

Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area Application:

Existing Lyle Cherry Orchard Trail: Proposal for Trail Extension and Trail Segment Relocation

Proposal for lands located in
Klickitat County, Washington

- Recon survey & report
- Wildlife survey
- Plant survey
- Egnr 2013? pr 5 yr
- 100 ft x 100 ft



September 26, 2016

Patricia Neighbor, MCRP, AICP
Northwest Planning Solutions

For
Friends of the Columbia Gorge

Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area
Development Review Application

Note: Please refer to the webmap of the proposed trail, at this link: <https://caltopo.com/m/7J6L>. On this webmap, the red lines signify new trail, the blue lines signify existing trail, and the blue *dotted* lines signify trail to be decommissioned.

What is the land use plan designation for the subject property? (eg GMA Large Scale Agriculture)

The properties on which development is proposed are designated GMA A-2 (160)(Small Scale Agriculture), GMA F-3 (80)(Small Woodland), and GMA A-1 (160). The majority of the proposed trail extension trail will be in the GMA A-2 (160)(Small Scale Agriculture) zone.

Is there a minimum parcel size for this land use plan designation, and if so, what is it?

Not applicable: No land division is proposed.

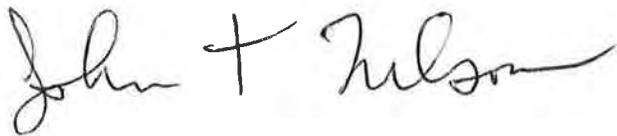
Is the proposed use one that may be permitted in this land use plan designation?

Yes. Please see attached.

| Information Requirement | |
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| Chapter 350-81-032(5)(a) Applicant's name, address, telephone number and email address. | Northwest Planning Solutions P.O. Box 8694 Portland, Oregon 97201 |
| Chapter 350-81-032(5)(b) The land owner's name, address and telephone number (if different from applicant). | Friends of the Columbia Gorge 205 Oak Street, #17 Hood River, Oregon 97031 |
| Chapter 350-81-032(5)(c) The county in which the proposed use or development would be located. | Klickitat |
| Chapter 350-81-032(5)(d) The section, quarter section, township and range in which the proposed development would be located. | See map, attached. 02-12-0200-000400 158.91 acres 02-12-0200-001000 34.29 acres 02-12-0200-000300 10 acres 02-12-0200-000200 15 acres 02-12-0100-000300 110.69 acres (Parcel on which the terminus of the existing trail is located) |
| Chapter 350-81-032(5)(e) The street address of the proposed use or development. | There is no street address for the proposed use or development. However, the trailhead of the proposed trail is proposed to be located at the existing trailhead, on SR-14 east of Lyle, for the trail permitted in 1995. |
| Chapter 350-81-032(5)(f) The tax lot number(s) and size in acres of the parcels of the involved. | 02120200000400 158.91 acres 02120200001000 34.29 acres 02120200000300 10 acres 02120200000200 15 acres 02120100000300 110.69 acres 02120200000600 21.16 (owned by WSDOT) (The information listed is based on Klickitat County GIS maps) |

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| <p>Chapter 350-81-032(5)(h) A written description of the proposed use or development, including details on the height, exterior color(s) and construction materials of the proposed structures.</p> | <p>Friends of the Columbia Gorge proposes to construct a 4.39-mile trail extension to the 2.29-mile existing Lyle Cherry Orchard trail. The proposal will also include the decommissioning of trail segments and replacement of decommissioned trail segments with new trail.</p> |
| <p>Chapter 350-81-032(5)(i) A list of Key Viewing Areas from which the proposed use would be visible.</p> | <p>Columbia River SR-14 I-84 Highway 30 Rowena Crest</p> |
| <p>Chapter 350-81-032(5)(j) A map of the project area. The map shall be drawn to scale. The scale of the map shall be large enough to allow the Executive Director to determine the location and extent of the proposed use or development and evaluate its effects on scenic, cultural, natural, and recreation resources. The maps shall be prepared at a scale of 1 inch equals 200 feet (1:2,400), or a scale providing greater detail. If a parcel is very large, the map does not need to show the entire parcel. Rather, it can show only those portions of the parcel affected by the proposed use. The map shall include the following elements: (Listed below A through K.)</p> | <p>A map of the proposed trail is included, below, in this application. A webmap of the proposed trail, in detail, is at this link: https://caltopo.com/m/7J6L On the webmap, the “zoom” tool may be used to view the map in detail. On this webmap, red lines signify new trail, blue lines signify existing trail, and blue dotted lines signify trail to be decommissioned.</p> |
| <p>Chapter 350-81-032(5)(j)(A). North arrow.</p> | <p>Please see the materials provided.</p> |
| <p>Chapter 350-81-032(5)(j)(B). Scale: 1" = 200' (unless natural resources require larger scale). Chapter 350-81-032(5)(j) and</p> | <p>Please see attached for additional information.</p> |
| <p>Chapter 350-81-032(5)(j)(C). Boundaries, dimensions, and size of subject parcel(s).</p> | <p>Please see the Chapter 350-81-032(5)(f) response and the attached map.</p> |
| <p>Chapter 350-81-032(5)(j)(D). Significant terrain features & landforms.</p> | <p>The subject parcels include hills, bluffs, and rocky outcroppings that overlook the Columbia River.</p> |
| <p>Chapter 350-81-032(5)(j)(E). Groupings & species of trees & other vegetation.</p> | <p>The plant species on the subject parcels are a patchwork of open grassland habitat and oak woodlands. Upland areas are vegetated predominantly with mature Oregon white oak and some ponderosa pine.</p> |
| <p>Chapter 350-81-032(5)(j)(F).</p> | <p>Please see attached for additional information. The subject parcels are being addressed by a land management</p> |

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| <p>Location & species of vegetation to be removed.</p> | <p>plan. Trees on the parcels proposed for development are not proposed to be removed, however star thistle, locust, black berry, and Tree of Heaven (all non-native) species will continue to be managed in accordance with the land management plan.</p> |
| <p>Chapter 350-81-032(5)(j)(F). Location & species of vegetation to be planted.</p> | <p>Revegetation of areas of former trail will be done using seed native to the Columbia River Gorge. Species include: Idaho fescue, prairie Junegrass, blue wildrye, narrow-leaf milkweed, Columbia desert parsley, pungent desert parsley, Oregon sunshine, Western blue flax, heartleaf buckwheat, strict buckwheat, bicolor lupine, broadleaf lupine, desert shooting stars, and bicolored cluster lily. Species list will vary depending on availability by local suppliers.</p> |
| <p>Chapter 350-81-032(5)(j)(G). Bodies of water and watercourses.</p> | <p>The proposed use is repair and expansion of an existing use, and is not a new use. Drainages exist on the subject parcels, however these drainages are dry for the majority or all of the year. No lakes exist on the subject parcels. A seasonal pond that is present in the Spring season was a former livestock watering area and is located immediately adjacent to the existing trail that was permitted in 1995. The trail extension and relocation proposed will be no closer to the seasonal pond than the existing trail. A vernal pond by the existing cherry orchard, of approximately (30 feet) feet in diameter, was present in 2016.</p> |
| <p>Chapter 350-81-032(5)(j)(H). Location & width of existing & proposed roads, driveways, trails.</p> | <p>The proposed trail extension is to be located east of the existing trail. In most cases, the trail repairs (marked 'Reroute' on the map) are within 75 - 300 feet of the existing trail although in one or more areas it is located further than 300 feet from and up to 450 feet from the existing trail (additional description is below). Please see the map in the attached materials for the new and rerouted trail map. The trail is proposed to be approximately 3-ft in width.</p> |
| <p>Chapter 350-81-032(5)(j)(I). Location & size of existing & proposed structures.</p> | <p>A trail with viewpoints and accessory signs is proposed. Please see Appendix A for a description of proposed signs. No additional structures are proposed.</p> |
| <p>Chapter 350-81-032(5)(j)(J). Location of existing and proposed services including wells or other water supplies, sewage disposal systems, power and telephone poles and lines, and outdoor lighting.</p> | <p>No wells or other water supplies, sewage disposal systems, power and telephone poles and lines, and outdoor lighting exist or are proposed for the subject parcel.</p> |
| <p>Chapter 350-81-032(5)(K). Location & depth of grading & ditching.</p> | <p>Grading will be necessary for trail construction, and best practices in trail construction will be used to ensure as few impacts as possible.</p> |
| <p>Chapter 350-81-032(5)(k). Elevation drawings – including natural & finished grade; drawn to scale.</p> | <p>No buildings are proposed. Please see grading plan and the photos provided.</p> |

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| <p>Chapter 350-81-032(5)(k). Elevation drawings - including natural & finished grade; drawn to scale.</p> | <p>No buildings are proposed. Please see grading plan and the photos provided.</p> |
| <p>Chapter 350-81-032(5)(l) List of adjacent & nearby property owners and addresses as determined in 350-81-630.</p> | <p>Registered addresses within approximately 200 yards of the proposed development include: No known registered addresses are located within 200 yards of the development. Parcels adjacent to those on which development is proposed include those owned by: Cameron Coe (02120200000100) Shreiner Farms (02120100000200) Marc Jolley (03123500001600) Rex Bullis (03123500001300) Washington State Department of Natural Resources (02120100000100) Washington Department of Transportation (02120100000600, 02120200000600) JA Lands, LLC (03123500001200)</p> |
| <p>Chapter 350-81-032(5)(m) Any additional information that the applicant feels will assist in the evaluation of the proposal, including but not limited to, maps, drawings, and development plans.</p> | <p>Please see additional description, below, and maps and photos provided.</p> |
| <p>Chapter 350-81-032(5)(n) Signature of the applicant and property owner or a statement from the property owner indicating that he is aware of the application being made on his property.</p> |  |
| <p>Chapter 350-81-032(5)(o) The signature of the property owner on a statement that authorizes the Executive Director or the Executive Director's designee reasonable access to the site in order to evaluate the application.</p> |  |

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| <p>Chapter 350-81-032(5)(l) List of adjacent & nearby property owners and addresses as determined in 350-81-630.</p> | <p>Registered addresses within approximately 200 yards of the proposed development include: No known registered addresses are located within 200 yards of the development. Parcels adjacent to those on which development is proposed include those owned by: Cameron Coe (02120200000100) Shreiner Farms (02120100000200) Marc Jolley (03123500001600) Rex Bullis (03123500001300) Washington State Department of Natural Resources (02120100000100) Washington Department of Transportation (02120100000600, 02120200000600) JA Lands, LLC (03123500001200)</p> |
| <p>Chapter 350-81-032(5)(m) Any additional information that the applicant feels will assist in the evaluation of the proposal, including but not limited to, maps, drawings, and development plans.</p> | <p>Please see additional description, below, and maps and photos provided.</p> |
| <p>Chapter 350-81-032(5)(n) Signature of the applicant and property owner or a statement from the property owner indicating that he is aware of the application being made on his property.</p> | |
| <p>Chapter 350-81-032(5)(o) The signature of the property owner on a statement that authorizes the Executive Director or the Executive Director's designee reasonable access to the site in order to evaluate the application.</p> | |
| <p>Chapter 350-81-032(6) Applications for the following uses or developments shall include additional information as required by the appropriate guidelines in Commission Rule 350-81 or by the Executive Director.</p> | <p>Noted.</p> |

Project Description

Introduction

Friends of the Columbia Gorge proposes to construct a 2.01-mile trail extension to the 2.29-mile existing Lyle Cherry Orchard trail. The proposal will also include the decommissioning of trail segments and replacement of decommissioned trail segments with new trail. The intent of the proposal is to improve the existing Lyle Cherry Orchard trail. The trail is proposed to be improved by increasing trail mileage for use by hikers, by reducing erosion, and by increasing safety by reducing trail grade.



Lyle, to the left, and the proposed development area, seen from Key Viewing Area Rowena Crest. The proposed development site is visible from Rowena Crest. It is visible from segments of Highway 30, I-84, and SR-14, although obscured from view by existing topography and vegetation.

Existing Conditions

The existing Lyle Cherry Orchard trail is approximately 2.29 miles, and is used year-round by hikers to access land on the north side of the Columbia River. The existing trail is located approximately 0.44 miles east of Lyle, Washington, and has been used as a trail since at least the early 1990s. The existing Lyle Cherry Orchard trail can be reached from a gravel pull-out that serves as a parking area and is immediately adjacent to Washington State Route 14 (SR-14).

