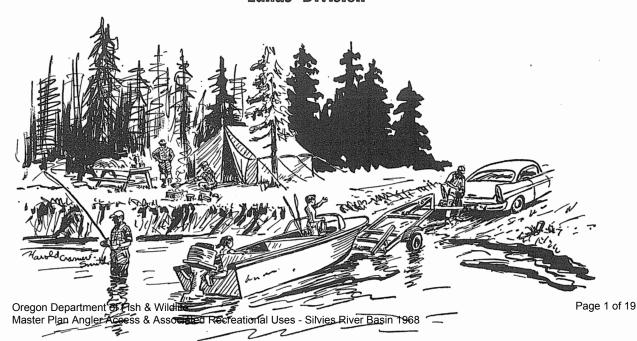
SILVIES RIVER BASIN

MASTER PLAN FOR ANGLER ACCESS AND ASSOCIATED RECREATIONAL USES



Oregon State Game Commission
Lands Division



SILVIES RIVER BASIN

Master Plan for Angler Access

and

Associated Recreational Uses

Ву

Oregon State Game Commission

Lands Section

September 1968

TABLE OF CONTENTS

THE	PL	AN	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	0	•	•	•	•	1
AIG	INI	TY	MAP		٥	•	•	•	0	•	٥.	•	•	•	•	•	• ,	7
LOWI	ER	SII	LVIES	RI	VER	. AR	EA		•	•	٥	•	•	0	0	•	0	5
UPPI	ER	SII	LVIES	RI	VER	AR	EA		•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	15
זמס ז	רד זאה	TY	Q T	т туг т	ידיכ	מדמ	סיד	DAG	TNT	TMT A TO)							

SILVIES RIVER BASIN

Master Plan for Angler Access

and

Associated Recreational Uses

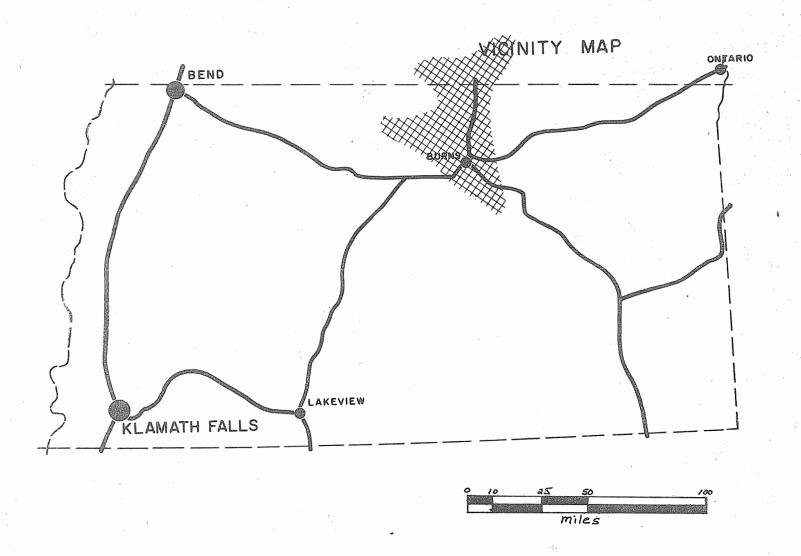
This report details a plan that we hope can be followed to solve the access problems of the Silvies River Basin. Too, we hope that all agencies that are interested in retaining existing water access as well as providing additional facilities, whether they be municipal, county, or state, will all join in a cooperative effort to carry out this plan in an orderly manner. It is probable that Land and Water Conservation Funds will be available on a 50-50 matching basis. In order to acquire these funds, it will be necessary to apply through the Oregon State Highway Department.

The Silvies River located in the southeastern part of the state originates in the Malheur National Forest. It flows southward through Bear, Silvies and Harney Valleys and trickles into Malheur Lake. There is an adequate flow in the headwater streams, but as the river passes through the valleys the water is diverted for irrigation. Except during exceptionally wet years, very little water ever reaches Malheur Lake.

The fishery in the basin is confined to the headwaters of the Silvies River and Bear Creek, a major tributary of the river. These headwater streams are within the national forest and are not affected by irrigation diversion. The flows and temperatures remain fairly constant throughout the summer. Resident brook trout and planted rainbow trout inhabit these waters. The main river, due to the irrigation diversion throughout its length, does not have enough water to sustain a trout fishery. There is, however, a light warm-water fishery in a section of the main river above the Fivemile Dam north of Burns.

Under present conditions access on the Silvies River is not a problem, as most of the angling waters are on public lands. Unless a fishery can be established in the lower river through a water storage and release program, additional access is not needed at this time.

The basin has been divided into two areas. The following sections describe these areas more fully and the access is described in detail.



The Silvies River heads in the Malheur National Forest in southeastern Oregon and flows south into Malheur Lake 31 miles south of Burns.

