

3.10 Recreational Resources

This section describes recreation activities within 1 mile of the line segments. The activities described occur both under and near the existing and proposed transmission lines. In many cases, these activities have not been formalized, permitted, or sanctioned by the landowner or easement holder. Recreational activities within the study area may be dispersed or dedicated and include such activities as hunting, off-road and all-terrain vehicle use, boating, fishing, hiking, rock hounding, horseback riding, camping, snowshoeing, ice skating, and snowmobiling. Recreationalists are predominantly full-time residents (White, 2001).

Table 3.10-1, *Recreational Resources*, lists recreation sites and categorizes activities as either **dispersed** or **dedicated** recreation. Map 7, *Land Ownership*, illustrates the proximity of recreation sites to the segments.

3.10.1 John Wayne Trail

Following the abandoned Chicago Milwaukie St. Paul and Pacific railroad, the John Wayne Trail runs from the west slopes of the Cascade Mountains to the border with Idaho. The 110-mile portion of the trail from near North Bend, Washington to the Columbia River near Vantage, Washington, is managed as the Iron Horse State Park (Washington State Parks, 2002). From the east side of the Columbia River near Beverly, Washington, to the border with Idaho, the trail is referred to as the Milwaukee Road Corridor (Lance Elliott, 2002). Recreational activities along the trail include hiking, mountain biking, camping, horseback riding, wildlife viewing, cross-country skiing, dog sledding, and snowshoeing.

3.10.2 Yakima Training Center

Recreational activities on the YTC depend on the season and geographic location. Near the north boundary of the site is a 22-mile segment of the John Wayne Trail. This 22-mile segment of the trail is part of the 110-mile Iron Horse State Park. Non-vehicular activities such as hiking, wildlife viewing, mountain biking, cross-country skiing, and horseback riding are permitted along the trail within the YTC. Camping is permitted in two locations, at the Kittitas and Doris trailheads located at the west and east ends of the 22-mile segment. Motor vehicle use, carrying a loaded firearm, or shooting from or across the trail is not permitted. On the YTC, the John Wayne Trail is open daily from dawn to dusk, but sections of the trail may be temporarily closed for safety purposes. Trail users must sign in and out in person daily at the YTC Operations Center.

➔ For Your Information

Dispersed Recreation refers to recreational activities that are not limited to a finite location. These types of activities do not require improvements that commit resources to a particular type of recreation.

Dedicated Recreation refers to activities that are limited to a finite geographic location and are supported by improvements that commit the resource to a specific recreational activity.

Other dispersed recreation allowed on the YTC includes hunting, falconry, horseback riding, and mountain biking as well as organized activities such as field dog training and trials, horse endurance rides, and wildlife viewing. Hunting continues throughout the year and is the most popular recreational activity. Falconry also continues throughout the year and is a permitted use throughout most of the YTC. Horseback riding is limited to existing roads and trails, and may be restricted seasonally according to wildlife needs. Mountain biking is allowed on designated roads and in the John Wayne Trail corridor. Field dog training and trials are permitted September through January. Horse endurance rides typically occur during the late spring and early fall. Wildlife viewing of the Western Sage grouse occurs only once a year.

**Table 3.10-1
Recreational Resources**

Line Segment	Resource	Dispersed Recreational Activities	Dedicated Recreational Activities
A	Open Range	Hunting, off-road vehicles, fishing, hiking, rock hounding, horseback riding, primitive camping, snowshoeing, snowmobiling	
A	Charlton Canyon Schnebly Canyon and Creek Cooke Creek Burnt Canyon Cave Canyon Trail Gulch Parke Creek Trail Creek	Hunting, off-road vehicles, fishing, hiking, rock hounding, horseback riding, primitive camping, snowshoeing, snowmobiling	
B _{NORTH} , B _{SOUTH} , C	YTC <i>All activities on the site area subject to geographic and seasonal restrictions.</i>	Hunting, falconry, horseback riding, wildlife viewing, field dog training, mountain biking	John Wayne Trail / Iron Horse State Park (hiking, mountain biking, camping, horseback riding, wildlife viewing, cross-country skiing, dog sledding, and snowshoeing)
B _{NORTH} , B _{SOUTH} , D, E, F	Columbia River	Sightseeing, wildlife viewing, off-road vehicles, fishing, hiking, boating, water sports	
D	Wanapum Dam		Heritage Center tours and activities, Power house tours