The current route of the existing Lyle Cherry Orchard trail ascends through a slope forested by Oregon white oak, from SR-14 to a trailhead and then a grassy plateau that is approximately 1,800 feet from the trailhead. Then, the trail ascends further, to oak woodlands, and traverses approximately 1.25 mile east to its terminus near a field, overlook, and grove of old cherry trees that are the trail's namesake. The majority of the existing Lyle Cherry Orchard trail has a view to the east and west of the Columbia River, yet some of the upper-elevation trail traverses and is sheltered by hills vegetated by Oregon white oak.

Subject Taxlots

The trail extension and repair are proposed for several Taxlots owned by Friends of the Columbia Gorge. Together, these Taxlots comprise approximately 515 acres of land. Based on a survey conducted in March 2014 by Ben Beseda of Tenneson Engineering Corp, approximately 12.2 acres of the parcels are within the Lyle Urban Area. The subject Taxlots are south and southwest of Taxlots owned by the Washington Department of Natural Resources.

Trail History

The specific date of establishment of the Lyle Cherry Orchard trail is unknown, although the trail is expected to have been created originally by livestock that grazed the lands surrounding the trail. The trail is believed by the parcel owner, Friends of the Columbia Gorge Land Trust, to have been used locally for walking in the 1980s and 1990s. In 1995, an application for trail maintenance and reconstruction was submitted to the Columbia River Gorge Commission (land use decision C95-044-K-G-20), retroactively, for work completed in 1992. This application included an entry sign, sign-in area, and fence cattle turn stile. Since the 1990s, the trail has continued to be used by hikers, and is referred to in current hiking guidebooks to the Columbia River Gorge. The existing trail is 2.29 miles in length, and varies in elevation from approximately 79 feet to 1,122 feet.

Proposed Trail & Infrastructure

The specific proposal is to construct a 2.01-mile loop trail extension, decommission 1.19 miles of existing trail segments, and replace those decommissioned segments with a total of 1.27 miles of reroutes that improve the sustainability of the trail. Existing trail that will remain unaltered totals 1.10 miles in length. Once the Lyle Cherry Orchard project is complete, the total mileage of the trail, including the additional new miles and increased length due to reroutes, will be approximately 4.38 miles. The existing trail is 2.29 miles, so the proposed project will increase the length of the trail on the ground by 2.09 miles. The elevation of the proposed trail ranges from 111 feet on State Route 14 trailhead to a high point of 1,247 feet in the central area of the proposed trail extension. The trail will be an earthen trail that will be lightly graveled in areas to reduce erosion.

Hot temperatures in the summer season and cold temperatures in the winter deter trail users from hiking on this trail outside of spring and fall. The Cherry Orchard trail is expected to be used seasonally by hikers, in the shoulder seasons of mid-spring (March, April) and fall (late September, October). The peak seasons in which the trail is used are currently in the spring and fall, and are expected to remain in those seasons, although the trail will be open year-round. The only allowed use for the trail will be as a hiker/pedestrian path, thereby continuing and expanding the existing use. Bicyclists, horseback riders, and users of motorized vehicles users will be prohibited from using the trail.

Trailhead and Existing Parking Area on SR-14

The trailhead will remain at the current trailhead. The trailhead is located outside of the gravel parking lot on State Route 14, several hundred feet up the trail. The parking lot is the same as that used for the trail that was permitted by the 1995 Gorge Commission decision. That trailhead is not proposed to be changed. The applicant has conferred with Washington State Department of Transportation, the entity that owns the gravel parking lot on the narrow parcel immediately to the south. WSDOT agreed regarding the submittal of this application. The trailhead area (located at current the Lyle Cherry Orchard sign) will remain in its current location.

Viewpoints

The proposed trail will include four viewpoints (please see map), each located within the National Scenic Area. Three viewpoints will be located on the trail extension; two of these along the trail, and one on a spur. One viewpoint will be located on a new trail segment within the existing eastern trail area. Please see the attached map for viewpoint locations. Each viewpoint

will include a lightly graveled cul-de-sac constructed by Washington Trails Association to standards that are best practices in trail construction. Each viewpoint will be approximately 10-ft in diameter, and include as many as three boulders (such as Columbia River basalt) for seating (2-ft tall x 3-ft wide x 4-ft wide), and a sign to include a 12" x 18" metal plaque. Each sign will provide instructions or educational materials to trail users to provide information and prevent overuse of the area.

Signage

Information at the trailhead and on the trail will be posted in a clear and professional manner. Signs will include the following (as described in the Appendix).

Signs proposed to be located at the existing trailhead:

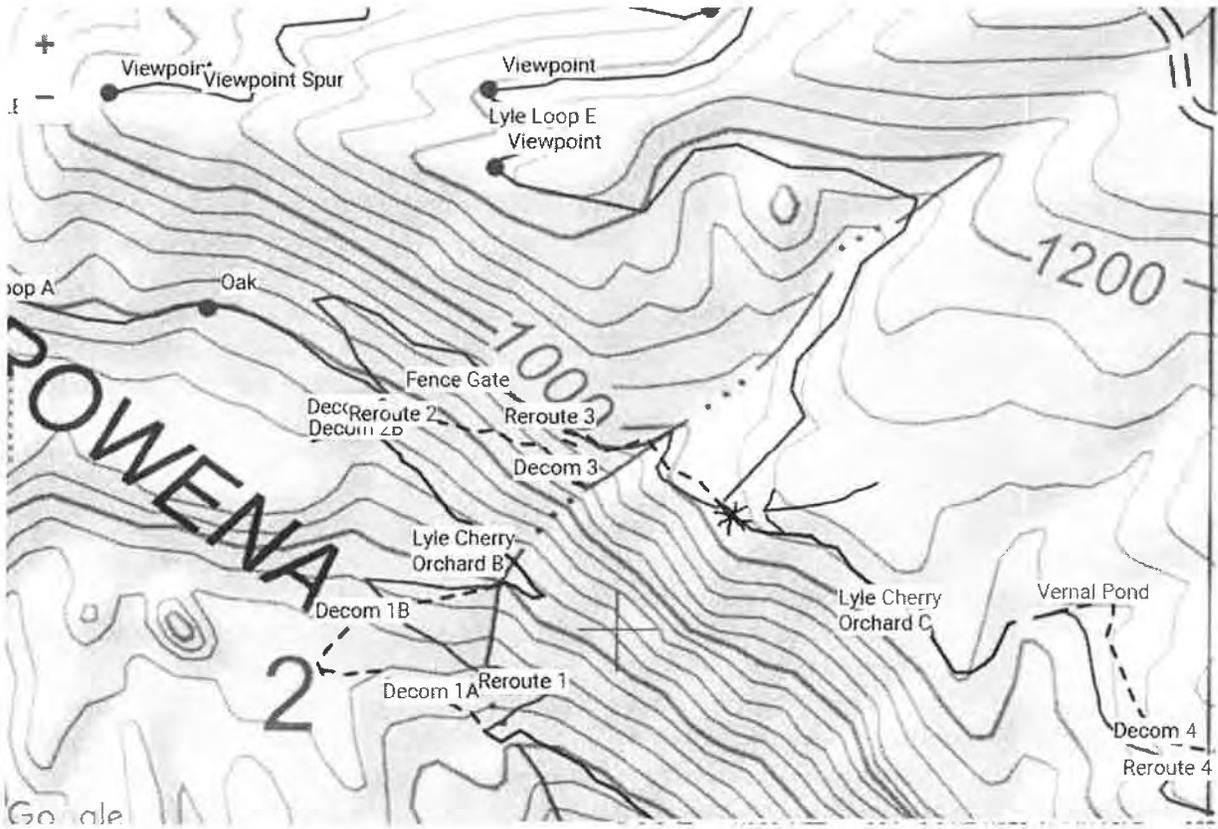
- The existing sign that was included in the 1995 trail application is not proposed to be altered or removed.
- A 1.5' x 1' "boot brush" sign with the "Stowaway Seeds" information (see the Appendix for further description), atop a metal pole that is less than 2" in diameter.
- A 2' x 3' orthographic trail system map
- A 1.5' x 1' "Rules of the Trail" sign (approximate dimensions).
- One yellow star-thistle educational sign, a pedestal sign (2' x 3', atop a 3' metal pedestal that is painted black or dark brown). This sign will include educational text describing the reasons that yellow star-thistle is a problem and how to prevent the spread of it, as well as additional details about the trail site in relation to yellow star-thistle. The sign itself is a laminated plastic attached to wood that is painted black or dark brown.

Signs proposed to be located at viewpoints:

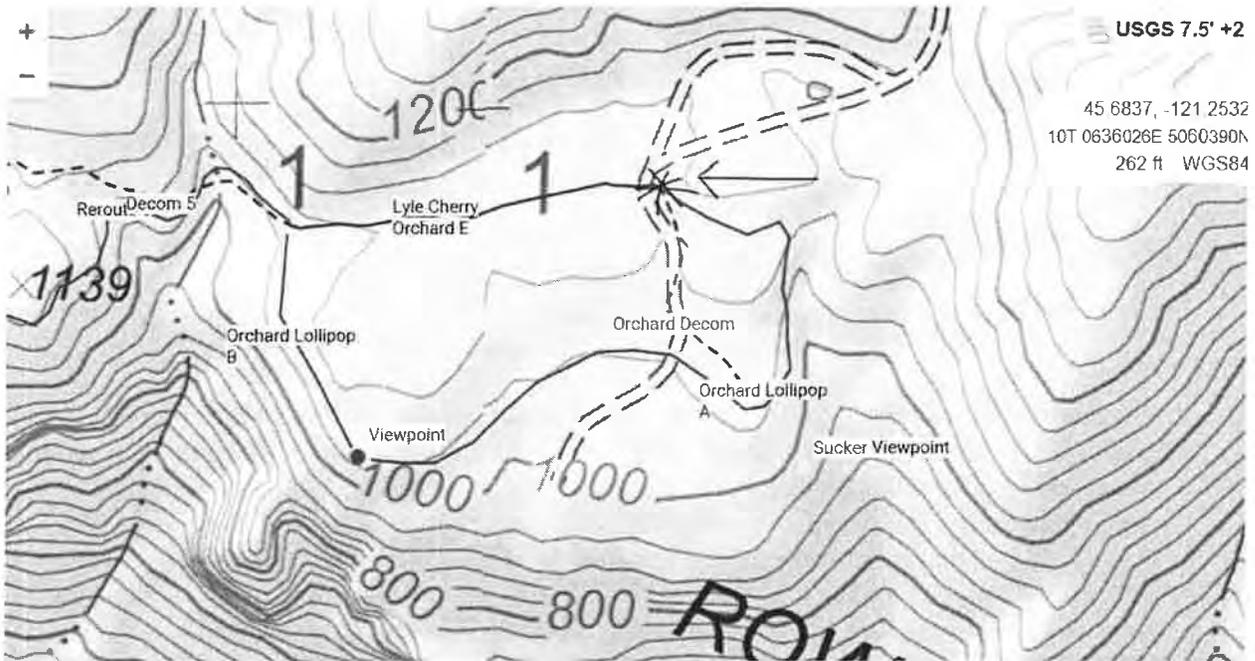
Four informational signs (8.5" x 11") that address habitat protection

Signs along the Existing Trail (see Appendix for photos, description- map below):

- Two boot brush signs (1.5' x 1', atop 4" x 4" wooden post) to include: a) "Western" boot brush sign to be where the existing trail meets the proposed new trail extension segment. At this location, the existing trail reaches higher elevations. This location is on the bluff on which the existing trail is located. Aerial maps show this location to be forested. The sign will be obscured from view by some topography and existing vegetation, and will be back-screened by existing topography and vegetation. b) "Eastern" boot brush sign, at the eastern conclusion of the existing trail. It will be obscured from view by existing topography and vegetation, and will be back-screened.
- One Yellow Starthistle educational sign, a pedestal sign (2' x 3', atop a 3' metal post that is black or dark brown earth-tone in color). This sign will include educational text as described above.



Marked with an asterisk, above, is the proposed location of a yellow starthistle educational sign and the "western" boot brush sign along the existing trail.



The proposed location of the "eastern" boot brush sign along the existing trail is marked with an asterisk.