Major routes to the basin are U. S. Highway 20 from the West and U. S. Highway 395 from the north. State Route 78 enters the basin from the south.

LOWER SILVIES RIVER

This area includes the Silvies River from the confluence of Bear Creek downstream to Malheur Lake. This lower 81 miles of the river flows through both Silvies and Harney Valleys, which are relatively flat and interspersed with numerous irrigated meadows. The streamside cover throughout the river is predominately willow and dogwood.

The fishery in this section of the stream consists of a very light warm-water fishery in a short section of the stream above Fivemile Dam north of Burns. In the remaining portion of the stream a fishery can not be established, because of the limited flow and more often the lack of flow. Irrigation diversion throughout the valleys and evaporation combine to deplete the water to a point where the river ceases to flow leaving pools separated by dry streambed.

A potential reservoir site located at river mile 29, which has been proposed by the Army Corps of Engineers, would store water for irrigation of the lower valleys in the Burns area. The water released from the reservoir for irrigation purposes would be diverted from the river into the canals at river mile 12. This would create 17 miles of stream that would have adequate flows to establish a trout fishery.

If a fishery were established, angler access would need to be acquired to fully utilize the potential of this area. Ownership along the river is mainly private although some of the land is public. The road into the area is private.

Four sites have been recommended for this area. These sites are suggested for acquisition and development only if an adequate flow can be established in the river. Detailed descriptions of the sites are given on the following evaluation sheets.

Page 8 of 19

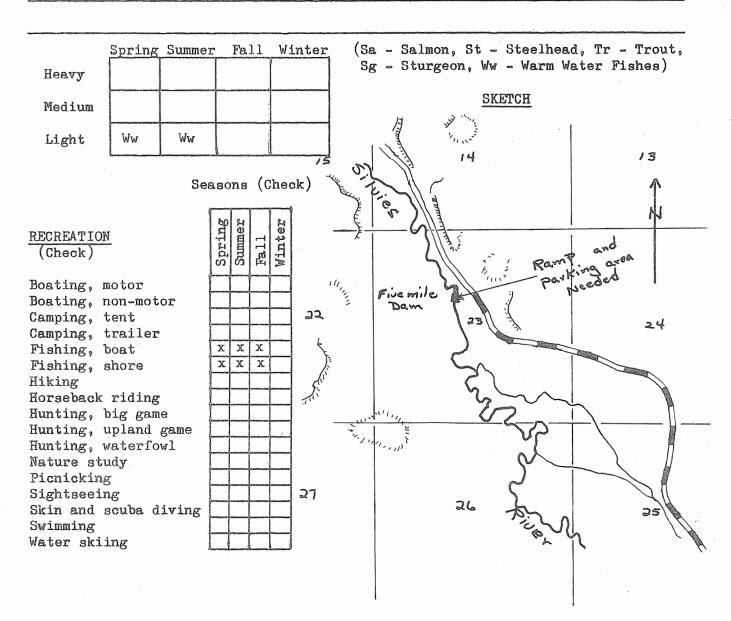
Silvies River	System		S	ite No.	-	1	
Lower Silvies River	Area	:	P	riority		A	direction or approximation of the second
Name Fivemile Dam					•		
Location 6 miles nor	rthwest	of Burns		,	East		Bank
T 22S, R 30 E, Sec.	23	Rive	Mile	<u>12</u> 0	ounty_	Harney	Marigar Long San Character (1911)
Ownership: Public	υ.	S. (BLM)			and the state of t	CANAL AND AND A STATE OF THE ST	
Private _		Tax Lot No.		niantiniana distribunitan dan d			
Number of	owners						
		DESCRIPTION		\$ •			
Land type Flat val	lley						
Cover type Willow a	and dogw	ood					Colors and Equilibrium styles
Road access County	Orașia de la constantina de la constant	· 	Condition	n	Gravel	·	
Affected by irr Flows diversion							
Present stage of deve	lopment	6-foot dam	and mud s	slide ra	amp		
		ANGLER NEEDS	(1)				
Acquisition: 1	Carlos Coperant and State of	Acres,				of fro	ntage
Type of	conveyar	nce Use a	greement	Per Ducator Constant and American			
Development:							
Boat ramp: Type	Gra	vel		Number	of lane	es <u>l</u>	and district and
Toilets X	T.	Frails		Roads _		dita Montantin Beron	
Parking area X	; For	C	ars or	15	car-t	railer	units
This site would provi	de boat	launching fo	r people	boating	the s	tream an	ea
above the dam.							

(1) If an adequate flow is established in this section of the river and a trout fishery developed, river frontage for bank angling and additional parking or camping area should be acquired.

AREA	Lower	Silvies	
SITE	#	1	ореоноумунуу маралин ү ч

* FISHERY: There is a light fishery in the pool area of the dam on crappie, blue-

gill, bullhead, perch and smallmouth bass.