Line Segment	Resource	Dispersed Recreational Activities	Dedicated Recreational Activities
D, E, F	John Wayne Trail / Milwaukee Road Corridor		John Wayne Trail / Iron Horse State Park (hiking, mountain biking, camping, horseback riding, wildlife viewing, cross-country skiing, dog sledding, and snowshoeing)
D, E, F	Crab Creek Wildlife Area	Hunting, fishing, wildlife viewing	
D, E, F	Milwaukee Road Corridor	Hiking, mountain biking, horseback riding, primitive camping	
D, E, F	Saddle Mountains (includes BLM-managed areas)	Hunting, off-road vehicles, rock hounding, hand gliding, paragliding, horseback riding, hiking, camping, falconry, mountain biking, bird watching	
D, E, F	Hanford Reach of the Columbia River	Boating, fishing	<i>No landing on Hanford Site allowed</i>
D, E, F	Hanford Reach National Monument	Wildlife observation, hiking, photography, fishing, hunting, environmental education, sightseeing	
F	Wahluke Unit of the Hanford Reach National Monument	Wildlife observation, hiking, photography, fishing, hunting, environmental education, sightseeing	Improved roads, boat launches, parking areas
Fiber Optic Line Vantage to Columbia	Quincy Unit of the North Columbia River State Wildlife Recreation Area including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quincy Wildlife Area, • Stan Coffin Lake, • Quincy Lake, • Burke Lake, • Evergreen Lake, • Cabin Lake, and • Hilltop Lake are south of the Quincy Unit. 	Boating, fishing, wildlife observation, hunting	Boat launches, parking, camping, picnicking
Fiber Optic Line Vantage to Midway and Midway to Wautoma	Similar to those along Segment D	Similar to those along Segment D	Similar to those along Segment D

Sources: Neil White, [personal communication](#)
Billie Sumrall, [personal communication](#)
Wanapum Dam Heritage Center website
James Munrone, [personal communication](#)
BLM, 1997
CH2M HILL, 1998
U.S. Department of the Army, 1996

Table has been updated for the FEIS.

3.10.3 Columbia River near Vantage

Dispersed recreational activities near the Columbia River include sightseeing, wildlife viewing, off-road vehicle use, fishing, hiking, boating, and water sports. Interpretive facilities are provided at the Wanapum Dam as part of the Native American Heritage Center and at the Dam Powerhouse and are considered dedicated recreational activities.

On the east side of the Columbia River near Vantage, the John Wayne Trail is called the Milwaukee Road Corridor. The trail follows the abandoned Chicago Milwaukee St. Paul and Pacific railroad line for the majority of its length. At a few locations, the trail departs from the abandoned railroad corridor because of private ownership. Recreational use of the trail requires a permit from the DNR. Along the trail, recreation is dispersed and includes hiking, mountain biking, horseback riding, and primitive camping. Within the Crab Creek Wildlife Area, dispersed recreation focuses on the pristine natural environment and includes fishing, hunting, and wildlife viewing.

3.10.4 Saddle Mountains

The portion of the Saddle Mountain Management Area that is managed by the BLM is remote and far from major transportation corridors, so sightseeing is limited. However, other dispersed recreation activities occur in the area. Hang gliders come to this area from all over the state for the updrafts along the north slope of the range. This area has an even greater geographical pull for rock hounding, with visitors from as far north as British Columbia, the Oregon Coast and other areas within the U.S. Because there are over 80 miles of roads and trails on public lands (most were constructed to access power transmission lines), mountain biking opportunities are also available. Overall, recreational opportunities within this area draw a wide range of both local and regional recreation user groups (BLM, 1997).

3.10.5 Hanford Reach National Monument

The Hanford Reach of the Columbia River was found suitable for inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers system under "Recreational River" classification in the National Park Service's Hanford Reach of the Columbia River Comprehensive Conservation Study/EIS in June 1994. The Hanford Reach is currently under interim protection as directed by Public Law 100-605, as amended by Section 404 (Hanford Reach Preservation) of Public Law 104-333. The USFWS is responsible for overseeing interim management protection.

The Hanford Reach boasts some of the best salmon fishing in the entire Columbia River watershed. Anglers travel great distances to fish

these waters during peak fishing season. The Hanford Reach also offers dispersed water-related recreation including boating and fishing; however, no landing on the Hanford Site is allowed.

Recreation in the Hanford Reach National Monument is dispersed and dedicated. Activities include boating, sightseeing, hunting, hiking, wildlife observation, photography, fishing, and environmental education. However, the area lacks interpretive and service facilities typical of a national monument.

The Saddle Mountain Unit is situated on the north side of the Columbia River. Public access to this area is currently limited to permitted research and environmental education activities only.

The Wahluke Unit, located north and east of the Saddle Mountain Unit, provides 57,000 acres of recreational opportunities in the Hanford Reach National Monument. Popular recreation pursuits include sightseeing, hiking, photography, bird watching, hunting, fishing, and environmental education. Current visitor use facilities consist of directional signing, improved roads, boat launches, and parking areas.

3.10.6 Quincy Unit of the North Columbia River State Wildlife Recreation Area

The Quincy Unit of the North Columbia River State Wildlife Reservation Area is less than 10 miles south/southwest of Quincy, Washington, and roughly 5 miles northwest of George, Washington. This unit consists of the Quincy Wildlife Area as well as a series of lakes (Stan Coffin, Quincy, Burke, and Evergreen) that provide numerous recreational opportunities such as boating, fishing, wildlife viewing, and hunting. Facilities vary at the different lakes, but generally include boat launches, picnic tables, toilets, parking areas, and areas for camping.