
 Land

Private  
 Land

Hwy 207  
 To Spray

USFS Lands

USFS Lands

USFS 2128 RD

USFS Lands

**Thank You to Our Partners**  
 All of the volunteers and their time  
 Oregon State Parks and the ATV Permit Fund  
 The USFS  
 The Respect and Rivers Program  
 The Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board  
 © 2017 Morrow County Public Works

USFS 2039 RD

View Point

- ~ Easy to Intermediate
- Single Track
- ^ Steep
- ^^ Very Steep
- \* Play Area
- ♦ Jeep Rock Crawl
- X Bridge



Bull Prairie

Sources: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, TomTom, Intermap, increment P Corp., GEBCO, USGS, FAO, NPS, NRCAN, GeoBase, IGN, Kadaster NL, Ordnance Survey, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), swisstopo, MapnyIndia, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community

# APPENDIX

## **TIMBER MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR MORROW COUNTY OHV PARK**

Working with Oregon State University (OSU) Extension and Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF) looking at the timber resources at the Morrow/Grant County OHV Park. It has been estimated that the age of the timber on the Park ranges from 100 to 300 years of age. There are several species of conifers that comprise the park timber. Pine, Spruce, Douglas Fir and White Fir are the most predominate. Pine is the most prevalent and wide spread species; however, Douglas Fir is also abundant.

A large portion of the park has been logged several times in the past, in some cases it is estimated as many as seven or eight times. These areas generally fall in one of two categories. Either overgrown with too much repro'd that is to closely spaced or generously spaced with a very slow rate of growth.

Logging of these trees becomes a case of management by spacing height and diameter. The park has a fifteen-year rotation logging goal. This goal indicates that in a given group of timber one out of every five to seven trees are removed beginning with the less desirable trees. These are the trees with crooked trunks or flat tops then in fifteen years come back and take one more of those trees the larger diameter and bigger of the five to six. Over a period of seventy-five years there should be replacements in the way of regrowth to be harvested that were smaller trees when the cycle began.

Logging cannot deal with the smaller over grown areas this must be done by selective thinning of those smaller over crowded areas. The best and most cost-effective method doing this thinning would be done by the park personnel using park equipment and salvaging the logs for firewood or sawing in a small mill for park use.

The final and most important step is the understory burn of these logged areas cleaning the small debris left from the logging and ridding the site of fuels that could potentially make wildfire much more extreme in the future.

Aspen groves should be protected by removal of conifers that tend to choke out the Aspen and change the habitat that the Aspen create for wildlife. These groves are genetically unique each unto itself and have unique DNA for each grove.

The OHV Timber shall be managed as a resource that may be enjoyed and used by visitors well into the future by following these simple management steps.

## **GRAZING PLAN FOR THE MORROW COUNTY OHV PARK**

Morrow County will manage its grasses through grazing. This is to significantly reduce fire danger and to enhance growth of new grasses. Management of the water ways as well as the springs is part of what makes up this grazing plan. Adequate water at disbursed locations helps to distribute cattle in lesser concentrations at locations next to water.

Cattle will not be introduced onto the park grasses until early June when the grass has had time to head out and reseed. Cattle will be fenced out of sensitive locations along streams and springs year-round. However, on a six to seven-year rotation cattle in limited numbers will be introduced to the fenced riparian areas to help reduce an overabundance of vegetation that can be detrimental to all species including trees.

The park grazing will be broken into four completely separate pastures:

**#1** The Western Pasture is the smallest of the four being around 350 acres, and will only be grazed on an every 5-year rotation to protect Porter Creek and its riparian areas.

**#2** The Grant County Pasture consisting of close to 2,000 acres will be grazed in the June July time frame.

**#3** The Day Use Pasture is around 2,600 acres and has more than adequate water and will be grazed usually as the second pasture in cycle starting in August.

**#4** The Harrington Pasture that consists of around 3,200 acres will be grazed last and for not more than fifty days ending in mid-October.

By following this program grasses and wildlife habitat will be protected for future use. Fire danger will be reduced or at least in case of fire fuel loads will be better managed.

A burning program will be followed with the goal of burning from edge to edge of park boundaries every six years thus keeping low growing brush from becoming over abundant and creating severe understory fuel loads.



**AGENDA ITEM COVER SHEET**  
**Morrow County Board of Commissioners**  
**(Page 2 of 2)**

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**1. ISSUES, BACKGROUND, DISCUSSION AND OPTIONS (IF ANY):**

Based on the outcome of the Public Hearing held by the Board of Commissioners (BOC) on August 1, 2018, the successful first reading of the Adopting Ordinance on August 22, the Adopting Ordinance is now before the BOC for the second reading. Once that is completed the BOC will need to, by motion, adopt the Ordinance.

**2. FISCAL IMPACT:**

Not at this time.

**3. SUGGESTED ACTION(S)/MOTION(S):**

I move adoption of Ordinance ORD-2018-2 adopting the Morrow County 2018-2038 Parks Master Plan as a reference document in support of Goal 8 Recreation and Goal 4 Forest Use. An emergency has been declared and the Parks Master Plan will be effective in 30 days, or on October 5, 2018.

Attach additional background documentation as needed.