

Oxbow Conservation Area

Middle Fork John Day River

Annual Report
2002 - 2003



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OXBOW CONSERVATION AREA

MIDDLE FORK JOHN DAY RIVER

2002 ANNUAL REPORT

THE CONFEDERATED TRIBES OF WARM SPRINGS

JOHN DAY BASIN OFFICE

BPA CONTRACT NUMBER 2000-015-00

CONTRACT PERIOD: FEBRUARY 1, 2002 TO FEBRUARY 28, 2003

PREPARED FOR THE BONNEVILLE POWER ADMINISTRATION

BY

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30 JULY 2003

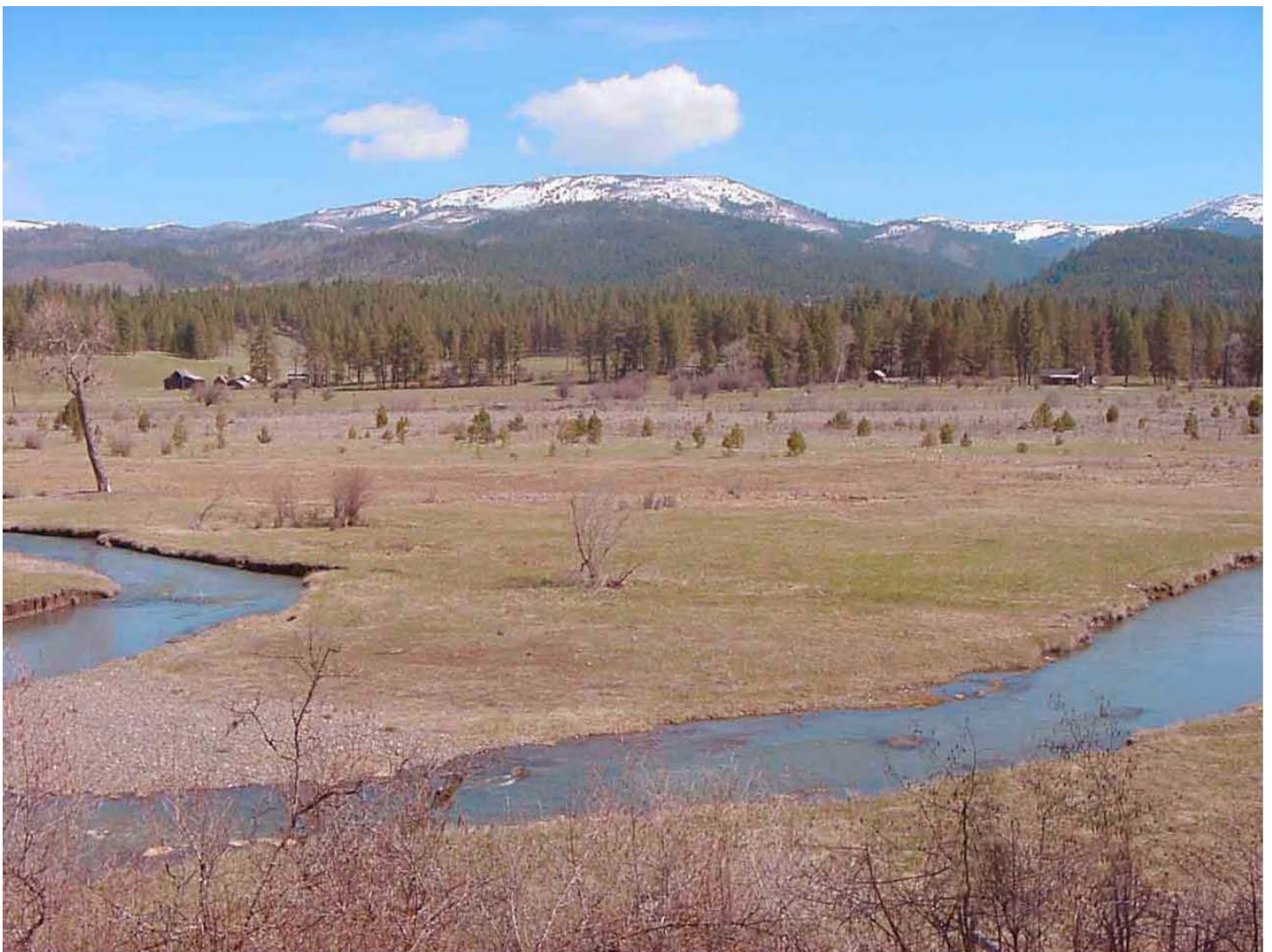


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ABSTRACT

In early 2001, the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, through their John Day Basin Office, concluded the acquisition of the Oxbow Ranch, now known as the Oxbow Conservation Area (OCA).

Under a memorandum of agreement with the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA), the Tribes are required to provide BPA an “annual written report generally describing the real property interests in the Project, HEP analyses undertaken or in progress, and management activities undertaken or in progress”.

The 2002 contract period was well funded and the second year of the project. A new manager started in April, allowing the previous manager to focus his efforts on the Forrest Ranch acquisition. However, the Oxbow Habitat manager's position was vacant from October through mid February of 2003. During this time, much progress, mainly O&M, was at a minimum level. Many of the objectives were not completed during this contract due to both the size and duration needed to complete such activities (example: dredge mine tailings restoration project) or because budget crisis issues with BPA ending accrual carryover on the fiscal calendar. Although the property had been acquired a year earlier, there were numerous repairs and discoveries, which on a daily basis could pull personnel from making progress on objectives for the SOW, aside from O&M objectives. A lack of fencing on a portion of the property's boundary and deteriorating fences in other areas are some reasons much time was spent chasing trespassing cattle off of the property.

The success of this property purchase can be seen on a daily basis. Water rights were used seldom in the summer of 2002, with minor irrigation water diverted from only Granite Boulder Creek. Riparian fences on the river, Ruby and Granite Boulder creeks help promote important vegetation to provide shade and bank stabilization. Trees planted in this and past years are growing and will someday provide cover for fish and wildlife. Even grazing on the property was carefully managed to ensure the protection of fish and wildlife habitat. Monitoring of property populations, resources, and management activities continued in 2002 to build a database for future management of this and other properties in the region.