Trail Construction

Process - The proposed trail is to be constructed and maintained by the Washington Trails Association (WTA), using guidelines set forth by the United States Department of Agriculture. These guidelines are described in the pamphlet entitled *Trail Construction and Maintenance Handbook* (2007), which can be found at this link: <http://www.wta.org/volunteer/trail-maintenance-pdf-resources/Trail%20Construction%20and%20Maintenance%20Notebook%202007%20Edition.pdf> WTA will construct the trail by hand, using non-motorized tools such as shovels, picks, pulaskis, and hoes. WTA will maintain the trail, as necessary, each 1 - 3 years. WTA will maintain the trail to ensure that it remains in a condition that allows water to flow away from the trail, to minimize erosion.

Specifications/Construction Methods - To minimize erosion and reduce maintenance, WTA will construct a "full-bench" tread in all areas in which it is feasible to do so (the large majority of the trail). A full-bench tread is one in which the walking surface (tread) is excavated and no fill is used; a best-practice for trail construction that is recommended by the U.S. Forest Service. The Forest Service *Trail Construction and Maintenance Handbook* states "*Trail professionals almost always prefer full-bench construction. Full-bench construction requires more excavation and leaves a larger backslope than partial-bench construction, but the trailbed will be more durable and require less maintenance. You should use full-bench construction whenever possible.*" The trails will be constructed to leave a tread that is 3-ft wide, and will enable trail users to hike comfortably without stepping off the trail.

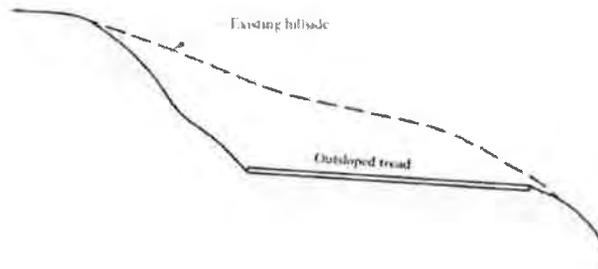


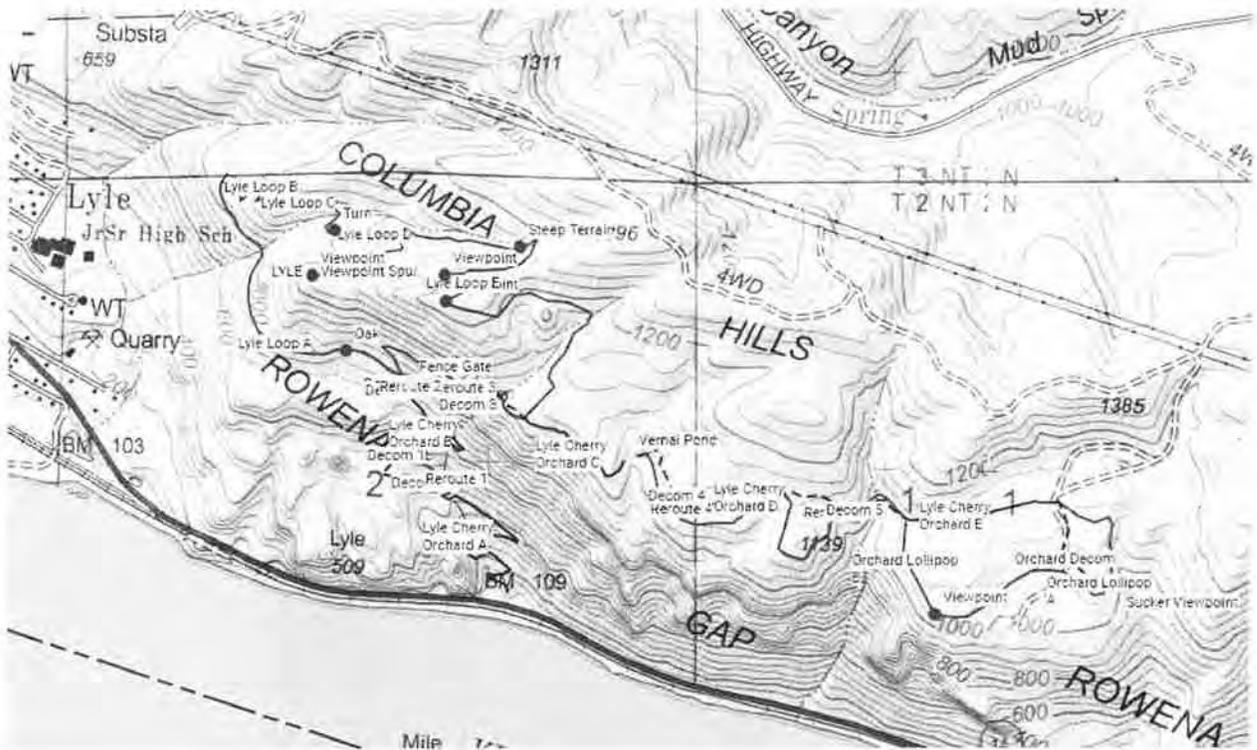
Figure 26—A full-bench trail is constructed by cutting the full width of the tread into the hillside. The tread needs to be outsloped at least 5 percent.

Full-Bench Trail Diagram: Image from Trail Construction and Maintenance Handbook (USFS, 2007).

The depth of the proposed trail cut will be as minimal as possible to provide the appropriate trail grade, but will depend on the grade of the slope on which each section of trail is built. In some areas, where the existing grade is flat or was previously graded, no cut into a slope will be required. On steeper side slopes of 40% - 84% grade, cuts between 14 and 20 inches will be made for a trail that is 3-ft wide. WTA will scatter (broadcast) excavated soil so that it settles into, rather than burying, surrounding vegetation. WTA will use excess fill materials to fill low spots in the trail in limited locations. Although the trail will be built in a region with relatively little rainfall (approximately 14 inches annually, compared with 30 inches in Hood River, OR/White Salmon, WA and 77 inches in Cascade Locks, OR, with most rainfall in November through February), WTA will take routine measures to minimize erosion, such as building a

finished tread with frequent grade reversals, in which the drainage is self-maintaining and which will require minimal care. WTA will mostly construct a rolling contour trail (with frequent grade reversals) on which water during wetter seasons will sheet across the trail and do little damage. These are best-practices for trail construction. Grade reversals are described by the U.S. Forest Service in the *Trail Construction and Maintenance Handbook*: "Grade reversals take advantage of natural dips in the terrain. The grade of the trail is reversed for about 3 to 5 meters (10 to 15 feet), then "rolled" back over to resume the descent. Grade reversals should be placed frequently, about every 6 to 15 meters (20 to 50 feet). A trail that lies lightly on the land will take advantage of natural dips and draws for grade reversals." No stairs are proposed.

Figure below: The proposed project is to be located East of Lyle, WA and west of the existing Lyle Cherry Orchard Trail. Full maps are available in the appendix and online at <https://caltopo.com/m/7J6L>.





Above: The Washington Trails Association will be constructing the proposed trail, using means of construction similar to those pictured here on the nearby Coyote Wall trail, to prevent erosion.

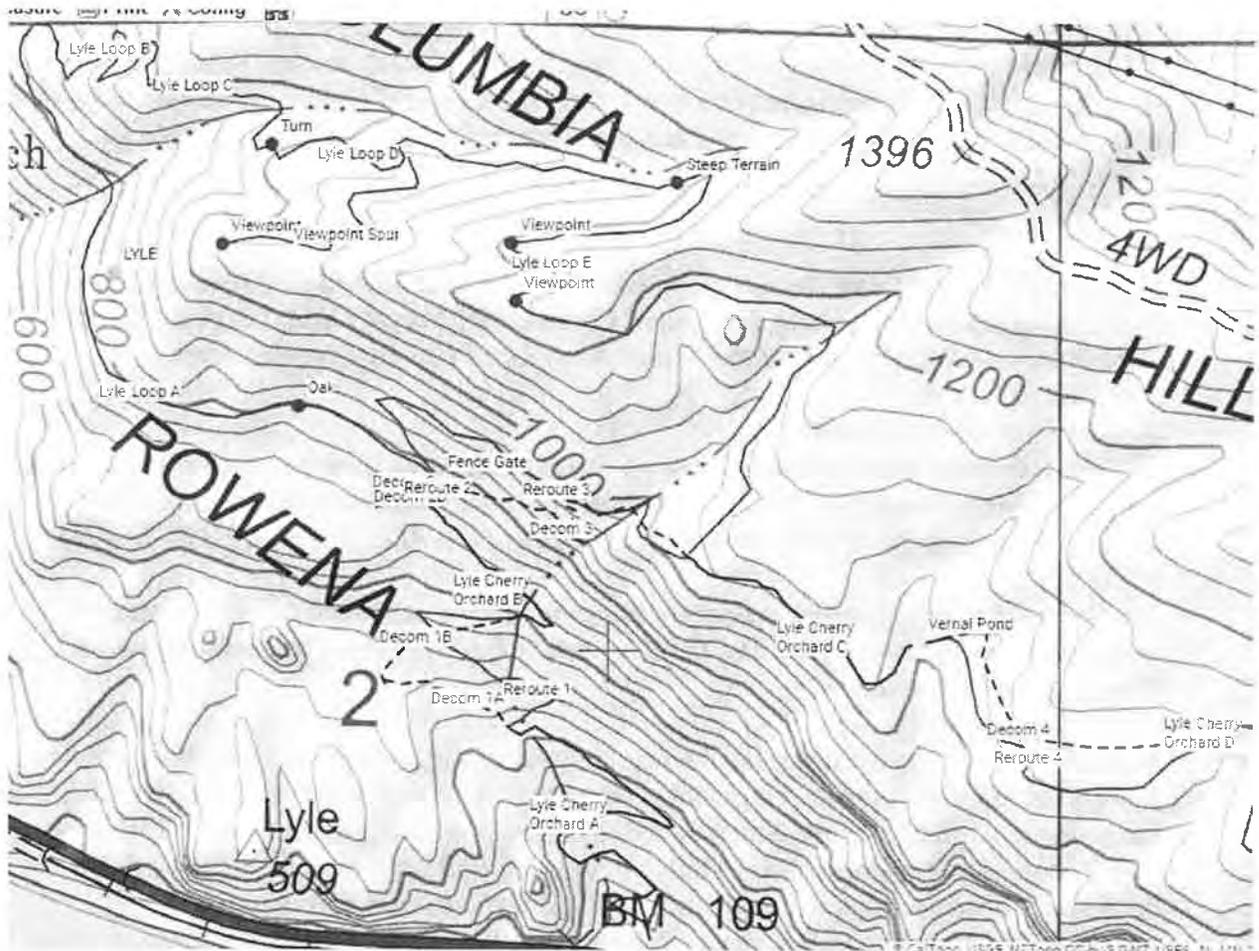


Above: The proposed new trail and trail reroutes will be constructed using techniques similar to those used to construct the existing trail, pictured above.

Natural and Cultural Resources

Natural and cultural resources are addressed further, below, in response to the criteria in the code. The existing trail traverses through varied ecosystems, including areas of herbaceous vegetation as well as oak highlands. While it is not common for trail users to encounter visible wildlife on or near the route, the trail cuts through and near lands that serve as plant and animal habitat. Wildlife and rare plants surveys, attached, provide further information regarding flora and fauna that are native to the area and the habitat that support them.

The proposed trail is to be located within the vicinity of archeological sites to the north of the Columbia River. These sites are addressed by the cultural resources survey that was submitted.



Above: Sections of the trail to be decommissioned (blue dotted line) and built new (in red), that are located near and adjacent to existing sections of trail.

The proposed recreational development is categorized as "*Recreational Intensity Class 1 (Very Low Intensity)*" by Chapter 4 of the *Columbia River Gorge Management Plan*, as described below. Therefore, the proposed use is an allowed use on the subject parcels, if the proposed trail complies with:

- A) the guidelines established for the recreation intensity classes (350-81-610)
- B) the Recreational Development Plan within the Plan and
- C) the guidelines to protect NSA resources.

Below, this application addresses A) and B), the recreational provisions of the Management Plan, and C), the guidelines to protect NSA resources.

The guidelines established for the recreation intensity classes (350-81-610) are addressed below.

The Lyle Cherry Orchard is not proposed as part of the adopted Recreation Proposals list. Therefore, the proposed development is not identified as a high-priority public recreation facility by the Recreational Development Plan.

The guidelines to protect NSA resources are addressed below.

(***)

350-81-300. Approval Criteria for Fire Protection in GMA Forest Designations
(1) All uses, as specified, shall comply with the following fire safety guidelines:

Response: The guidelines appear to apply to buildings, especially dwellings. Therefore, the applicant believes that these criteria do not apply.

