

Chetco Scenic Waterway Advisory Committee
DRAFT Meeting 2 Summary
June 9, 2015, 6:00 – 7:30 p.m. Harbor, Oregon

- **Welcome and Introductions**
 - Advisory Committee Members in attendance: Mark Sherwood, Luke Martinez, Harvey Young, Alyssa Babin, Anna Krug, Kat Moya (about half of members were absent for the 2nd meeting)
 - Staff in attendance: Laurel Hillmann, OPRD; Rocky Houston, OPRD; Rachel LovellFord, OWRD; Shavon Haynes, OWRD; Calum Stevenson, OPRD; Carrie Lovellette, OPRD
 - Public in attendance: Jon and Peggy Ghiringhelli

- **Presentation by WRD staff on flow**
 - Available on scenic waterway webpage at <http://bit.ly/scenicwaterways>
 - Advisory Committee discussion about water allocation, the difference between surface and ground water.

- **Presentation by OPRD staff on potential rules and management guidance for discussion**
 - Available on scenic waterway webpage at <http://bit.ly/scenicwaterways>
 - Discussion on what “view from the river” means and how regulations work. OPRD works with the landowner through the issues to minimize impact to the view as seen from the river (e.g., in a boat, on the banks).
 - Suggestion to make the rule language as user-friendly as possible, difficult to understand if not familiar with rules.

- **Work Session**
 - General consensus on below proposed draft rule language and draft management recommendations:

Accessible Natural River Area: From the Steel Bridge to Eagle Creek

- In order to preserve the river and related adjacent lands in a semi-primitive condition, only improvements made in connection with a compatible existing use (e.g., those needed for public recreation use or resource protection) should be allowed.
- Any new improvements permitted should be primitive in character and include screening from the river by topography.
- New roads and similar forms of development should only be permitted when fully screened from view from the river by topography. Any existing roads should not be extended or realigned unless fully screened by topography.

Scenic River Area: From Eagle Creek to the South Fork Confluence

- Improvements needed for public recreation use or resource protection shall be designed to blend with the natural character of the landscape.

- Natural evergreen vegetation shall be maintained between the new improvements and the river. The establishment of additional vegetative screening (preferably native vegetation) may be required to further mitigate the visual impact of new structure(s) as seen from the river if not blocked by topography.
- New roads and similar forms of development shall be screened from view from the river by topography.

Recreational River Area: From the South Fork Confluence to the southern boundary of Alfred A. Loeb State Park.

- New structures and improvements shall be permitted only when at least partially screened from view from the river by topography or vegetation and shall be designed to blend with the natural character of the landscape as much as possible.
- Improvements needed for public recreation use or resource protection may be visible from the river but shall be designed to blend with the natural character of the landscape as much as possible.
- New roads and similar forms of development shall be set back from the river consistent with Curry County zoning and land development requirements and be screened from view from the river by topography or by existing or established evergreen vegetation.

Draft Management Recommendations

- Collaborate with local partners and public agencies towards the development and installation of small interpretive signs with messages about the river corridor (*potential topics* include: river stewardship, leave no trace, recreation, cultural resources, fisheries, wildlife, geology, water quality, hydrology, respecting private property) in key areas.
- Work in partnership with local groups and public agencies towards the development of a water trail recreation guide to facilitate river-based recreation opportunities, protect natural resources and private property.
- Develop signs that identify public access for put in and take outs and/or developed recreation areas that are visible from the river and from the road access points.
- Collaborate with local partners and public agencies to identify user conflict areas that may not currently be adequately addressed in the Forest Service Management Plan due to changes in visitor use patterns (e.g., RVs often camp in the middle of boat ramps restricting drift boat launch at South Fork).
- Cooperate with local partners and land managers to explore funding opportunities and any existing regulatory limitations to *improving* existing river access points (e.g., boat ramps, access roads, and other facilities such as restrooms and trash receptacles) to facilitate river recreational opportunities and improve visitor safety.
- Develop organized regular river clean-up activities (e.g., trash and other debris) within the Scenic Waterway, particularly at river access points.

- Explore opportunities to form partnership to exploring improvements in water quality, planting native species and invasive species management and/or monitoring efforts.
 - Do not modify existing or construct new structures within the high water channel unless they enhance river related (e.g., fish, wildlife, recreation) resources and comply with free-flow standards.
 - Public agencies in collaboration with local partners should work towards scoping for ways to improve hiking trail opportunities on public lands in the river corridor.
 - Federal agencies (e.g., USFS) should provide the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department draft plans, environmental assessments or environmental impact statements on activities that may affect the Scenic Waterway.
 - OPRD shall seek the cooperation of all local, state and federal agencies in meeting the objectives of this program and complying with the State Scenic Waterway Act and State Park Commission rules.
- **Follow Up Items**
 - Public meeting will be in the same location and at the same time on July 14th