INTRODUCTION & PROJECT HISTORY

The John Day River subbasin is one of national biological significance, being the second largest free-flowing stream in the continental United States and one of only two river systems in the entire Columbia River basin managed exclusively for wild anadromous fish. The Middle Fork John Day River, historically, was likely the John Day basin's most productive subbasin. However, due to the effects of various resource activities, by the late 1950's spring Chinook salmon were functionally extinct. Mining, unrestricted harvest, and water quality conditions created by the Bates Mill and town site, eliminated conducive habitats for spawning adult salmon. Although not counted as extensively, summer steelhead and bull trout were also in apparent decline as logging, road building, mining, and grazing impacted critical aquatic habitats.

With the closure of the Bates Mill and elimination of the Bates open sewer system, the Middle Fork saw its first returns of adult salmon in inventoried history. By the early 1970's, with its designation as the highest priority for restoration in the John Day basin, the upper Middle Fork was drawing attention for its potential productivity and restoration opportunities.

Early restoration efforts primarily focused on bank protection, to halt immediate erosion, on private lands and instream habitat creation on federal lands. These programs were followed by some of the earliest pioneering riparian restoration with the creation of riparian exclosures and riparian pastures in the Camp Creek sub-watershed.

As the program evolved, additional attention was focused on other restoration alternatives through three planning efforts: the Bureau of Reclamation Water Optimization Study, Oregon Water Resources Department Middle Fork Restoration Plan, and a privately funded assessment, that identified high priority parcels for conservation purchase. Identified in these reports, was an assemblage of land and water conservation projects that, in the opinion of the report authors, represented the best opportunity for recovery of aquatic habitats on the upper Middle Fork mainstem. These plans also highlighted core land and water rights that could be acquired as cornerstones to the restoration effort.¹

The Nature Conservancy of Oregon completed the first acquisition of property with their purchase of the Dunston Ranch at river kilometer 53. The TNC obtained the property using a combination of public and private resources in 1990, with the purpose of managing for the recovery of fish and wildlife.

In late 1997, the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon (CTWSRO) John Day Basin Office became aware that the Oxbow Ranch, with headquarters near Prairie City, was listed on the real estate market. The Oxbow Ranch contained two isolated tracts, one in Logan Valley near the headwaters of the Malheur River, the other, formerly known as the DeWitt Ranch, is approximately 1.5 miles upstream of the TNC's Dunston Ranch. Initial attempts by the Tribes to secure funding for an acquisition were unsuccessful, during which time the property reverted to a mortgage holder. Subsequently, the TNC approached the mortgage holder and negotiated a sale for both the Middle Fork and Logan tracts of the Oxbow, with the intent that the Logan property would be purchased by the Burns Paiute Tribe and the Oxbow tract to be purchased by the Warm Springs. Following lengthy negotiations with the BPA, the Tribes were able to conclude the acquisition of the Oxbow Ranch in early 2001.

The intent of the acquisition project was to partially mitigate fish and wildlife impacts for the John Day Dam as outlined in the Northwest Power Planning Council's Wildlife Program (NPPC 1994, §11.1, §7.6). While the Tribes hold fee-title to the property, the BPA is assured a certain level of habitat protection through a memorandum of agreement and annual statement of work.

¹ With only five major parcels of private land within primary Chinook spawning and rearing habitat, most water rights in the upper Middle Fork were identified for acquisition or conservation.

PROPERTY DESCRIPTION

The Oxbow Conservation Area is located approximately seven miles west of Bates, Oregon at River Km 58. It is completely surrounded by the Malheur National Forest, with the closest private lands being the Nature Conservancy's Dunston Ranch 0.8 miles downstream and the CTWSRO's John Forrest Ranch Middle Fork parcel 4.2 miles upstream. The Oxbow Conservation Area consists of approximately 1022 acres, of which there are 550 acres of riparian and wetland and 472 acres of upland mixed conifer forests. Approximately 4.1 miles of river corridor on the mainstem Middle Fork and 2.2 miles of tributaries are present on the property. The property has a concentration of colder-water tributaries, significantly lowering the river temperature and subsequently increasing fisheries habitat.