350-81-520. General Management Area Scenic Review Criteria
The following scenic review guidelines shall apply to all Review Uses in the General Management Area of the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area:

(1) All review uses:

(a) New buildings and roads shall be sited and designed to retain the existing topography and to minimize grading activities to the maximum extent practicable.

Response: The proposed trail will retain existing landforms and strive to fit the existing topography to the maximum extent practicable. The grading proposed is directly related to the construction of the trail and will not significantly alter existing land forms. As can be seen on the trail map provided, the majority of segments of the proposed trail traverse the development site rather than directly ascending steep slopes. This trail configuration will reduce erosion. The proposed trail extension is designed to accommodate the existing landscape.

(b) New buildings shall be compatible with the general scale (height, dimensions and overall mass) of existing nearby development. Expansion of existing development shall comply with this guideline to the maximum extent practicable.

Response: No new buildings are proposed. This criterion does not apply.

(c) Project applicants shall be responsible for the proper maintenance and survival of any planted vegetation required by the guidelines in this chapter.

Response: Seed will be the main method of restoring native plant communities on site. Seeding will occur in the fall when the greatest likelihood of germination will occur and seasonal monitoring will be performed to ensure plant establishment and success of restoration.

(d) A site plan and land use application shall be submitted for all new buildings...(*)**

Response: No new buildings are proposed. This does not apply.

(e) For all proposed development, the determination of compatibility with the landscape setting shall be based on information submitted in the site plan.

Response: The proposed development is to be located in the Oak-Pine Woodlands and Coniferous Woodland landscape settings. A site plan is provided, and the criteria related to the Oak-Pine Woodlands and Coniferous Woodland landscape settings are addressed below.

(f) For all new production and/or development of mineral resources and expansion of existing quarries...

Response: This criterion does not apply to the proposed use.

(2) Key Viewing Areas

(a) The guidelines in this section shall apply to proposed developments on sites topographically visible from key viewing areas.

(b) Each development shall be visually subordinate to its setting as seen from key viewing areas.

(c) Determination of potential visual effects and compliance with visual subordination policies shall include consideration of the cumulative effects of proposed developments.

(d) The extent and type of conditions applied to a proposed development to achieve visual subordination shall be proportionate to its potential visual impacts as seen from key viewing areas.

(A) Decisions shall include written findings addressing the factors influencing potential visual impact, including but not limited to:

(i) The amount of area of the building site exposed to key viewing areas.

(ii) The degree of existing vegetation providing screening.

(iii) The distance from the building site to the key viewing areas from which it is visible.

(iv) The number of key viewing areas from which it is visible.

(v) The linear distance along the key viewing areas from which the building site is visible (for linear key viewing areas, such as roads).

(B) Conditions may be applied to various elements of proposed developments to ensure they are visually subordinate to their setting as seen from key viewing areas, including but not limited to:

(i) Siting (location of development on the subject property, building orientation, and other elements). ***(ii) Retention of existing vegetation.***

(iii) Design (color, reflectivity, size, shape, height, architectural and design details and other elements).

(iv) New landscaping.

(e) New development shall be sited to achieve visual subordination from key viewing areas, unless the siting would place such development in a buffer specified for protection of wetlands, riparian corridors, sensitive plants, or sensitive wildlife sites or would conflict with guidelines to protect cultural resources. In such situations, development shall comply with this guideline to the maximum extent practicable.

(f) New development shall be sited using existing topography and/or existing vegetation as needed to achieve visual subordination from key viewing areas.

(g) Existing tree cover screening proposed development from key viewing areas shall be retained as specified in the Landscape Settings Design Guidelines in 350-81-520(3).

Response: Segments of the proposed trail extension and replacement will be visible from the following Key Viewing Areas:

- a) SR-14
- b) The Columbia River
- c) I-84
- d) Highway 30
- e) Rowena Crest

The proposed trail extension will traverse the hillside east of Lyle. Although obscured by topography and vegetation, the hill that is the development site can be seen from portions of each of the Key Viewing Areas listed above. The subject parcels are located along hillsides and bluffs that descend steeply to form the Columbia River Valley. The parcels feature both vegetated hillsides and a series of basalt cliffs that are horizontally striated, producing several “shelves” of rock atop which soils were deposited, vegetation grows, and the new trail extension is proposed.



The above photo is a photo of the Lyle Cherry Orchard trail (taken in the summer of 2016) from a distance of approximately 300 - 800 feet. The arrow points to the trail. This photo demonstrates that the construction techniques proposed, which are the same as those used to construct the pictured trail, will produce a trail that is visually subordinate.

Further information about visibility from KVAs is as follows:

a) SR-14

A significant amount of the trail as seen from SR-14 will not be visible due to existing topography because the trail will be significantly higher than SR-14 and partially located behind (north of) the hill east of Lyle. Therefore, individuals on

SR-14 will not be able to see approximately and at least 0.6 miles of the proposed trail extension from SR-14. The majority of the proposed trail reroutes will be completely obscured from view from SR-14 by existing topography, because most reroutes are located just north of a cliff that completely obscures them from view from SR-14.

b) The Columbia River

Many segments of the proposed trail extension and relocation will be obscured from view from the river by existing topography. At closest, the proposed trail extension will be located approximately 2,000 feet from the Columbia River as the crow flies, and approximately 800 to 1,200 feet higher than the river. The proposed trail relocations will be approximately 1,000 to 1,500 feet in distance from the Columbia River, approximately 350 to 950 feet in elevation above it, and obscured topographically by an existing cliff along SR-14.

c) I-84

Due to the distance and elevation that separates I-84 and the proposed development, visibility of the trail from I-84 will be obscured and is not expected to be visible with the naked eye. At closest, the proposed development will be located approximately 0.9 miles from I-84, and 300 feet to 1,450 feet lower than the proposed trail and trail extensions. Additionally, the proposed development will be obscured from view from I-84 by existing topography and vegetation along I-84, as well as the existing topography of the subject parcels such as the basalt cliffs.

d) Highway 30

The proposed development will be located across the Columbia River from Highway 30. It will be at least 4,700 feet in distance from the trail repair segments, at closest, although most of the proposed project will be approximately 1.5 miles from Highway 30. As a result of the distance of this KVA from the proposed trail, and as a result of the minimal development that the proposed trail project will spur, the proposed development is not expected to be visible with the naked eye from Highway 30. Additionally, the trail extension and repair segments will be obscured from view by topography in Oregon and Washington, including hills, berms, and rocky outcroppings. In the locations near Rowena where Highway 30 is closest to the proposed trail location, views are topographically obscured by rocky outcroppings as well as oak trees, pine trees, and grass (see photos).



The proposed development site is obscured from view from Highway 30 by topography and vegetation. These views are partially obscured, while additional areas not shown are more obscured by topography than these photos show.

e) Rowena Crest

At closest, the proposed development will be located approximately 1.4 miles from Rowena Crest. Approximately 0.5 mi of proposed trail extension as well as additional relocations will be obscured from view from Rowena Crest by existing topography. The sections of the trail that are visible from Rowena Crest are not expected to be visible with the naked eye when seen from that KVA.

In Spring 2016, the applicant made observations of the existing Lyle Cherry Orchard trail from Key Viewing Areas I-84, Highway 30, and Rowena Crest. With the naked eye, the applicant was unable to see the existing trail from these KVAs. In Spring 2016, the applicant also observed the existing trail at close range (approximately 300 - 1,000 feet); the trail was not easy to distinguish from the surrounding area. It is unlikely or impossible that the proposed trail will be visible with the naked eye from Key Viewing Areas that are several hundred or thousands of feet away, or from which the trail will be obscured from view from KVAs by existing topography. Additionally, the low-impact methods by which the trail will be constructed will minimize visibility of the trail during construction, and upon completion of the trail. The trail is a 'very low-intensity' recreational use as defined by the criteria. *The applicant posits that the proposed trail extension and repair will not adversely affect scenic resources experienced from KVAs.*

The trail will be visually subordinate because of the general lack of visibility of trail development, topographic features that obscure the visibility of the trail from view from Key Viewing Areas, and vegetative screening by grasses, shrubbery, and trees at higher elevations. The proposed trail will be visually subordinate for several reasons. No significant structures are proposed. The trail itself will be dirt, of earthen materials (soil) of earth-tone color, and narrow at only 3-ft wide. Therefore, the materials and width of the trail will minimize visibility. WTA will construct the trail using trail building standards that will minimize the visual impact of the trail. Changes in grade, rather than visible structures, will be used to drain the trail of water as needed. As is characteristic of trails, this trail will be constructed into the ground and obscured by surrounding grasses, shrubbery, and- at higher elevations- trees that will significantly reduce the visibility of the trail. Low-lying grasses immediately adjacent the proposed trail-- which grow to be over a foot tall-- will reduce the visibility of the trail even at close range such as 1,000 ft (see the photo above, which shows the lack of visibility of a trail photographed at close range).

The proposed trail is to be built to similar standards as the existing trail, which is visually subordinate when seen from Key Viewing Areas. The applicant verified that, at a minimum, the existing trail is not possible to see with the naked eye from Rowena Crest, Highway 30, or I-84. It is likely that the trail is not possible to see with the naked eye from SR-14 and the Columbia River. Additionally, the view from I-84, Highway 30, the Columbia River, SR-14, and Rowena Crest will be obscured by the distance between

those KVAs and the proposed development. *Please see the close-range photo, above, that is included in this application. Note the trail's visual subordination in this photo.*

Due to the locations in which it is proposed, a significant portion of the trail will be visually subordinate and many sections of it will not be topographically visible. The proposed trail repair segments will be located in a ravine and atop a bluff that are obscured topographically from view from each KVA by outcroppings and contours. The proposed trail will also be shielded by existing topography in Washington and Oregon, including hills abutting the Columbia River and berms abutting SR-14, I-84, and Highway 30. The trail is proposed to traverse a variation of landscapes and topographies, at varied elevations. It will not follow a consistent and easy-to-follow pattern. The proposed trail extension will geographically be as far or further from KVAs than the existing trail that was permitted in 1995.

Existing topography of the proposed development site will obscure visibility of the trail. A significant portion of the proposed trail extension will be located behind the hill to the east of Lyle (see Lyle Loop C, D, E on the map), and will therefore not be visible from KVAs. Another significant portion of the trail extension will be located at high elevation-- high above SR-14, the Columbia River, I-84, and much of Highway 30-- and will therefore be not visible from KVAs or visually subordinate due to the distance from KVAs. Portions of the proposed trail repair segment are located atop and back from the edge of basalt cliffs that are higher in elevation than SR-14, the Columbia River, I-84, and Highway 30. The basalt cliffs are striated, and form several horizontal "layers" that stretch from east to west. Since the proposed trail also stretches from west to east along the top of these cliffs, this topography shields the trail from view. These cliffs obscure the visibility of the trail from each KVA, and make sections of the trail not visible from the KVAs. The proposed trail repair/alterations will push the trail further north-- further from view-- or will keep the trail at approximately the same location in relation to KVAs, in all instances. Thereby, the proposed trail repair/alteration segments are expected to reduce the visibility of the existing trail.

Further, oak and evergreen trees located at higher elevations, where parts of the new trail extension and trail repair segments are proposed. These trees will back-screen the trail and viewpoints from view from SR-14, the Columbia River, I-84, Highway 30, and Rowena Crest. The proposed trail extensions and repair will be obscured from view by topography and vegetation in Oregon, which will reduce visibility from I-84, Highway 30, and Rowena Crest. In particular, topography and vegetation obscure the trail from view from I-84 and Highway 30. Large earth forms (hills and cliffs) located in Oregon along I-84 between Hood River and The Dalles create a context in which the proposed development site is not visible from many sections of I-84 and Highway 30. On the segments of I-84 and Highway 30 from which it may be seen, it frequently is obscured by roadside topographic features (rocky/earthen outcroppings). Both large and small topographic features reduce the visibility of the proposed development site from view from I-84 and Highway 30.

