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Comments: Hi Jennie, Todd, and Michelle,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment of the Mt Hood Wild and Scenic Values Report. ODEQ's mission is to restore, maintain, and enhance Oregon's water. Mt Hood NF's implementation of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act supports our mission by protecting and enhancing water quality. Our comments relate to the three Wild and Scenic Rivers east of the Cascade crest: East Fork Hood River, Middle Fork Hood River, and Fifteenmile Creek. Our comments on the water quality sections of each river are below. In addition, we may also send comments on macroinvertebrate values if our data and staff expertise suggest that outstandingly remarkable macroinvertebrate values are likely in these designated reaches. I hope to get any additional comments to you early next week.

p. 33 East Fork Hood River Water Quality

[middot] Beryllium is no longer on the 303d list. Beryllium criteria was withdrawn in 2010.

[middot] ODEQ's revised TMDL for temperature was approved by EPA in June 2018.

[middot] ODEQ did not analyze stream flow as part of the TMDL revision. Only wasteload allocations were revised.

[middot] Recent stream flow data was collected by Hood River Watershed Group (HRWG), ODFW, and Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs Reservation (CTWSR)

[middot] The East Fork is not listed for sedimentation because we have not collected data to indicate that it should be listed. ODEQ has a narrative sediment standard, but no numeric sediment standard.

p. 41 Fifteenmile Creek Water Quality

[middot] Wasco County SWCD and ODFW have also collected data on Fifteenmile Creek.

[middot] The USFS also collected pebble count data off forest in 2000. ODA and ODEQ collected pebble counts and relative bed stability data throughout watershed several times, most

recently in 2015 and 2016.

p. 57 Middle Fork Hood River Water Quality

[middot] ODEQ's revised TMDL for temperature was approved by EPA in June 2018.

[middot] Beryllium is no longer on the 303d list. Beryllium criteria was withdrawn in 2010.

[middot] Water is spilled from the surface when the reservoir is full in spring and early summer. This does result in warm water being released into Clear Branch below the dam. The outlet of the reservoir is bottom-water, however. This means that colder water is released during much of the summer until the hypolimnion is depleted.

[middot] The HRWG and Middle Fork Irrigation District have also collected extensive temperature data in and around the project area. The CTWSR has long-term data on one site in the watershed.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Smita

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