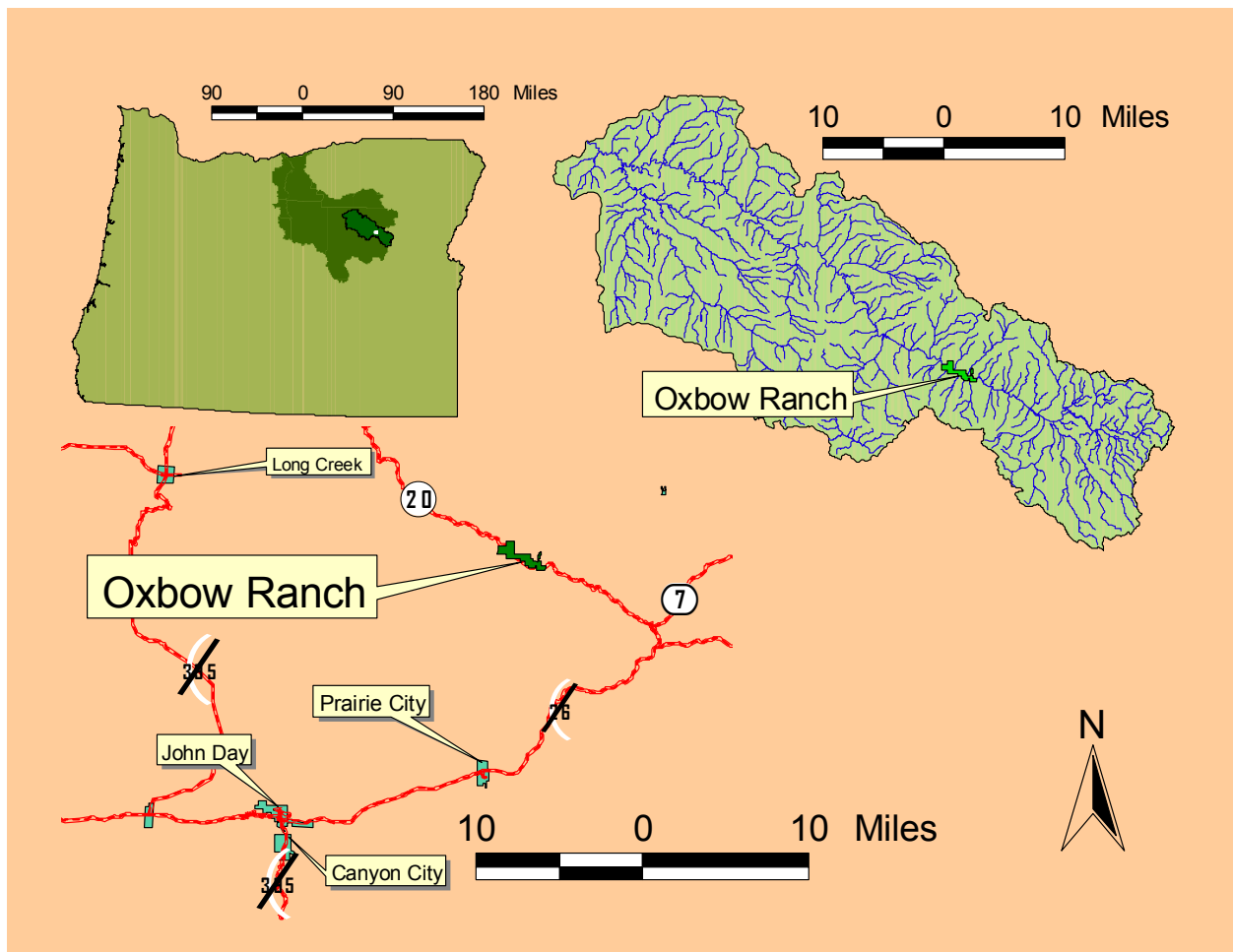


Figure 1. Oxbow Conservation Area Location Map

The Middle Fork is designated both a State and Federal Scenic Waterway. The Malheur National Forest manages the river corridor above and below the property and all the surrounding lands. North of the property is the Indian Rocks Scenic Area and southeast of the property is the Dixie Butte Roadless Area, although neither designated area is contiguous with the Oxbow Conservation Area.

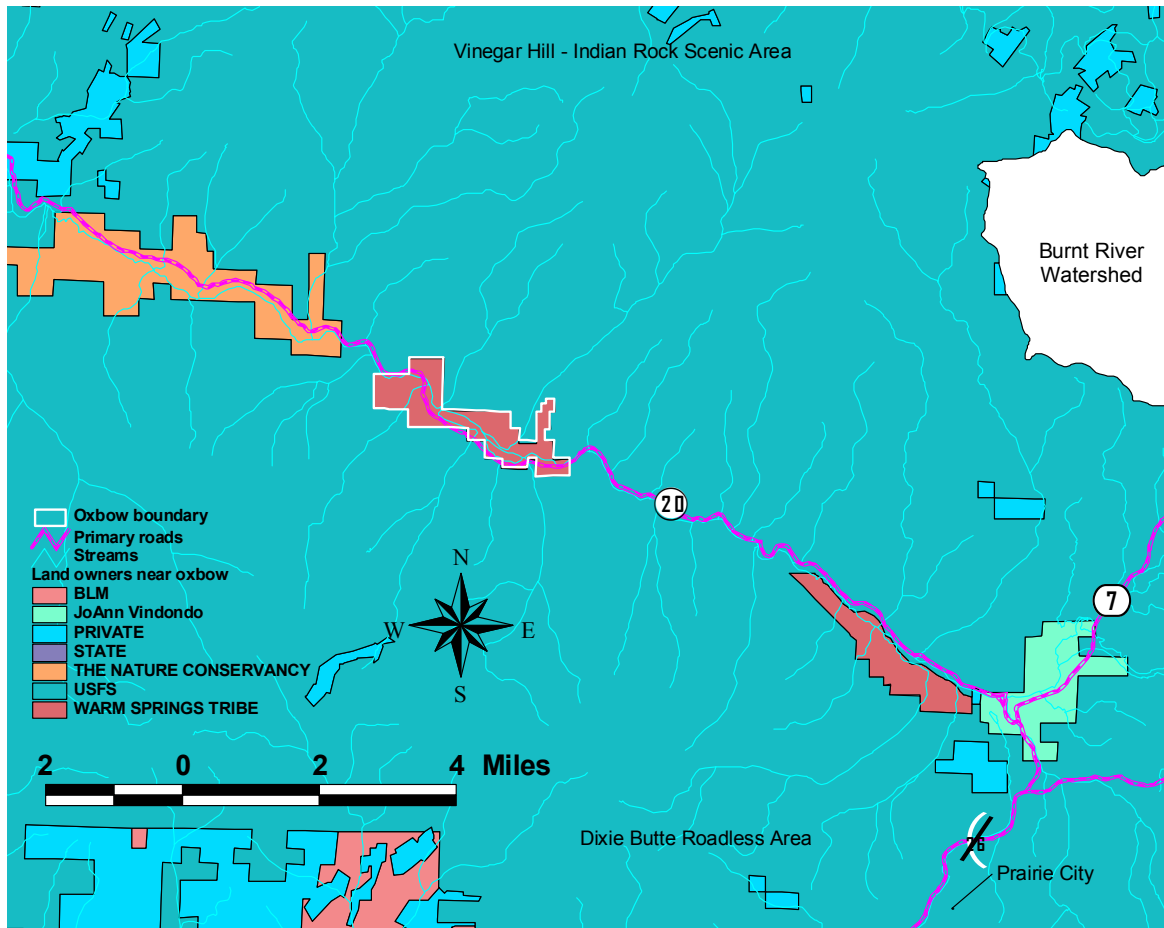


Figure 2. Upper Middle Fork John Day Subbasin Landownership

Sandhill crane, Canada goose, osprey, rocky mountain elk, mule and Columbian whitetail deer, small mammals, spring Chinook salmon, summer steelhead, bull trout, and Pacific lamprey may benefit from the property's habitat. The protection of both summer steelhead and bull trout are of the utmost importance due to their listing under the Federal Endangered Species Act as threatened species.