Regarding the grading proposed, areas that are graded yet not used as trail tread will be revegetated with seed native to the Columbia River Gorge. Signage will be constructed in a manner to be visually subordinate and is proposed to be in locations that minimize visibility. Signs are proposed at three locations:

a) The existing trailhead (part of the trail permitted in 1995, and obscured from view from KVAs by existing topography and oak grove vegetation): The existing trailhead is in a visually subordinate location nestled in a forested ravine, between a rock outcropping and a steep hillside and a few hundred meters up the trail from the beginning of the trail, which is unmarked. Although the trailhead is not visible to the eye-- considering existing vegetation-- the trailhead may be topographically visible from SR-14 and/or the Columbia River for several hundred feet when traveling along these KVAs from west to east. Due to existing vegetation, the trail signage proposed at this location cannot be seen from SR-14 or the Columbia River. The applicant proposes to construct signs that are of small size. The post and backing of the largest sign, a pedestal sign displaying information about yellow star thistle, will be painted in a dark earth tone color. (*Please see further sign descriptions above on page 8 and in Appendix A.*) The signs at this location will be visually subordinate.

b) Proposed at the junction of the proposed trail extension loop and the existing Lyle Cherry Orchard trail: Two signs-- a boot brush/"Stowaway Seeds" sign and a yellow star thistle interpretive sign (*as described above on page 8*) are proposed to be placed here. These signs are proposed to be located in an area that can be described as on a 'shelf,' where the steep incline of a slope to the south (approximately 39 degrees) flattens (to approximately 19 degrees) based on review of the online map. Existing trees at this location provide vegetative back screening. This area is obscured from view from KVAs by topographic screening, as it is located immediately after the steep incline that the existing trail ascends, and is north of the cliff behind which the existing trail is situated. Relative to the surrounding landscape, the proposed signs, measuring 2' x 3' (on 3' post) and 1' x 1.5' (on a post measuring between 1.5 ft and 6 ft tall, to be determined), will be small. Both signs are proposed to be located on the lower (south) side of the trail junction. The signs are proposed at this location because at this location they will be most easily read by hikers on both trails. The thistle sign, which will be a laminated plastic sign supported by a wood backing and metal post (both in dark earth-tone colors) as pictured below, is proposed to be oriented with the back of the sign to the Columbia Gorge.



The star thistle sign will be painted in dark brown and oriented with the back facing towards the Columbia River.

Viewpoints: A small (1.5' x 1') metal sign on a post measuring 1.5' – 6' tall (to be determined) is proposed to be located at each viewpoint. These signs will provide educational information to trail users. No man-made structures other than the signs will be located at the viewpoints. Boulders for sitting may be located at the viewpoints, as described on page 8. These boulders will be of earth-tone colors found in the surrounding landscape.

(h) The silhouette of new buildings shall remain below the skyline of a bluff, cliff, or ridge as seen from key viewing areas. Variances to this guideline may be granted if application of the guideline would leave the owner without a reasonable economic use. The variance shall be the minimum necessary to allow the use and may be applied only after all reasonable efforts to modify the design, building height, and site to comply with the guideline have been made.

(i) An alteration to a building built before November 17, 1986...

Response: No buildings are proposed. This criterion does not apply.

(***)

(j) The following guidelines shall apply to new landscaping used to screen development from key viewing areas:

(A) New landscaping (including new earth berms) shall be required only when application of all other available guidelines in 350-81-520 is not sufficient to make the development visually subordinate from key viewing areas. Alternate sites shall be considered prior to using new landscaping to achieve visual subordination. Development shall be sited to avoid the need for new landscaping wherever possible.

(B) If new landscaping is required to make a proposed development visually subordinate from key viewing areas, existing on-site vegetative screening and other visibility factors shall be analyzed to determine the extent of new landscaping, and the size of new trees needed to achieve the standard. Any vegetation planted pursuant to this guideline shall be sized to provide sufficient screening to make the development visually subordinate within five years or less from the commencement of construction.

(C) Unless as specified otherwise by provisions in 350-81-520, landscaping shall be installed as soon as practicable, and prior to project completion. Applicants and successors in interest for the subject parcel are responsible for the proper maintenance and survival of planted vegetation, and replacement of such vegetation that does not survive.

(D) The Scenic Resources Implementation Handbook shall include recommended species for each landscape setting consistent with the Landscape Settings Design Guidelines in 350-81-520(3), and minimum recommended sizes of new trees planted (based on average growth rates expected for recommended species).

k) Conditions regarding new landscaping or retention of existing vegetation for new developments on lands designated GMA Forest shall meet both scenic guidelines and fuel break requirements in 350-81-300(1)(a).

Response: No new landscaping is proposed to screen development.

(l - v)

Response: Criteria l - v do not apply to the proposed development. The proposed trail extension and repair/replacement does not include a building, lighting, addition, communications facility, or highway/road facility.

x) Except for water-dependent development and for water-related recreation development, development shall be set back 100 feet from the ordinary high water mark of the Columbia River below Bonneville Dam, and 100 feet from the normal pool elevation of the Columbia River above Bonneville Dam, unless the setback would render a property unbuildable. In such cases, variances to this guideline may be authorized.

Response: The proposed development is greater than 100 feet from the high water mark of the Columbia River below Bonneville Dam.

(y - z)

Response: These criteria do not apply. The proposed development does not include a building.

(aa) All proposed structural development involving more than 200 cubic yards of grading on sites visible from key viewing areas shall include submittal of a grading plan. This plan shall be reviewed by the local government for compliance with key viewing area policies. The grading plan shall include the following: 160

(A) A map of the site, prepared at a scale of 1 inch equals 200 feet (1:2,400) or a scale providing greater detail, with contour intervals of at least 5 feet, including:

(i) Existing and proposed final grades.

(ii) Location of all areas to be graded, with cut banks and fill slopes delineated.

(iii) Estimated dimensions of graded areas.

- (B) A narrative description (may be submitted on the grading plan site map and accompanying drawings) of the proposed grading activity, including:**
- (i) Its purpose. (ii) An estimate of the total volume of material to be moved.**
 - (iii) The height of all cut banks and fill slopes.**
 - (iv) Provisions to be used for compactions, drainage, and stabilization of graded areas. (Preparation of this information by a licensed engineer or engineering geologist is recommended.)**
 - (v) A description of all plant materials used to revegetate exposed slopes and banks, including the species, number, size, and location of plants, and a description of irrigation provisions or other measures necessary to ensure the survival of plantings.**
 - (vi) A description of any other interim or permanent erosion control measures to be used.**

Response: See pages 11 and 12 for information pertaining to grading and viewpoint building.

(bb - ee)

Response: These criteria do not apply. No quarry is proposed.

(3) Landscape Settings: All review uses within the following landscape settings shall comply with the following applicable guidelines:

(*)**

(b) Coniferous Woodland

(A) Structure height shall remain below the forest canopy level.

(B) In portions of this setting visible from key viewing areas, the following guidelines shall be employed to achieve visual subordination for new development and expansion of existing development:

(I) Except as is necessary for construction of access roads, building pads, leach fields, etc., the existing tree cover screening the development from key viewing areas shall be retained.

(II) At least half of any trees planted for screening purposes shall be species native to the setting. Such species include: Douglas-fir, grand fir, western red cedar, western hemlock, big leaf maple, red alder, ponderosa pine and Oregon white oak, and various native willows (for riparian areas).

(III) At least half of any trees planted for screening purposes shall be coniferous to provide winter screening.

(C) Compatible recreation uses include resource-based recreation uses of varying intensities. Typically, outdoor recreation uses should be low intensity, and include trails, small picnic areas and scenic viewpoints. Some more intensive recreation uses, such as campgrounds, may occur. They should be scattered, interspersed with large areas of undeveloped land and low-intensity uses.

(c) Oak-Pine Woodland

(A) Structure height shall remain below the tree canopy level in wooded portions of this setting.

(B) In portions of this setting visible from key viewing areas, the following guidelines shall be employed to achieve visual subordination for new development and expansion of existing development:

(i) At least half of any tree species planted for screening purposes shall be species native to the setting. Such species include Oregon white oak, ponderosa pine, and Douglas-fir.

(ii) At least half of any trees planted for screening purposes shall be coniferous to provide winter screening. For substantially wooded portions:

(iii) Except as is necessary for construction of access roads, building pads, leach fields, etc., the existing tree cover screening the development from key viewing areas shall be retained. For treeless portions or portions with scattered tree cover:

(iv) Structures shall be sited on portions of the property that provide maximum screening from key viewing areas, using existing topographic features.

(v) Patterns of plantings for screening vegetation shall be in character with the surroundings. Residences in grassy, open areas or savannahs shall be partly screened with trees in small groupings and openings between groupings.

(vi) Accessory structures, outbuildings, and access ways shall be clustered together as much as possible, particularly towards the edges of existing meadows, pastures, and farm fields.

(C) Resource-based recreation uses of varying intensities may be compatible with this setting, although most are of low-intensity nature (such as trails or small scenic outlooks). More intensive recreation uses may be compatible where allowed by 350-81-610, although they are generally rare in this setting. As with Woodland settings, intensive recreation uses in Oak-Pine Woodlands may be compatible if widely scattered and not in large concentrations.

Response: The proposed use is a trail extension of the existing Lyle Cherry Orchard trail, and the decommissioning and replacement of trail segments of the existing trail. The proposed development is to be located in the Oak-Pine Woodlands and Coniferous Woodland landscape settings. The Management Plan states that the proposed use-- a trail-- is a very low-intensity recreational use. No trees are proposed to be removed as part of the development or planted to screen development. Trees will back-screen both sections of the new trail extension and trail repair segments. As described above (in responses to address visual subordination), the trail is proposed to be sited to provide screening by existing topographic features both on the subject parcel and between the subject development and KVAs.

(4) Scenic Travel Corridors

*(***)*

(a) For the purposes of implementing this section, the foreground of a scenic travel corridor shall include those lands within 1/4 mile of the edge of pavement of the scenic travel corridor roadway.

(b) All new buildings and alterations to existing buildings, except in a Rural Center designation (village landscape setting), shall be set back at least 100 feet from the edge of pavement of the scenic travel corridor roadway. A variance to this setback requirement may be granted pursuant to 350-81-078(2). All new parking lots and expansions of existing parking lots shall be set back at least 100 feet from the edge of pavement of the scenic travel corridor roadway, to the maximum extent practicable.

(c) Additions to existing buildings or expansion of existing parking lots located within 100 feet of the edge of pavement of a scenic travel corridor roadway, except in a Rural Center designation (village landscape setting), shall comply with 350-81-520(4)(b) above, to the maximum extent practicable.

(d) All proposed vegetation management projects in public rights-of-way to provide or improve views shall include the following... ()***

Response: No new buildings or parking lots are proposed. No parking lot expansion is proposed. No vegetation management is proposed. The criteria do not apply.

All trail repair and extensions are located more than 100-ft (significantly more) from SR-14 (see proposed trail location, here <https://caltopo.com/m/7J6L>).

f - g

Response: Criteria f - g do not apply.

350-81-540. General Management Area Cultural Resource Review Criteria

(1) General Provisions for Implementing the Cultural Resources Protection Process. ()***

(c) Reconnaissance and Historic Surveys and Survey Reports. ()***

(b) Cultural resource surveys, evaluations, assessments, and mitigation plans shall generally be conducted in consultation with Indian tribal governments and any person who submits written comments on a proposed use (interested person). ()***

(A) Reconnaissance survey requirements and exceptions.

(i) A reconnaissance survey shall be required for all proposed uses within 500 feet of a known cultural resource, including those uses listed as exceptions in 350-81-540(1)(c)(A)(ii) below.

(ii) A reconnaissance survey shall be required for all proposed uses, except: 178 ()***

(F) Reconnaissance Surveys for Large-Scale Uses ()***

Response: Archeologist Melissa Darby, M.A. concluded a reconnaissance survey on May 9, 2016. That survey is provided to the Gorge Commission in conjunction with this application (see Appendix D). The survey addresses all applicable criteria within 350-81-540. The survey encompassed an area larger than that required by the ordinance (within 500 feet of the proposed trail extension). The Yakama Indian Nation,

Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Tribe, Nez Perce, and Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation were notified of the project via email on April 14, 2016. The cultural resource survey recommends that further (archeological) work is necessary.

350-81-560. General Management Area Wetland Review Criteria

(a) If the proposed use is within a wetland or wetlands buffer zone, the applicant shall be responsible for determining the exact location of the wetland boundary.

(A) The approximate location and extent of wetlands in the Scenic Area is shown on the National Wetlands Inventory (U.S. Department of the Interior 1987).

(B) All wetlands delineations shall be conducted by a professional which has been trained to use the federal delineation process, such as a soil scientist, botanist, or wetlands ecologist.

(b) In addition to the information required in all site plans, site plans for proposed uses in wetlands or wetlands buffer zones shall include:

(A) a site plan map prepared at a scale of 1 inch equals 100 feet (1:1,200), or a scale providing greater detail;

(B) the exact boundary of the wetland and the wetlands buffer zone; and

(C) a description of actions that would alter or destroy the wetland.