OTHER

Safety Problems:

Group Facilities: Picnicking, camping, parking for buses

REMARKS

* If an adequate flow were established the stream would probably be chemically treated and restocked with rainbow trout.

Silvies River	System		Sit	e No	2	nger sterner Experience and the second control of the second contr
Lower Silvies River	Area		Pri	ority _	В	
Name Double Spring Ca	ump					
Location 10 miles no						
T 22S, R 30 E, Sec.	9	River	Mile _ 15.	<u>5</u> Cou	inty	larney
Ownership: Public						Section of the sectio
Private	X Tax I	Lot No	7		to a subdividuo de la companya de l	
Number of	owners 1					
	DESC	RIPTION				
Land type Open va	alley					
Cover type Juniper	and sagebru	sh; willo	w along s	tream		
Road access Private		ATTERNOON TO COMMISSION OF THE OWN OWN AND THE				
Affected by irr	rigation				•	
Present stage of devel	opment	Abandoned	homesite)		
	ANGLE	R NEEDS (1)			
Acquisition: 3	Acres	urchase c	amping ar	id park	ing area	as
Development: (1)						
Boat ramp: Type	Gravel	Nach Deutschaft auch der Weiter und der Weiter der	Nu	mber of	lanes	1
Toilets X	Trails		Ro	ads	Х	
Parking area X						
This site has an acti	ve spring at	the camp	area.	g _{er} geotrezaten/ezan	out the state of t	ettimisen etmokra etmogra etm etmograperaturet

⁽¹⁾ These angler needs and subsequent development would apply only if an adequate flow is established in this section of the river.

		AREA Lower Silvies River	
		SITE # 2	
		Street Assignment of the first product of the contract of the	
FISHERY: Crappie, bu	llhead, bluegill, pe	rch and smallmouth bass are available,	
but the fis	hery is not utilized	. If an adequate flow is established	
in the rive	r a trout fishery co	uld be developed.	
Spring Summe	er Fall Winter (S	a - Salmon, St - Steelhead, Tr - Trout,	
Heavy	Control of the Contro	g - Sturgeon, Ww - Warm Water Fishes)	
Medium		SKETCH	
Light			ř
Se	easons (Check)		
			H
RECREATION	To T	Paint Parent	
(Check)	Spring Summer Fall Winter	(on one	-
	Q Q H 3	9 1111	
Boating, motor Boating, non-motor		"Marie	
Camping, tent	x x x	June Manuelle Comment	}.
Camping, trailer	x x x	Julian Marian Ma	نا برد
Fishing, boat	x x x		م عندس
Fishing, shore	XXX	N S. Y	
Hiking Horseback riding	XXX	Wies P	`
Hunting, big game	A A X	The state of the s	3
Hunting, upland game	3C	and the same	
Hunting, waterfowl		"", "E	,
Nature study		7	
Picnicking	x x x	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
Sightseeing			
Skin and scuba diving			
Swimming	CONTINUES OF Development of the Continues of the Continue		
Water skiing	1 (1 1		

* Potential if developed

OTHER

Safety Problems:

Group Facilities: Picnic and camping if area is developed.

REMARKS

This section of the river can be drifted with small boats.

Silvies River	System		Site No.	3	
Lower Silvies River	Area	·	Priority	A	
Mame Gravel Spring	S				
ocation 15 miles	northwest of Burn	S	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	East	Bank
<u>21 S, R 29 E, Sec</u>	25	River Mile	23 Cc	ounty Har	ney
Ownership: Public	U. S. (BLM)	nanda are di este e speciale di			
Private	X Tax Lo	t No7		and the state of t	
Number	of owners 2	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			
	DESCRI	PTION			
I and home 77 to 3	3				
Land type <u>Flat val</u>	,			er und State Challengt montum darlier Griff State Score to a color	er co-de en esseguente monerante en estado.
Cover type Ponderos				d dans die wellen er een er en en dans der een er die en die en de	
Road access Pri Affected by	vate	, Condit	ion	Dirt	
Flows diver	sion Wa	ter quality		Fair	
Present stage of de	velopment None	- abandone	d homestea	d	
	ANGLER	NEEDS (1)	4		
Acquisition:					frontage
Type of Conveyance:	Land use agreeme	ent for the	camp area.		
Development:					
Boat ramp: Typ	e Gravel		Number o	of lanes	1
Toilets X	Trails		Roads	estate vita en terra dispressiones solo indicamentario en se el Protico.	
Parking area _	X ; For25	cars and	1 15	_car-traile	er units
This section of the	e river from this	site at riv	er mile 23	to the dam	at mil
12 can be drif	ted with small bo	oats or raft	S.		
These angler needs	and subsequent of	levelopment	would appl	y only if a	n adeq

flow is established in this section of the river.