DISCUSSION OF RESULTS/ACTIVITIES

Objective 1. Complete Baseline Assessments.

Tasks

- 1) Under the Tribes' MOA with the BPA, we are required to complete a baseline property survey and assessment following the USFWS' Habitat Evaluation Procedure and the USFS' Hankin and Reeves survey protocol. Further, this assessment will provide information critical to understanding the nature and extent of current habitats and evaluating potential projects to enhance those habitats.
- 2) A survey team, familiar with the HEP process, will be assembled, target species and species models will be selected, and site conditions will be evaluated.

3) Appropriate wildlife habitat delineations will be identified from wildlife HSI models

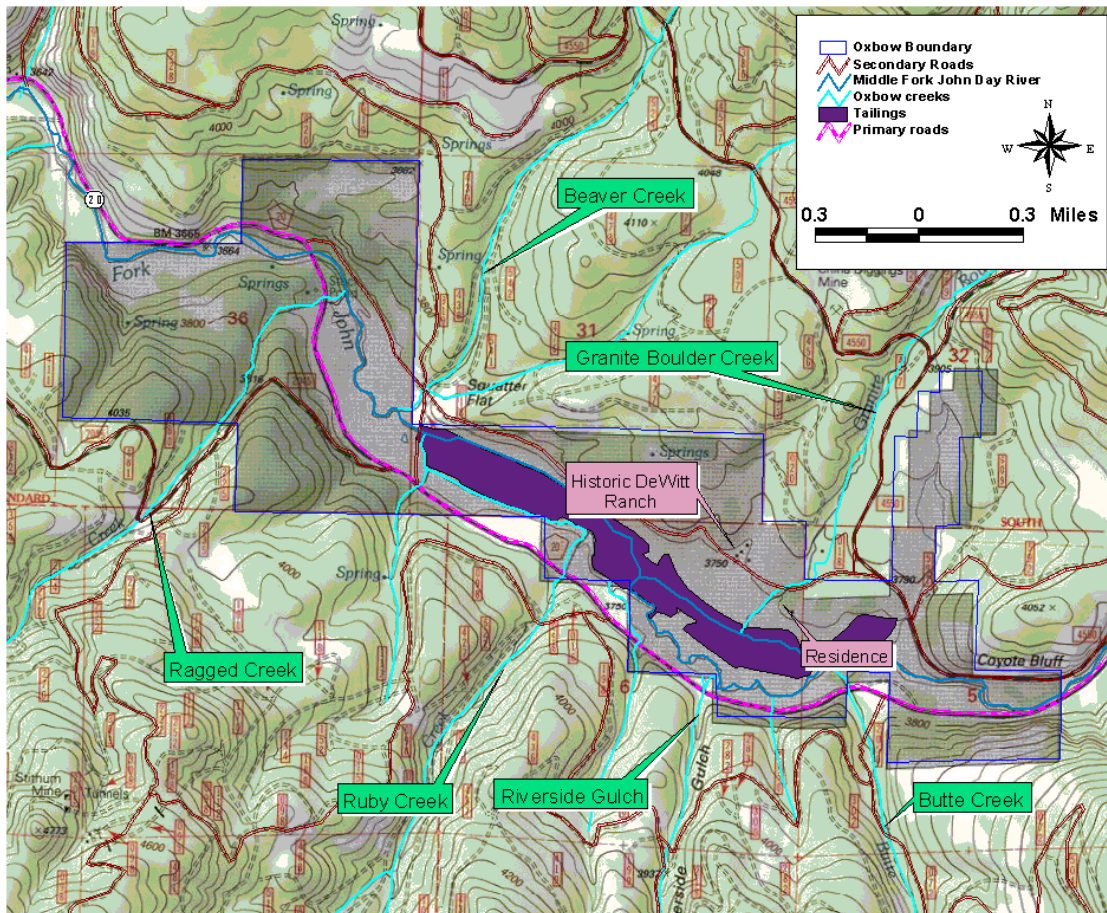


Figure 3 - Oxbow Property Features

and mapped on aerial photographs. These preliminary maps will then be checked in the field for accuracy. Field assessments for target species habitats will be completed.

- 4) The HEP team will assemble the data, analyze, and prepare the draft HEP report, which will be distributed for review. Following incorporation of comments, the final report will be prepared and published.
- 5) The Hankin and Reeves inventory will be completed following a similar process as for the HEP survey. However, the Tribes may substitute a contractor for the HEP team for the purpose of inventory and compilation of data. However, the Tribes will still prepare and publish the final survey report.

Preliminary planning for the Habitat Evaluation Procedure (HEP) and the modified Hankin and Reeves baseline habitat surveys were coordinated with the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife and Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife staff, respectively. The John Day Basin Office staff supplied the contractors with needed information on the property to estimate survey costs and conduct the surveys. A HEP field survey was complete in the summer by JDBO and Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife staff. Work had begun on the contracting process for the Hankin and Reeves.

Objective 2. Draft property management plan and alternatives

Tasks

- 1) **Using an interagency and public planning approach, the Tribe will prepare a management plan which incorporates the information collected from the baseline assessment, other property and watershed specific data, resource goals, objectives and recommended management strategies. This plan will provide the foundation for an allocation of resources on the property under future management.**

Many sections of the plan were compiled in 2002. The management plan was modified to include the Forrest Ranch Property, which was acquired by the Tribes in July 1, 2002 with the use of BPA mitigation funds. Both the Oxbow and Forrest Ranch projects were combined under one MOA with BPA. This newly acquired property was in need of much data, limiting continuance towards finalizing the management plan. The Management Advisory Group was formulated during the spring of 2002. This group, made up of both citizens and involved agencies, is to aid with direction and formulation of the plan's writing.