(c) Determination of potential effects to significant natural resources shall include consideration of cumulative effects of proposed developments within wetlands and their buffer zones.

(3) The following uses may be allowed in wetlands and wetlands buffer zones when approved pursuant to the provisions in 350-81-560(5), and reviewed under the applicable provisions of 350-81-520 through 350-81-620:

(a) The modification, expansion, replacement, or reconstruction of serviceable structures, if such actions would not:

(A) Increase the size of an existing structure by more than 100 percent

(B) Result in a loss of wetlands acreage or functions, and

(C) Intrude further into a wetland or wetlands buffer zone. New structures shall be considered intruding further into a wetland or wetlands buffer zone if any portion of the structure is located closer to the wetland or wetlands buffer zone than the existing structure.

Response: The proposed use, including both the trail repair and 2.01-mile trail extension to an existing 2.29 mile trail, are not within 150-ft of a wetland, or within a wetland. Therefore, the criteria do not apply. *For informational purposes the applicant provided written material in the Appendix to describe the one wetland (a rarely evident vernal pool) that is located within 500 feet of proposed trail repair.*

(7) Wetlands Buffer Zones

(a) The width of wetlands buffer zones shall be based on the dominant vegetation community that exists in a buffer zone.

(b) The dominant vegetation community in a buffer zone is the vegetation community that covers the most surface area of that portion of the buffer zone that lies between the

proposed activity and the affected wetland. Vegetation communities are classified as forest, shrub, or herbaceous.

(A) A forest vegetation community is characterized by trees with an average height equal to or greater than 20 feet, accompanied by a shrub layer; trees must form a canopy cover of at least 40 percent and shrubs must form a canopy cover of at least 40 percent. A forest community without a shrub component that forms a canopy cover of at least 40 percent shall be considered a shrub vegetation community.

(B) A shrub vegetation community is characterized by shrubs and trees that are greater than 3 feet tall and form a canopy cover of at least 40 percent.

(C) A herbaceous vegetation community is characterized by the presence of herbs, including grass and grasslike plants, forbs, ferns, and nonwoody vines.

(c) Buffer zones shall be measured outward from a wetlands boundary on a horizontal scale that is perpendicular to the wetlands boundary. The following buffer zone widths shall be required:

(A) Forest communities: 75 feet

(B) Shrub communities: 100 feet

(C) Herbaceous communities: 150 feet

Response: Based on this criteria, the buffer zone is between 75 and 150 ft. No development is proposed within 150-ft of the vernal pool, the only known wetland within 1,000 ft of the proposed development.

350-81-570. General Management Area Wetland Review Criteria

(1) Stream, Pond, and Lake Boundaries and Site Plans for Review Uses in Aquatic and Riparian Areas

(a) If a proposed use would be in a stream, pond, lake or their buffer zones, the project applicant shall be responsible for determining the exact location of the ordinary high watermark or normal pool elevation.

(b) In addition to the information required in all site plans, site plans for proposed uses in streams, ponds, lakes, and their buffer zones shall include:

(A) a site plan map prepared at a scale of 1 inch equals 100 feet (1:1,200), or a scale providing greater detail;

(B) the exact boundary of the ordinary high watermark or normal pool elevation and prescribed buffer zone; and

(C) a description of actions that would alter or destroy the stream, pond, lake, or riparian area.

(c) Determination of potential effects to significant natural resources shall include consideration of cumulative effects of proposed developments within streams, ponds, lakes, riparian areas and their buffer zones.

*(***)*

(3) The following uses may be allowed in streams, ponds, lakes and riparian areas when approved pursuant 350-81-570(5), and reviewed under the applicable provisions of 350-81-520 through 350-81-620:

(a) The modification, expansion, replacement, or reconstruction of serviceable structures, provided that such actions would not:

***(A) Increase the size of an existing structure by more than 100 percent,
(B) Result in a loss of water quality, natural drainage, and fish and wildlife habitat, or
(C) Intrude further into a stream, pond, lake, or buffer zone. New structures shall be considered intruding further into a stream, pond, lake, or buffer zone if any portion of the structure is located closer to the stream, pond, lake, or buffer zone than the existing structure.***

Response: The proposed use is expansion and reconstruction of a serviceable structure (the trail). The applicant provided materials to address the scenic area criteria (350-81-520 through 350-81-620). Practicable alternatives (350-81-570(5)) are addressed below. The proposed use includes trail repair and a 2.01-mile trail extension to an existing 2.29 mile trail. Therefore, the proposed use will not increase the size of an existing structure by more than 100 percent. The proposed use, including both the trail repair and trail extension, are not within 150-ft of or within the existing stock pond described below. Therefore, the criteria do not apply to the stock pond.

The two areas identified by the NWI maps as "intermittent streams" have never been observed by the land owner to be water-bearing. In other words, the land owner does not believe that a stream exists in the two identified locations. The proposed use will not result in the loss of water quality, natural drainage, and fish and wildlife habitat. Based on the definition of stream provided below, in which surface water produces a defined channel or bed, the "intermittent stream" features are not defined as streams by the Management Plan. Therefore, although the proposed trail crosses these features, the applicant asserts that these features are not streams and therefore the trail does not encroach further into the westernmost stream area (described below as Area 2) or its buffer zone. The trail repair that is proposed in the vicinity of Area 1 is not proposed to intrude further into a stream, pond, lake, or buffer zone. Therefore, the proposed trail repair and extension may be allowed.

Additional information: The National Wetlands Inventory maps online identify two areas within the project area as unnamed "intermittent streams," each described below. The applicant/land owner asserts that these areas are dry throughout the year, including periods of peak use in the spring and fall. The applicant provided materials to address the scenic area criteria (350-81-520 through 350-81-620).

The areas that are identified by the applicant or by the NW as streams, ponds, or riparian areas include:

One Stock Pond (not listed on the National Wetlands Inventory (NWI) maps) - An existing stock pond (approximately 12-ft in diameter or less when observed June 2016), used as recently as 2013 for watering livestock. Formerly used as a stock pond. The 1995 Gorge Commission decision (C95-044-K-G-20) permitted the existing trail, which is adjacent to the pond. A May 19, 2016 cultural resources survey conducted by archeologist Melissa Darby, M.A indicates that the subject property was used as a livestock ranch for a number of years. The proposed use will repair the trail just over 150-ft from the pond. The 1995 Gorge Commission decision approved of a trail in the existing location. Given the existing trees and shrubbery near the stock pond, the buffer zone for the pond is 75 - 100 ft.

Area 1: The existing trail crosses through a small, dry ravine that is identified by the National Wetlands Inventory maps online as an unnamed "intermittent stream." The land owner asserts that this area is a dry stream bed throughout the year. The existing trail, permitted by the 1995 Gorge Commission decision, crosses over Area 1. Trail repairs are proposed to this segment of trail, in Tax Lots 02120200000500 and 02120200001000. When the applicant hiked the trail in March 2016, April 2016, and July 2016, this area was observed to be without a defined stream channel, vegetated, and completely dry-- and hence not at all clear to be functioning as a streambed.

Area 2: The proposed trail extension will cross over a second small, dry ravine identified by the National Wetlands Inventory maps online as an unnamed "intermittent stream." This is in Tax Lots 02120200000300 and 2120200000400. The land owner has conducted several site visits to this location and has never located a stream or running water of any type. The Management Plan defines a stream as follows:

"Streams: Areas where surface water produces a defined channel or bed, including bedrock channels, gravel beds, sand and silt beds, springs and defined-channel swales. The channel or bed does not have to contain water year-round...For the Management Plan, streams are categorized into two classes: perennial streams and intermittent streams. Perennial stream means a stream that flows year-round during years of normal precipitation. Intermittent stream means a stream that flows only part of the year, or seasonally, during years of normal precipitation."

Due to the continually dry nature of the area identified as "intermittent stream" by the NWI map, "Area 1" and "Area 2" do not meet the definition of stream contained within

Note: The Management Plan (Chapter 3 - Natural Resources, Wetlands and Streams, Ponds, Lakes and Riparian Areas) state "Low intensity uses may be allowed in wetlands and wetland buffer zones without review" and "Low-intensity uses may be allowed outright in streams, ponds, lakes, and their buffer zones." The proposed use is an extension and repair of an existing trail is a "very low-intensity" recreational use as defined by the Management Plan (Chapter 4). Therefore, it may be allowed without review.

the Management Plan.

(5) Applications for modifications to serviceable structures and minor water-dependent and water-related structures in aquatic and riparian areas shall demonstrate that:

(a) Practicable alternatives to locating the structure outside of the stream, pond, lake, or buffer zone and/or minimizing the impacts of the structure do not exist;

(b) All reasonable measures have been applied to ensure that the structure will result in the minimum feasible alteration or destruction of water quality, natural drainage, and fish and wildlife habitat of streams, ponds, lakes, and riparian areas;

(c) The structure will be constructed using best management practices;

(d) Areas disturbed during construction of the structure will be rehabilitated to the maximum extent practicable; and

(e) The structure complies with all applicable federal, state, and local laws.

Response: The applicant proposes the trail extension in the location in which it is proposed so that it may traverse the slope of the subject property and enable trail users to the northwest region of the subject property. To reach that region, the trail must cross the dry area identified by the NWI as 'intermittent stream.'

Additionally, existing permitted trail access is provided near the second area identified by the NWI as 'intermittent stream.' This access is proposed to be repaired and maintained, in part to prevent erosion and thereby reduce the effects of runoff. Cliffs in this area provide barriers to relocating access on the subject parcel.

As stated previously, the land owner has observed the identified areas identified on the NWI map as "intermittent streams" only as dry. Because these areas are dry and the structure is a '*very low impact*' recreational use, it will result in the minimum feasible alteration or destruction of water quality, natural drainage, and fish and wildlife habitat of streams, ponds, lakes, and riparian areas. The trail will be constructed using best management practices as defined by the U.S. Forest Service, as described above. WTA will rehabilitate areas disturbed during construction of the trail to the maximum extent possible, repairing any potential damage of surrounding areas and replanting any areas as necessary with native species using ecologically-sensitive practices. To the knowledge of the applicant, the structure is in accordance with all applicable federal, state, and local laws.

(7) Stream, Pond, and Lake Buffer Zones

(a) Buffer zones shall generally be measured landward from the ordinary high water-mark on a horizontal scale that is perpendicular to the ordinary high water-mark. ()***

The following buffer zone widths shall be required:

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(B) Intermittent streams, provided they are not used by anadromous or resident fish: 50 feet

Response: The buffer zone identified for intermittent streams is 50-ft. The buffer zone would not apply to the project area because the area is dry, hence there is no high water mark.

350-81-580. General Management Area Sensitive Wildlife Review Criteria.

(1) Sensitive Wildlife Areas and Sites and Site Plans Near Sensitive Wildlife

(a) Proposed uses shall not adversely affect sensitive wildlife areas or sensitive wildlife sites:

(A) "Sensitive wildlife areas" in the Columbia Gorge means the following land and water areas that appear in the wildlife inventory map prepared and maintained by the Gorge Commission:

Bald eagle habitat - Deer and elk winter range - Elk habitat - Mountain goat habitat - Peregrine falcon habitat - Pika colony area - Pileated woodpecker habitat - Pine marten habitat - Shallow water fish habitat (Columbia R.) - Special streams - Special habitat area - Spotted owl habitat - Sturgeon spawning area - Tributary fish habitat - Turkey habitat - Waterfowl area - Western pond turtle habitat

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(B) "Sensitive wildlife sites" means sites that are used by animal species that are

(i) listed as endangered or threatened pursuant to federal or state endangered species acts,

(ii) listed as endangered, threatened, sensitive, or candidate by the Washington Wildlife Commission,

(iii) listed as sensitive by the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission, or

(iv) considered to be of special interest to the public (limited to great blue heron, osprey, golden eagle, mountain goat, and prairie falcon).

Updated lists of species included in sensitive wildlife sites can be found on the websites for the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (Species of Concern list) and the Wildlife Division of Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife. A list also is maintained by the USDA Forest Service – Scenic Area Office and available on the Gorge Commission website.

(b) In addition to the information required in all site plans, site plans for uses within 1,000 feet of a sensitive wildlife area or site shall include a map prepared at a scale of 1 inch equals 100 feet (1:1,200), or a scale providing greater detail.