		ARE	Lower Silvies River						
		SIT	E#3						
FISHERY: Crappie, bul	lhead, bluegill	, perch and smallmout	n bass are available,						
but the fishery is not	utilized. If	an adequate flow is e	stablished in the river,						
a trout fishery could be developed.									
Spring Summe	r Fall Winter	-9 `	Steelhead, Tr - Trout, - Warm Water Fishes)						
Medium		<u>sk</u>	ETCH						
Light									
RECREATION (Check) Boating, motor Boating, non-motor Camping, tent Camping, trailer Fishing, boat Fishing, shore Hiking Horseback riding Hunting, big game Hunting, upland game Hunting, waterfowl Nature study Picnicking Sightseeing Skin and scuba diving Swimming Water skiing	x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x x	24 The state of th	Parking area Rice						

OTHER

Safety Problems:

Group Facilities: Picnic and camping if area is developed.

REMARKS

There is an adequate flow of water from the spring to supply the camping area with good water.

Silvies River	System		Si	te No.		4		
Lower Silvies River	Area		Pr	iority		В		
Name Long Hollow Cre	ek							
					i i			
						T		
Location 20 miles m	orthwest	of Burns		.9	East		Bank	
T 21 S, R 29 E, Sec.	13 & 14	River	Mile2	<u>28</u> Co	ounty _	Harney		
Ownership: Public	U. S. (B)	LM)						
		Tax Lot No					***************************************	
Number of	owners	2						
		DESCRIPTION						
Land type Flat	valley							
Cover type Junip	er, sagebi	rush and will	lows		veter trocker ar name of the	·	**************************************	
Road access Priva	te	, (Condition	-	Dirt	ngesåre quantitation de la tr	anisa di salah di sa	
Flows diversion								
Present stage of deve							and the Bridge of Bridge	
	Al	NGLER NEEDS	(1)					
Acquisition: 1	A.	cres, 2 Purchase	miles		and the state of t	of from	ıtage	
Type of	conveyance	Purchase right of	parking way	area a	nd road	·		
Development: (1)								
Boat ramp: Type			N	umber o	of lanes	3		
Toilets X	Tre	ails	R	loads	Annadon America de Annador	oktjungsjone gild treidj enjunds en eilsteren i	w Ewdynganzon	
Parking area X	; For	20 ca r	rs or		_car-t	railer ı	mits	
This site below the	proposed o	dam site woul	ld provid	le park	ing and	bank		
access.						vae andrewayer v		

(1) These angler needs and subsequent development would apply only if an adequate flow is established in this section of the river.

						AREA Lower Silvies River					
						SITE # 4					
						Completing to be for the process of					
FISHERY:	Crappie, bull	lhead	, blue	gill,	ре	erch and smallmouth bass are available					
but the fishery is not utilized. If an adequate flow is established in the											
river,	river, a trout fishery could be developed.										
	Spring Summe	r Fa	11 W:	lnter	((Sa - Salmon, St - Steelhead, Tr - Trout,					
Heavy						Sg - Sturgeon, Ww - Warm Water Fishes)					
Medium						SKETCH T					
Light											
	Se	asons	(Che	ok)							
)							
RECREATION (Check)	<u>I</u>	Spring Summer	Fall			25					
Boating, m	notor	口				A STATE OF THE PARTY OF THE PAR					
Boating, no Camping, t		хх	x			Proposed					
Camping, t		x x	$\frac{1}{x}$			Damsite					
Fishing, b	ooat				-						
Fishing, s	shore	XX	x			Proposed area					
Horseback	riding	H	x		ł i	Booking.					
Hunting, h	-				i						
	upland game					11 } /]					
Hunting, w			 								
Nature stu Picnicking		xx	x		ĺ						
Sightseeir			╁┋			$\not\models \not \subseteq \not$					
	scuba diving				İ						
Swimming						2					
Water skii	ing		1]	T	**************************************					
Potential	if developed					* 					

OTHER

Safety Problems:

Group Facilities: Picnic and camping if area is developed.

REMARKS

UPPER SILVIES RIVER

Included in this area is the Silvies River above river mile 81, and Bear Creek, the largest tributary of the upper river system. Both the Silvies River and Bear Creek head in the Malheur National Forest and flow southward through Bear Valley. The stream gradient in the valley is gentle, but increases toward the headwaters.

Access in this area is not a problem as the waters suitable for angling are within the public lands of the national forest.

The Forest Service road along Bear Creek has many pull-off areas which provide ample parking for bank anglers. There is also a well developed campground along the stream.

The Upper Silvies River is also paralleled by a road with adequate parking along the stream, with a small camping area available for anglers.

The fishery in these streams is for small native brook trout and legal sized planted rainbow trout. The angling effort is relatively light except on holidays and some weekends.