- 2) **The draft management plan will be distributed for peer and public review and, following incorporation of comments, will be published.**

The planning process has been outlined and a draft planning schedule has been prepared. Subsequent to the information gathering task, was the preparation of resource descriptions for the property. Although the draft resource description document has been prepared, a draft of the plan was not completed in 2002.

Objective 3. Conduct consultations with appropriate agencies

Tasks

- 1) **Depending upon the commitment of resources within the management plan, formal consultation on future actions may be required with state and federal agencies such as the National Marine Fisheries Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Army Corp of Engineers, and State Historic Preservation Office.**
- 2) **Proposed ground disturbing activities, if any, will be compiled into an assessment report (e.g., biological assessment) and submitted to the agencies for consultation.)**

The Cultural Resources Department of the Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon was consulted regarding the restoration of dredge mine tailings. They were subsequently subcontracted to prepare a survey of the area of the property to be considered for restoration of the floodplain.

Objective 4. Plan remediation for approximately 109 acres of leveled mine tailings along the two river miles of riparian and flood plain. Both the floodplain and the river riparian zone have incurred injury from previous dredge mining operations.

Tasks

- 1) **Prepare remediation plan: A plan incorporating the prior completed hazardous materials assessment and engineering survey, will be completed to identify the nature**

and extent of tailings removal to be proposed consistent with the property management plan.

- 2) **Prepare NEPA analysis:** Although a NEPA analysis was completed for the



Photo 1. Typical mine tailings along the Middle Fork John Day River, OCA

property acquisition, a subsequent analysis will be required since this activity represents a ground disturbing activity. The NEPA document will be prepared under federal guidelines and published.

- 3) **Conduct consultations with appropriate agencies:** If the tailings remediation is not considered or made a part of the consultation package for the overall property management plan, then a separate consultation document will be prepared for additional consideration. Further, the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality, Environmental Protection Agency, BPA COTR, and BPA Environmental staff will need to be consulted regarding any activity associated with the tailings area.
- 4) **Prepare solicitation of bids and administration of the subcontract.** (Pre-construction planning for this task was approved and funded in FY2001).

CTWSRO Cultural Resource department was selected as cultural resource compliance contractor for the mine tailing restoration project. The Tribes completed the cultural resource survey and began assemble of draft report for submittal to the State Historic Preservation Office.

Several consultant firms were contacted to develop a list of interested potential bidders for the mine tailings restoration study. The project is intended to remediate approximately 109 acres (2 river miles) of leveled mine tailings in the flood plain and riparian corridor along both banks of the Middle Fork. Planning for the project is a cooperative effort among agencies including ODFW, private consultants, ODEQ, and JDBO staff. A Request For Proposals (RFP) for the project was developed and distributed to consultants on 4 April 2002 with a site tour occurring on 24 April 2002.

As a result of the RFP, Natural Resources Consulting Engineers, Inc. was selected for creation of a restoration plan for the tailings removal. They were contracted at \$30,000, and the work was set for completion before December of 2003. first submitted draft design was not received before the end of the 2002 contract period. Their design is not to include any instream work as per the wishes of the JDBO.

Objective 5. Oversight of construction and implementation of the tailing restoration project.

Tasks

- 1) **Oversight of the complete remediation of 200 acres of leveled tailing piles and construction activities.**

A subcontractor was chosen to develop a restoration plan. This plan was not completed within the contract period. Until the restoration plan and other consultation work have been put into action, construction will not begin.

Objective 6. Install four headgates on irrigation ditches: We propose to install headgates at the four known diversion sites that do not have adequate facilities.

Tasks

- 1) **Complete engineering surveys and design drawings: Under an existing agreement with the Grant Soil and Water Conservation District, the Tribes secure annual engineering services for the construction of water conservation projects. The GSWCD has extensive experience implementing these types of projects and will be contracted to survey and design the headgate systems on the Oxbow.**
- 2) **Prepare, solicit bids, and administer a subcontract for headgate construction.**

No activities were performed for 2002, other than planning. The objective was to be carried over into the next fiscal year, but funding was dropped. It has been reconsidered that diversion points on the Oxbow may continue to utilize turnout boxes.

Objective 7. Plant trees and shrubs within the riparian areas. The Tribes currently administer a contract with the Monument Nursery to provide native, local plant materials. Trees and shrubs from this nursery will be used on the ranch.

Tasks

- 1) **Plant approximately 2 miles both banks of riparian zone along the Middle Fork John Day River. The planting area will be along the south channel of the Middle Fork John Day.**

Plant activities were performed in early May, mostly along the south channel of the river. Some of the cottonwood and willow cuttings were mapped in stake rows and were monitored for survival status throughout the summer. Survival rates were all over 80% for the 2002 summer. Native clones collected from the local area were used during the planting project. Willow and cottonwood species were planted.

Objective 8. Continue ongoing management of the property including, but not limited to, patrols, weed control, fence maintenance, building maintenance and other similar activities.



Photo 2 - Haying operation on the DeWitt (Oxbow) Property in 1917

Tasks

- 1) **Control weeds as identified under the existing weed inventory (and future inventories) consistent with established county, state, and federal guidelines. Incorporate these guidelines into the property management plan.**
- 2) **Perform routine and regular maintenance on the fences, with particular attention to the boundary fences, to control unauthorized cattle grazing from adjacent federal lands.**
- 3) **Perform regular and ongoing maintenance of buildings and other structures to ensure protection and prevent damage.**
- 4) **Patrol the property to prevent unauthorized uses (e.g., wildlife poaching).**

Boundary and pasture fence repair and signing of the property boundary were continued.

All water gap fences were installed in the spring and later removed and stored for the winter. Irrigation fish screens were installed previous to irrigation turnout, later to be pulled for the winter, and irrigation ditches were blocked to the extent possible when not in use.

The property was patrolled for trespass from both hunters and cattle. Cattle were removed from the property repeatedly during the summer and fall, due to the fence conditions. Additional trespass was incurred from both hunters and fisherman. The people were asked to leave the property and were not confrontational.