(c) Determination of potential effects to significant natural resources shall include consideration of cumulative effects of proposed developments within 1000 feet of sensitive wildlife areas and sites.

(2) Field Survey

A field survey to identify sensitive wildlife areas or sites shall be required for:

(a) Land divisions that create four or more parcels;

(b) Recreation facilities that contain parking areas for more than 10 cars, overnight camping facilities, boat ramps, and visitor information and environmental education facilities;

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Response: The proposed use is a trail extension of the existing Lyle Cherry Orchard trail, and the decommissioning and replacement of trail segments of the existing trail (see map). Based on the criteria, it appears as if the applicant is not required to provide a wildlife survey for this expansion and repair of an existing recreational use. Nonetheless, William Weiler, M.S. was hired by the land owner to conduct a wildlife survey.

The proposed use is not a new use, but instead an expansion of an existing use, and is identified by the Management Plan as a "very low-intensity" use. The proposed trail extension is located in areas that avoid sensitive wildlife areas and sites.

Weiler completed the survey in October 2015 (see Appendix D). The wildlife survey provides information about the impacts of the proposed use on sensitive wildlife areas and sites. Weiler's summary lists five of the species listed by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife as likely to be located on the subject parcels, although through observations, Weiler did not confirm the presence of each of the five species. Weiler's survey stated that the proposed trail is not likely to pose a threat to species listed by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife as species of concern. The new segment of trail proposed is a significant distance from the habitat areas described by Weiler. The use will not have significant impacts on wildlife or wildlife sites.

350-81-590. General Management Areas Rare Plant Review Criteria.

(1) Sensitive Plants and Site Plans for Review Uses Near Sensitive Plants

(a) Proposed uses shall not adversely affect sensitive plants. "Sensitive plants" means plant species that are

(A) endemic to the Columbia River Gorge and vicinity,

(B) listed as endangered or threatened pursuant to federal or state endangered species acts, or

(C) listed as endangered, threatened, or sensitive by the Oregon or Washington Natural Heritage program.

(b) In addition to the information required in all site plans, site plans for uses within 1,000 feet of a sensitive plant shall include a map prepared at a scale of 1 inch equals 100 feet (1:1,200), or a scale providing greater detail.

(c) Determination of potential effects to significant natural resources shall include consideration of cumulative effects of proposed developments within 1000 feet of rare plants.

(2) Field Survey

A field survey to identify sensitive plants shall be required for:

(a) Land divisions that create four or more parcels;

(b) Recreation facilities that contain parking areas for more than 10 cars, overnight camping facilities, boat ramps, and visitor information and environmental education facilities;

Response: The proposed use is a trail extension of the existing Lyle Cherry Orchard trail, and the decommissioning and replacement of trail segments of the existing trail (see map). Based on the criteria, it appears as if the applicant is not required to provide a rare plants survey. Nonetheless, the land owner hired Kristina Thie, Botanist, to conduct a rare plants survey (see Appendix D). She completed the survey in July 2013. The survey addresses approval criteria for rare plants review on GMA-zoned lands (350-81-590).

The survey described the context of vegetation on the site: "*the site has patches of mixed hardwood, douglas fir woodland, and open grassy benches interspersed with basalt cliffs.*" It concluded that the site was negatively impacted by past livestock grazing, as has the quality of plant species, and that "*the parcels have a number of weedy species.*" The survey concluded that rare plants were found in on the subject development parcels. Thie used a list of threatened, endangered, and sensitive plants provided by Robin Dobson of the U.S. Forest Service to conduct the rare plants survey. The survey concluded that of the species on that list that are found on the subject property, there will be "*No Impact/No Effect*" to those species. Thie concluded the proposed trail use will have "*no perceived impacts*" on the rare plant species found.

The proposed use is identified by the NSA Management Plan as a "*very low intensity*" recreational use (see Chapter 4, p. I – 4 -16) that is not expected to have a significant impact on rare plants.

350-81-610. General Management Areas Recreation Resource Review Criteria

The following uses are allowable, subject to compliance with 350-81-610(5) and (6).

(1) Recreation Intensity Class 1 (Very Low Intensity)

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(b) Trails for hiking, equestrian, and mountain biking use.

Response: The proposed use is a hiking trail categorized as "*Recreational Intensity Class 1 (Very Low Intensity).*" Therefore, the proposed use is an allowed use on the subject parcels, subject to 350-81-610 (General Management Areas Recreation Resource Review Criteria, (5) Approval Criteria for Recreation Uses, and (6) Facility Design Guidelines for All Recreation Projects), which are addressed below.

(5) Approval Criteria for Recreation Uses - All proposed recreation projects outside of Public or Commercial Recreation designations shall comply with the appropriate scenic, cultural, natural and recreation resource guidelines (350-81-520 through 350-81-620), and shall satisfy the following:

(a) Compliance with 350-81-520 through 350-81-610.

Response: The proposed development complies with scenic, natural, cultural, and recreational resource review criteria, as outlined above, and therefore satisfies the criteria.

(b) Cumulative effects of proposed recreation projects on landscape settings shall be based on the "compatible recreation use" guideline for the landscape setting in which the use is located.

(c) For proposed recreation projects in or adjacent to lands designated Large-Scale or Small-Scale Agriculture, Commercial Forest Land, or Large or Small Woodland:

(A) The use would not seriously interfere with accepted forest or agricultural practices on surrounding lands devoted to forest or farm uses. Provision of on-site buffers may be used to partially or fully comply with this criterion, depending upon project design and/or site conditions.

(B) A declaration has been signed by the project applicant or owner and recorded with county deeds and records specifying that the applicant or owner is aware that operators are entitled to carry on accepted forest or farm practices on lands designated Large-Scale or Small-Scale Agriculture, Commercial Forest Land, or Large or Small Woodland.

Response: The proposed development satisfied the "compatible recreation use" guideline for Oak-Pine Woodlands and Coniferous Woodland (as described above in 350-81-520(3)(c)). The proposed trail repair and extension will be used only by hikers on foot. Construction of the trail will be completed by hand, without mechanized tools. The proposed trail is expected to be used primarily in Spring and Fall, due to inclement winds and rain in winter and hot weather and winds in summer. There is no reason that the proposed use would interfere with accepted forest or farm uses on surrounding lands devoted to forest or farm use, and no farm or forest harvest practices currently occur on the subject parcels. The subject parcels were previously used for livestock grazing, but are not currently in use as agricultural land and have not been used for livestock grazing since 2014 or prior. Information contained within the cultural resources survey shows that the subject parcels have been unsuccessful for the farming of crops.

In the 1990s the land owner signed a declaration that specified that the applicant or owner is aware that operators are entitled to carry on accepted forest or farm practices. The use will not seriously interfere with accepted forest or agricultural practices on surrounding lands devoted to forest or farm uses.

(d) For proposed projects including facilities for outdoor fires for cooking or other purposes, or for proposed campgrounds, compliance with the following:

Response: No facilities for outdoor cooking or campgrounds are proposed.

(e) Trail or trailhead projects shall comply with applicable trails policies in the Management Plan.

Response: This application addresses *recreational resource criteria (350-81-610(5) and (6)), and* scenic, natural, cultural, and recreational resource review criteria, as outlined above. This trail project complies with all applicable trail policies in the management plan and is aligned with the recreational uses encouraged by the policies within the Management Plan.

(f) For proposed projects providing boating or windsurfing access to the Columbia River or its tributaries: compliance with applicable "River Access and Protection of Treaty Rights" objectives in the Management Plan.

Response: The proposed project does not include these uses or access to the Columbia River or its tributaries.

(g) For proposed projects on public lands or proposed projects providing access to the Columbia River or its tributaries: compliance with guidelines for protection of tribal treaty rights in 350-81-084.

Response: To the knowledge of the applicant, the proposed use would not affect or modify treaty or other rights of any Indian tribe. If necessary, the applicant is willing to meet for a consultation meeting to identify potential conflicts and explore options to eliminate any conflicts that may exist. The applicant hired Melissa Darby, M.A. to conduct a cultural resources survey. Melissa consulted with each of the relevant tribes in Spring 2016. The applicant is not aware of any conflicts.

(h) For proposed projects that include interpretation of natural or cultural resources: A demonstration that the interpretive facilities will not adversely affect natural or cultural resources and that appropriate and necessary resource protection measures shall be employed.

Response: Interpretive facilities will be protective of natural and cultural resources on-site. Educational signs are to be posted along the trail to prevent the spread of yellow-star thistle and to enable trail users to stay on the trail (see Appendix A). The proposed signs provide information about the negative effects of invasive species and methods to reduce their spread. Signs proposed will not highlight or point out the location of valued natural or cultural resources. The signs are expected to have a positive effect on populations of native species by preventing the spread of invasive species. Proposed signs include: A 1.5' x 1' "boot brush" sign with the "Stowaway Seeds" information (see Appendix for further description), atop a metal pole that is less than 2" in diameter. A 2' x 3' ortho trail system map. A 1.5' x 1' "Rules of the Trail" sign (approximate dimensions). A yellow star thistle educational sign. This sign will include educational text describing why yellow star thistle is a problem, and how to prevent the spread of it, as well as more details relating to the trail site.

(6) Facility Design Guidelines for All Recreation Projects

(a) Recreation facilities that are not resource-based in nature may be included at sites providing resource-based recreation uses consistent with the guidelines contained herein, as long as such facilities comprise no more than one-third of the total land area dedicated to recreation uses and/or facilities. Required landscaped buffers may be included in calculations of total land area dedicated to recreation uses and/or facilities.

Response: The Management Plan defines resource-based recreation as "*Those recreation uses that are essentially dependent upon the natural, scenic, or cultural resources of the Scenic Area and that do not adversely affect those resources upon which they depend.*" The proposed trail is resource-based recreation and no uses that are not resource-based are proposed. This criteria does not apply.

(b) The facility design guidelines contained herein are intended to apply to individual recreation facilities. For the purposes of these guidelines, a recreation facility is considered a cluster or grouping of recreational developments or improvements located in relatively close proximity to one another. To be considered a separate facility from other developments or improvements within the same recreation intensity class, recreation developments or improvements must be separated by at least one-quarter mile of undeveloped land (excluding trails, pathways, or access roads).

(c) Parking areas, access roads, and campsites shall be sited and designed to fit into the existing natural contours as much as possible, both to minimize ground-disturbing grading activities and utilize topography to screen parking areas and associated structures. Parking areas, access roads, and campsites shall be sited and set back sufficiently from bluffs so as to be visually subordinate as seen from key viewing areas.

Response: The proposed use is an extension to and repair of an existing trail. No parking areas are proposed or proposed to be altered. Trail users will park in the same location as for the original trail permitted by the Gorge Commission in 1995 (C95-044-K-G-20).

(d) Existing vegetation, particularly mature trees, shall be maintained to the maximum extent practicable, and utilized to screen parking areas and campsites from key viewing areas and satisfy requirements for perimeter and interior landscaped buffers.

Response: The mature oak and evergreen tree species that are located in upland areas of the subject parcels will not be altered or removed, and will therefore be maintained to the maximum extent possible.

(e) Parking areas providing more than 50 spaces shall be divided into discrete "islands" separated by unpaved, landscaped buffer areas.

(f) Lineal frontage of parking areas and campsite loops to scenic travel corridors shall be minimized to the greatest extent practicable.

(g) Ingress/egress points shall be consolidated to the maximum extent practicable, providing for adequate emergency access pursuant to applicable fire and safety codes.

Response: No parking areas are proposed or proposed to be altered.

(h) Signage shall be limited to that necessary to provide relevant recreation or facility information, interpretive information, vehicular and pedestrian direction, and for safety purposes.

Response: The signage along the trail as proposed (see B(h), above, and Appendix A) provides only necessary and relevant information to prevent the spread of invasive species and a map to increase the safety of trail users.

(i) Exterior lighting shall be shielded, designed and sited in a manner which prevents such lighting from projecting off-site or being highly visible from key viewing areas.

Response: No lighting is proposed.

(***)

(k) A majority of trees, shrubs, and other plants in landscaped areas shall be species native or naturalized to the landscape setting in which they occur (landscape setting design guidelines specify lists of appropriate species).

Response: No landscaped areas are proposed.

(l) All structures shall be designed so that height, exterior colors, reflectivity, mass, and siting result in the structures blending with and not noticeably contrasting with their setting.

Response: The proposed project includes no structures except a trail. The trail is designed and constructed in a way as to reduce its visibility.

(m) Landscape buffers around the perimeter of parking areas accommodating more than 10 vehicles shall be provided. Minimum required widths are 5 feet for 20 vehicles or fewer, 20 feet for 50 vehicles or fewer, 30 feet for 100 vehicles or fewer, and 40 feet for 250 vehicles or fewer.

(n) Interior landscaped buffers breaking up continuous areas of parking shall be provided for any parking areas with more than 50 spaces. The minimum width of interior landscaped buffers between each parking lot of 50 spaces or less shall be 20 feet.

(o) Within required perimeter and interior landscaped buffer areas, a minimum of one tree of at least 6 feet in height shall be planted for every 10 lineal feet as averaged for the entire perimeter width. A minimum of 25 percent of planted species in perimeter buffers shall be coniferous to provide screening during the winter. Project applicants are encouraged to place such trees in random groupings approximating natural conditions. In addition to the required trees, landscaping shall include appropriate shrubs, groundcover, and other plant materials.

(p) Minimum required perimeter landscaped buffer widths for parking areas or campgrounds may be reduced by as much as 50 percent, at the discretion of the Executive Director, if existing vegetation stands and/or existing topography are utilized such that the development is not visible from any key viewing area.

Response: No parking areas are proposed as part of the project.

(q) Grading or soil compaction within the drip line of existing mature trees shall be avoided to the maximum extent practicable, to reduce risk of root damage and associated tree mortality.

Response: Grading and soil compaction is not proposed, including within the drip line of existing mature trees.

(r) All parking areas and campsites shall be set back from scenic travel corridors, and the Columbia River and its major tributaries at least 100 feet. Required perimeter landscaped buffers may be included when calculating such setbacks. Setbacks from rivers shall be measured from the ordinary high water mark. Setbacks from scenic travel corridors shall be measured from the edge of road pavements.

(s) Project applicants shall utilize measures and equipment necessary for the proper maintenance and survival of all vegetation utilized to meet the landscape guidelines contained herein, and shall be responsible for such maintenance and survival.

(t) All parking areas shall be set back from property boundaries by at least 50 feet. All campsites and associated facilities shall be set back from property boundaries by at least 100 feet.

Response: No parking areas are proposed as part of the project.

Appendix A Signage Content

The signs to be located along the trail will read as described below.

The "rules of the trail" sign will read:

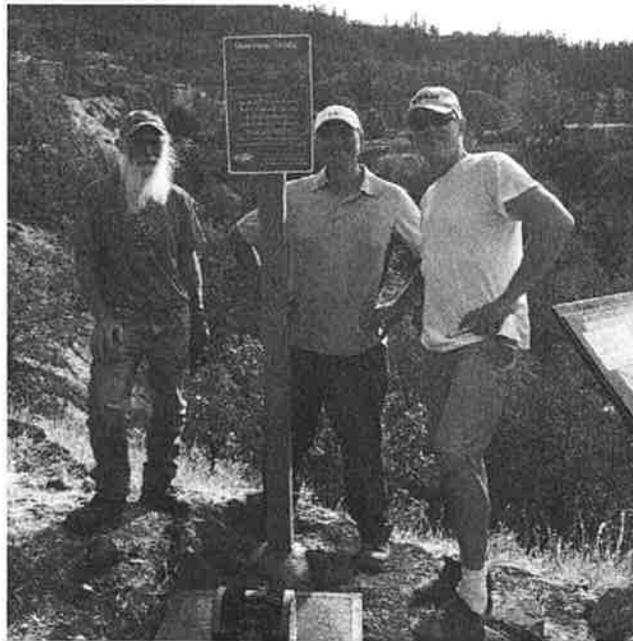
A 12" x 18" sign at the trailhead will read: "Friends of the Columbia Gorge, Cherry Orchard Trail, Donated by Nancy Russell. This property is owned by Friends of the Columbia Gorge Land Trust. Please respect the trail as you enjoy it. No hunting. Please respect the trail as you enjoy it. Smoking and fires prohibited. No motorized vehicles. No bicycles at this time. Please contact us at gorgefriends.org to learn about or help with the preservation of this property."

The sign at each boot brush will read:

"Stowaway Seeds! Don't give weed seeds a ride. Please clean weed seeds off your boots before and after hiking to help protect this area from new invasive weed infestations. Thank you for helping to preserve the beautiful Columbia River Gorge!"

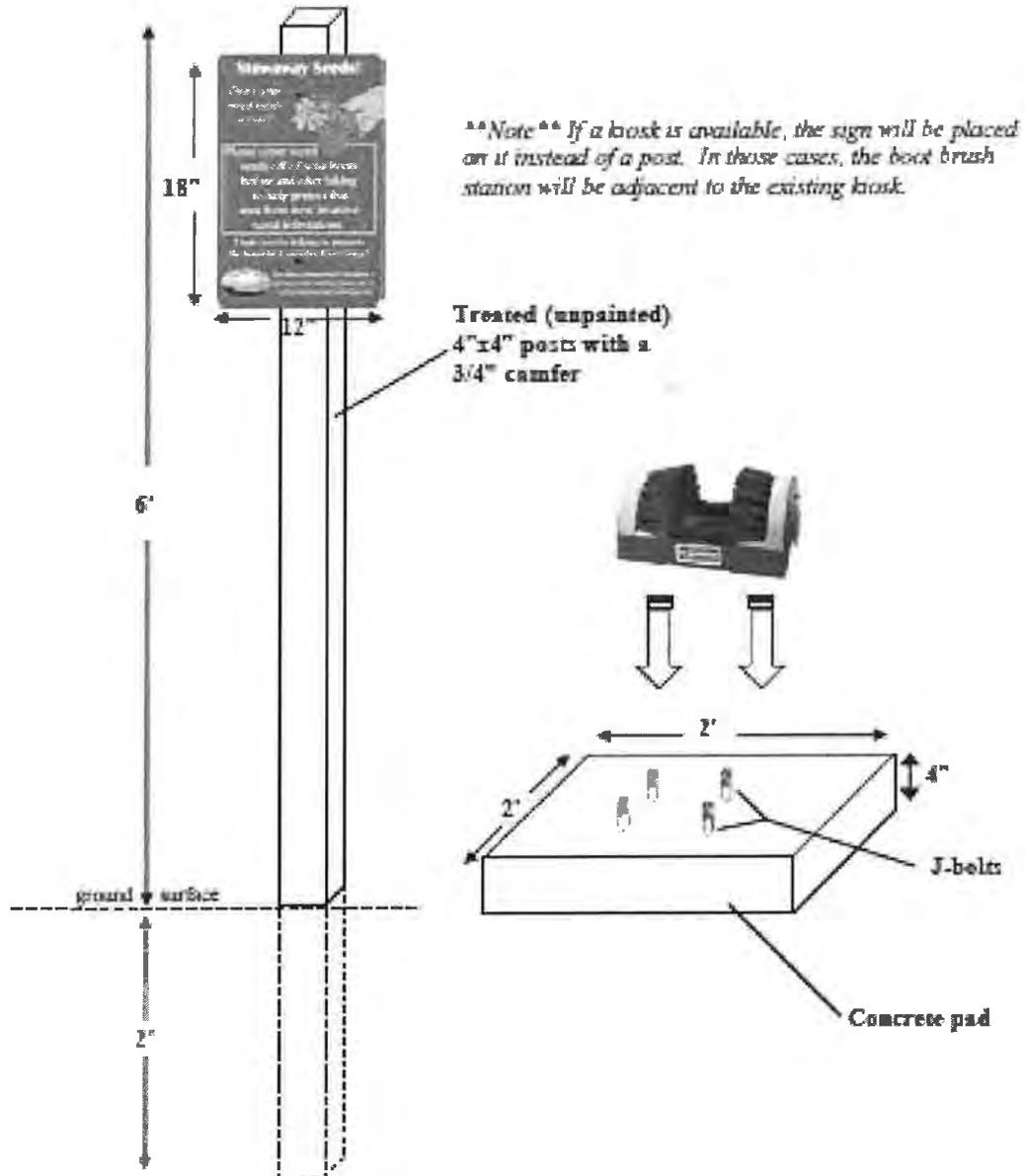
The specific yellow star thistle sign content is to be determined, but will include information that will encourage the protection of ecosystems in the Columbia Gorge.

A map of the trail is also proposed as a sign to be located at the trailhead



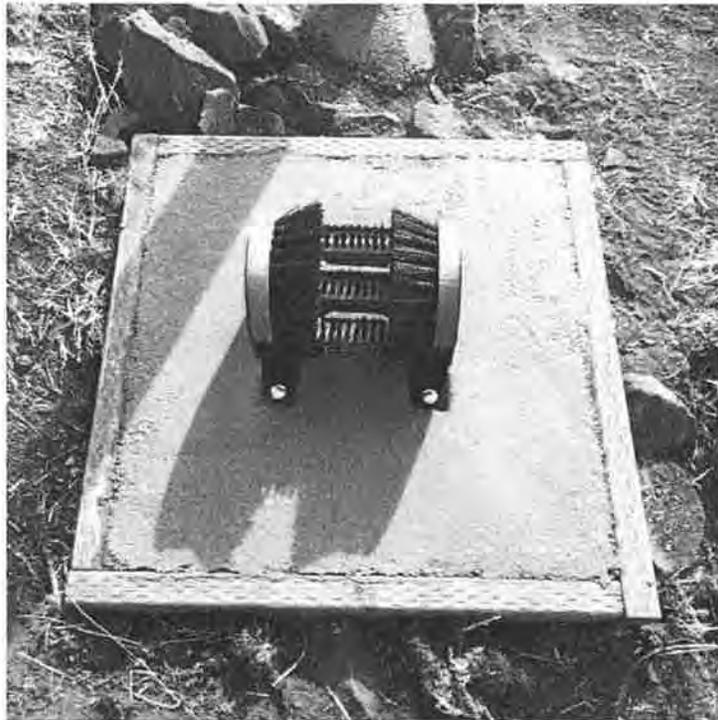
Installation of a sign that will be the same as the proposed boot brush sign.

Columbia Gorge Cooperative Weed Management Area EDRR Project
Boot Brush Cleaning Station Design





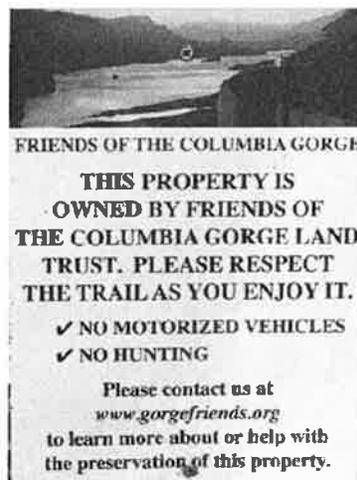
A sign that warns hikers not to carry seeds into or out of the wildlands will be located near a boot brush at the proposed trailhead in the Lyle Urban Area.



The proposed boot brush.



The proposed boot brush sign.



The proposed "Rules of the Trail" sign.



The design for the proposed yellow star thistle sign has not been completed, however, it will be similar in content and graphics to the interpretive sign above.



The yellow starthistle educational sign is proposed to be a pedestal sign to be the same construction as the sign shown in this photo. The proposed sign will also be metal and of a dark earth-tone color.



The front of a sign similar in structure and size to the proposed yellow star thistle interpretive sign.

Appendix B

Site Map - Proposed parcels of development



Appendix C

Additional Wetlands-Related Information

(See wetlands-related criteria for further information)

The possible wetland that is located on the subject property within 500-ft of the proposed development is described below. It is within approximately 150 - 250 feet of the proposed trail repair area and approximately 800-ft from the new trail extension. Therefore, the proposed use is not within a wetland or within a wetland buffer zone. The area is not identified on the National Wetlands Inventory maps online.

The feature near the existing trail that may be considered to be wetlands include:

One Vernal Pond Near the "Cherry Orchard" - The land owner observed a vernal pool near the terminus of the existing trail, only in Spring 2016 which was a high-rain year. This vernal pool had not been seen during multiple previous visits to the subject property. The proposed trail relocation segment is to be placed greater than 150-ft from this vernal pool. Based on nearby conditions in previous years, it is possible that this vernal pool will not be located again at this location.

Appendix D

ATTACHMENTS:

1. *Wetlands Site Plan (CONFIDENTIAL)*
2. *Wildlife Survey (CONFIDENTIAL)*
3. *Rare Plants Survey (CONFIDENTIAL)*
4. *Cultural Resource Survey (CONFIDENTIAL)*