Building and ground maintenance was conducted at both the headquarters cabin and the historic buildings. Mice and rats were removed from both locations. Buildings were cleaned, swept out. Accumulated trash and debris were loaded on a trailer and removed from the property. The grounds were mowed and fallen timber and broadcast limbs were removed and piled for later removal or burning. Buildings were secured for the winter. Water lines were left dripping to avoid freezing and snow was cleared from the roofs of the buildings.

The Oxbow Conservation Area Timber Salvage was proposed for the purpose of removing beetle killed trees that pose a safety hazard around buildings, trees that were previously feel by Columbia Power Co-op that were in the power line right- of- way, and to stop the spread of bug kill and reduce hazards. A Categorical Exclusion and Preliminary Environmental Assessment was developed for the timber salvage. The project was submitted to the Tribes and approved by the Resource Management Interdisciplinary Team, Environmental Coordinator, and Appropriate Tribal Committees. Local timber operators were contacted for the small-scale operation, which totaled approximately 15,000 bf. After the hazard trees were felled, the salvage operation was cancelled due to a contractor compliance issue. The local contractor selected for the job did not have insurance required by CTWSRO. Since the

quality of the timber was poor, the contractor found the situation not profitable to acquire the requirements as called for by the CTWSRO. The JDBO feels these trees may be used for other projects on the property. The goals of eliminating hazards from tree-fall were met. Since there are more trees dying from beetle damage, future hazard tree removal will be required.

Objective 9. Provide continued managerial, clerical, and technical support for all activities.

Tasks

- 1) **Support the on-site manager with oversight and technical assistance provided by the John Day Basin Office coordinator, and other JDBO staff.**
- 2) **Support the BPA contract with ongoing fiscal tracking, contract compliance, purchasing, payroll, and other similar administrative activities.**

A new Oxbow Habitat Manager was hired in April 2002. Training, oversight and support was frequently provided by the JDBO staff. Other technicians working on the Oxbow were provided with similar support. The Oxbow manager was tragically killed at the end of September 2002 while on vacation out of state. The JDBO began the process to fill the position in November 2002. A new manager was hired and started mid-February 2003.

Objective 10. Continue monitoring and evaluation activities as detailed in the JDBO's annual monitoring plan (on file in the John Day Basin Office). We anticipate other monitoring and evaluation activities to be conducted as recommended within the property management plan. These may include such elements as wildlife population surveys, other water quality monitoring, instream flow incremental methodology, as well as the baseline habitat assessments proposed under the MOA with the BPA. These activities include, but are not necessarily limited to:

Tasks

- 1) **Riparian greenline transects are measured using protocols established by Platts et al. (1987) at five permanent monitoring stations along the mainstem.**
- 2) **Channel cross sectional measurements are taken at five permanent monitoring stations consistent with protocol established by Harrelson et al. (1994).**
- 3) **Macroinvertebrate are sampled standard surber equipment and classification to genera.**
- 4) **Five continuous recording thermal loggers are installed to measure summer water temperatures on the mainstem and key tributaries. Protocol follows standard State recommendations (Oregon Department of Environmental Quality 1997).**
- 5) **Baseline assessments related to enhancement projects are conducted consistent with protocol established by the National Marine Fisheries Service (1996).**
- 6) **Fish density and production estimates are conducted using a general two-pass reduction method.**
- 7) **Fish community composition estimates are conducted using snorkeling surveys.**

Continue conducting annual spawning ground counts for spring Chinook, summer steelhead, and bull trout.

Stake Row Survival Surveys were routinely monitored during the summer after the south channel of the John Day Middle Fork River was planted in the spring with willow and cottonwood cuttings. Survival was very good in July, with 80-95% survival.

Fall photo points were taken at 16 permanent monitoring locations on the Oxbow property. The photo points included the eleven permanent bird stations and the five permanent monitoring reaches on the river.

Bird surveys were performed at established points, six upland and six riparian, during early summer.

The thermal loggers were deployed in the spring and then retrieved in the fall. Recorded data was stored in the JDBO database.

Riparian greenline and channel cross sections were measured during 2001 on the property. The data collected from the surveys will function as baseline data for monitoring the property. It was not found necessary to replicate the surveys during 2002.

Macroinvertebrates that were collected during 2001 sampling were identified to genera and recorded. The data collected from the surveys will function as baseline data for monitoring the property. It was not found necessary to replicate the surveys during 2002.

Fish community composition estimates were conducted using snorkeling surveys within the identified monitoring reaches of the Middle Fork John Day River. The species and abundance were recorded for each of the five monitoring reaches.

Conducted annual spawning ground counts for spring Chinook, and summer steel head. Bull trout were not observed spawning on the property. The surveys were performed in cooperation with the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife. The complete river corridor was surveyed for spring Chinook spawning redds and Beaver creek for summer steelhead.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Domestic cattle grazing was initiated as an additional management tool during the early summer months. The grazing lease was implemented for the enhancement of wildlife forage, noxious weed control, to keep the property on the farm deferral tax rate by incorporating agricultural activities into management, and to generate revenue for the purposes of offsetting management costs and paying property tax and fire protection bills. After the development of a grazing plan (in coordination with the Warm Springs Range Conservationist) and its subsequent approval, the JDBO prepared solicitation of bids. A lessee was selected and a grazing lease was signed. The 150 AUM, two-month contract resulted in revenue of \$2,437.50. Cattle were on the property for two months. During this time, the Oxbow manager and the lessee made assurances to protect fish and wildlife habitat and to closely monitor forage utilization within each of the pastures. See Appendix A for the grazing plan.

Additional revenue collected during 2002 was from rental of the Oxbow residence. The total collected was \$150.00. The total revenue for the Oxbow project was \$2,587.50 for 2002.

Property taxes for 2002 were \$2,525.09. The state fire assessment was not paid for 2002. Some debate existed as to who was to pay for this assessment of about \$1500. The assessment was paid during the 2003 contract period.

In July 2002, the CTWSRO acquired the Forrest Ranch under the same MOA with BPA. Due to the MOA relationship, as well as the fisheries importance of each, the Oxbow and the Forrest Ranches will share the same management plan.

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

At the end of the 2002 federal fiscal year, BPA ended budget carryover. This announcement was mistakenly assumed to not impact future funding of Oxbow project funding. However, over \$200,000 of FY2002 available funds were no longer available after October 1, 2003. These funds were earmarked for dredge mine tailings restoration, headgate installation, conservation activities, equipment purchasing, and building repairs. Furthermore, late invoicing by the tribes, subcontracts underway, and

other purchases absorbed a larger portion of the FY2003 accrual, severely impacting activities for the 2003 contract period.

Much research and progress was put forth on the framework for a property management plan. Addition to the JDBO database will aid in future research projects. A vast amount of O&M work was performed. Certain SOW objectives had a multi-year completion timeline, due mainly the size of the project, and were not completed. Adequate funding for the mine tailings restoration project must be re-allocated for the future. The restoration project is projected to significantly benefit the spawning and rearing of anadromous fish and is supported by the ISRP, CBFWA, NMFS, USFWS, ODFW, and others.

Changes in management, oversight, and funding have impacted the program in ways deemed positive and adverse. Completion of the management plan draft in 2003 will build a path for better communication between the tribes and BPA to demonstrate needs for program funding.

EXPENDITURE SUMMARY

SOW budget for 2002

Phase	Objective	Task	Object Code Name	Position	UNIT	UNIT COST	QTY	BPA	
Planning & Design	Administration	Baseline Assessment	Salaries & Wages	Property Manager	Hr	\$ 15.0	87	\$ 1,305	
		Prepare Remediation Plan				\$ 15.0	86	\$ 1,290	
		Prepare NEPA Analysis				\$ 15.0	86	\$ 1,290	
		Complete Consultation with DEQ/NMFS				\$ 15.0	87	\$ 1,305	
		Draft Alternatives				\$ 15.0	87	\$ 1,305	
		Complete formal/informal consultation with cooperating agencies				\$ 15.0	87	\$ 1,305	
		Equipment	Minor Equipment & Tools		Mnth	\$ 500	3	\$ 1,500	
		Other	Fringe Benefits	Permanent	%	25.0%	\$ 8,650	\$ 2,163	
			Indirect Costs			41.4%	\$ 12,613	\$ 5,222	
			Supplies	Office Supplies		Mnth	\$ 100	3	\$ 300
	Office support; provide BPA an accounting of property revenue	Salaries & Wages	Secretary/Data Entry Clerk	Hr	\$ 8.5	100	\$ 850		
Planning & Design Total									
\$ 17,834									
Construction & Implementation	Tailings Restoration	Restore approximately two miles of tailings (four miles total each side)	Subcontracts		Mile	\$ 35,000	4	\$ 140,000	
		Riparian Restoration				\$ 500	3.5	\$ 1,750	
		Headgate Installation				\$ 9,000	4	\$ 36,000	
	Administration	Other			Minor Equipment & Tools	Mnth	\$ 500	3	\$ 1,500
					Non-Office Supplies		\$ 100	3	\$ 300
			Fringe Benefits	Permanent	25.0%		\$ 8,438	\$ 2,109	
			Indirect Costs		41.4%		\$ 12,347	\$ 5,112	
	Oversight & Contract Administration	Office support	Salaries & Wages	Property Manager	Hr	\$ 15.0	520	\$ 7,800	
				Secretary/Data Entry Clerk		\$ 8.5	75	\$ 638	
	Construction & Implementation Total								

Phase	Objective	Task	Object Code Name	Position	UNIT	UNIT COST	QTY	BPA	
Construction & Implementation Total									
\$ 195,208									
Monitoring & Evaluation	Administration	Other	Major Equipment & Tools		Mnth	\$ 1,000	3	\$ 3,000	
			Office Supplies			\$ 125	3	\$ 375	
			Fringe Benefits	Limited Duration		14.0%	\$ 6,609	\$ 925	
				Permanent	%	25.0%	\$ 8,438	\$ 2,109	
		Indirect Costs			41.4%	\$ 21,457	\$ 8,883		
		Office support	Salaries & Wages	Secretary/Data Entry Clerk	Hr	\$ 8.5	75	\$ 638	
	Implementation Assistance	Limited Duration	Technician		\$ 11.0	600.85	\$ 6,609		
		Implementation	Salaries & Wages	Property Manager		\$ 15.0	520	\$ 7,800	
	Monitoring & Evaluation Total								
	\$ 30,340								
Operations & Maintenance	Weed Inventory & Control	Other	Subcontracts		Yr	\$ 2,500	1	\$ 2,500	
			Auto Lease			\$ 650	12	\$ 7,800	
	Electricity				\$ 100	12	\$ 1,200		
	Major Equipment & Tools			Mnth	\$ 1,000	5	\$ 5,000		
	Non-Office Supplies				\$ 1,000	3	\$ 3,000		
	Telephone Expense				\$ 125	12	\$ 1,500		
	Vehicle Insurance				\$ 300	12	\$ 3,600		
	Fringe Benefits		Permanent	%	25.0%	\$ 8,353	\$ 2,088		
	Indirect Costs				41.4%	\$ 32,541	\$ 13,472		
	Office support	Salaries & Wages	Secretary/Data Entry Clerk	Hr	\$ 8.5	65	\$ 553		
		Implementation	Property Manager		\$ 15.0	520	\$ 7,800		
		Operations & Maintenance Total							
	\$ 48,512								
	Grand Total								
	\$ 291,895								

APPENDIX A

Oxbow Ranch- Middle Fork-John Day River Conservation Grazing Plan- 2002

General Provisions:

1. The Natural Resources General Manager of The Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon (CTWS) and his designee(s) are authorized and empowered to make adjustments or modifications to this plan to cope with changing conditions or emergency situations insofar as adjustments and modifications are necessary to protect natural resource values on the Oxbow Ranch-Middle Fork-John Day River.
2. The Lessee is obligated to secure the essential material and equipment necessary to accomplish any conservation operations or improvements contained within the supplemental provisions of this conservation plan.
3. In the event the Lessee fails to follow this grazing program in a satisfactory manner, grazing will be immediately suspended and Lessee may be liable for property and resource damages in accordance with applicable State law.

GENERAL CONSERVATION PRACTICES:

1. **Livestock Grazing Objectives:**
 - Implement conservation measures that enhance vegetation resources in order to provide improved habitat conditions for wildlife and fisheries species
 - Implement conservation measures that are consistent with land management plans for Oxbow Ranch and anadromous recovery efforts within the John Day Basin
 - The Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon will implement conservation measures that protect land status and stewardship options to ensure long-term land management goals are achieved within the Basin.
2. **Overgrazing:** It is understood that the Lessee agrees to graze lands in a manner which will not destroy the vigor and productivity of forage species as determined by the Natural Resources General Manager of The Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon and/or his designee(s) and agrees to make promptly such reduction in the number of animals grazed as necessary to proven over-grazing, soil erosion, riparian degradation or other injury to the lands at any time during the term of the lease; and that they will observe all quarantine and stock regulations now in force or hereafter promulgated by the United States or the State Authorities.

A. Vegetation Description- The Oxbow Ranch contains several unique plant communities ranging from open moist meadow systems to Ponderosa pine/Douglas Fir timber lands. Vegetation production varies between plant community types. Grazing allocations have been determined based upon community location within existing fences and pastures on the ranch. A complete listing of plant communities have been described in the ***Preliminary Plant Community Inventory and Vegetation Assessment, Oxbow Ranch-Middle Fork-John Day River.*** Primary perennial grass

and sedge species observed during field investigations in June of 2000 included Idaho fescue (*Festuca idahoensis*), Sandberg's bluegrass (*Poa sandbergii*), tufted hairgrass (*Deschampsia caespitosa*), bentgrass (*Agrostis spp.*, Kentucky bluegrass (*Poa pratensis*), and elk sedge (*Carex geyeri*). Introduced species include timothy (*Phleum pratense*), Orchard grass (*Dactylis glomerata*), and meadow foxtail (*Alopecurus pratensis*).

B. Seasons of Use- The majority of Oxbow Ranch consists of wet, moist and dry meadow systems in and around the Middle Fork of the John Day River. Some acreage has been classified as "Non-range" due to the steepness of the slopes, lack of exterior fences and inaccessibility of forage species to livestock. However, these areas play an important role in providing quality wildlife habitat.

Plant communities vary in range readiness (for grazing purposes) from year to year depending upon climatic conditions within the John Day basin. Plant communities, predominately composed of perennial grass, forb and sedge species, should be utilized by domestic livestock between May 15 to approximately September 15 of each year. Soil moisture conditions within the meadow systems will dictate range readiness and turnout dates. Turn-out time periods may need to be adjusted depending upon precipitation, forage growth patterns, and resource protection considerations.

For the Grazing Year- 2002: Seasons of use will be dependent upon range readiness and determining a lessee to carry out grazing activities on Oxbow. It is recommended that grazing be conducted between May and July 15 of this year within three primary pastures.

- C. **Carrying Capacities-** Based upon production studies conducted in June of 2000, total available forage for livestock use within existing pastures is outlined below:

Pasture Number	Available AUM's
1	48
2	54
3*	136
4*	43
5	11
6	46
7*	89
8	31
9*	178
10	26
11	3
12	0

Pasture Number	Available AUM's
13	35
14	0
15	10
16	19
17	62
18	57
19	28
TOTAL	876

*= Pastures recommended for grazing during the 2002 grazing season.

Carrying Capacities for 2002 grazing season- have been set at 65 Animal Unit Months (AUM's). Utilization of this forage allocation may occur within pastures 3,4,7, and 9 respectively. Rotation of livestock between these pastures is preferred during a consecutive four week time period. Waterfowl and migratory bird nesting occurrence within pastures 7 and 9 will be evaluated prior to livestock utilization. Water will be provided to grazing livestock within each pasture through natural springs, irrigation canals, or existing watergaps on the John Day River.

Total allowable forage to be utilized from these pastures in 2002 is 65 AUM's. This equates to:

65 cows for 1 Month grazing period; or
33 cows for 2 Month grazing period

- D. **Monitoring and Reporting:** Livestock grazing activities will be closely monitored by CTWS staff to ensure resource goals and grazing objectives are achieved. At the conclusion of the 2002 grazing period, CTWS staff will:
- 1) Provide a written report to the Natural Resources General Manager detailing pasture utilization and AUM's consumed from each.
 - 2) Grazing recommendations for the 2003 grazing season including pasture rotational plan, recommended improvements, stocking recommendation, and
 - 3) Coordinate income statements and land use reporting with the Assessor's Office, John Day Oregon.

3. **GRAZING LAND IMPROVEMENTS:** It is the policy of the CTWS to encourage the construction of improvements necessary for the proper management of livestock and the utilization of the grazing land. However, the cost of such improvements will be borne by the Lessee unless provided for in the lease. The lessee shall perform reasonable maintenance of all improvements on the land in a manner acceptable to the CTWS Natural Resources General Manager or his duly authorized representative.

Improvements constructed by the Lessee during the life of the lease may not be removed without the consent of the CTWS Natural Resources General Manager or his duly authorized representative.

3. **GRAZING MANAGEMENT STIPULATIONS:** It is the policy of the CTWS to ensure that all Trust lands are grazed in such a manner as to provide protection, enhancement, and proper utilization of all resources. Therefore, the Lessee, under the terms of this lease agreement, shall:
- A. Salt Placement - Salt or Mineral Blocks shall be placed in such a manner that salt is at least 1/8-1/4 mile away from existing streams or riparian zones.
 - B. Streamside Areas - Livestock grazing is to be limited along the John Day River to coincide with the carrying capacities as detailed in this grazing management plan. Riparian protection is essential on these lands.
 - C. **Noxious Weed Control** - Lessee will be responsible for reporting any known noxious weed infestations on a yearly basis to the Lessor.