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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Union Creek Historic District is located on the western slope of the High Cascades in southwestern Oregon, approximately 57 miles northeast of Medford on State Highway 62 and 25 miles southwest of Crater Lake. Occupying lands of the Rogue River National Forest, it is contained entirely within Jackson County on the Prospect Ranger District. The Historic District encompasses parts of sections 34 and 35, Township 30 south, Range 3 east, Willamette Meridan, and sections 2, 3, 9 and 10, Township 31 south, Range 3 east, Willamette Meridan in the U.S.G.S. Prospect quadrangle.

Within the boundaries of the Union Creek Historic District, the North Fork of the Rogue River occupies the contact zone between the older Western Cascades and the younger High Cascades, separating essentially dissimilar topography, and providing scenic contrast. The geologic history of the area together with the vigor of the river have created features of spectacular scenic quality. The landforms of the Historic District, associated with valley train deposits of glacial-fluvial origin modified by the erosive, downcutting action of the Rogue River, and with glowing pumice deposits from the final eruptive stages of Mount Mazama, have contributed to its historic development as a recreational site. Broad, level terraces, intersected by the westerly flow of Union Creek eventuated the diverse construction and uses.

Ample precipitation and fertile soils combine to support a dense mixed conifer forest, with a Douglas-fir plan community predominating. The resulting forest canopy, occasionally interspersed with spatial openings, is important to the visual image of the Historic District. Elevations varying from 3,454 feet on the north to 3,200 feet on the south provide respite from the high summer temperatures of the lower Rogue valley.

The boundaries of the Union Creek Historic District describe a discrete, definable geographic area. Primarily recreational in character, a definite relationship exists among the numerous sites and structures stemming from continuous and common use, association and administration. Retaining much of their historical integrity, the diverse elements of the Union Creek Historic District include: two points of scenic geo-hydrological interest, Rogue Gorge and Natural Bridge; identifiable traces of three historic roads; historic segments of two recreational trails; three campgrounds; a picnic area with a community kitchen, community bonfire ring, and a combined registry booth-comfort station; a winter sports area; three tracts of summer homes; a rock quary; the Union Creek Resort complex; the Union Creek Ranger Station compound; CONTINUATION SHEET

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ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 2

and the site of the Upper Rogue Civilian Conservation Corps Camp (from which the administrative site and most of the recreational facilities were built). A total of 99 standing structures is included within the Historic District.

The greatest density of architectural development is centered at Union Creek along State Highway 62 which bisects the Historic District north to south. Comprised of commercial, administrative, and recreational structures of mixed ownership, Federal and private, the architectural development of the Union Creek Historic District reflects the rustic design concepts of the varying periods of construction. The Union Creek Resort Complex and the Union Creek Ranger District Compound constitute two distinctive but related architectural subdistricts.

The earliest buildings, those of the resort complex, date from the early 1920s and are small-scale cabin structures of primarily peeled-pole framing with steeply pitched gable roofs and wood-shingled exteriors. Between 1930 and 1933, three major buildings of the resort complex were remodeled and enlarged, and a permittee's residence built, forming a unity of architectural design which featured hipped gable roofs, extended porch covers and lava-rock stone masonry. Compatibility with existing structures was achieved by the use of similar fenestration, wall shingles and roof materials. In 1937 to replace several smaller commercial structures destroyed by fire, the present Union Creek Lodge was built from plans provided by the U.S. Forest Service Regional Office, Division of Engineering. Larger in scale than the existing resort structures, the lodge, nevertheless, achieved a harmony with its surroundings through the use of a gable roof design, extended porch cover, multi-light fenestration, sawn boards, wood shingles and lava rock.

The administration structures of the Ranger Station compound were built by the Civilian Conservation Corps between 1933 and 1942 and reflect the total site-design planning of Depression-era Forest Service complexes. Compatible with their environment, the structures are spatially related according to the most efficient usage and visually related through common use of color, fenestration, scale, proportion and texture. Texture is achieved through the use of wall shingles, roof shakes, sawn wood and lava rock.

The remaining architectural development is recreational in nature, rustic in character. Three tracts of summer homes were platted in 1934 as part of a planned recreation complex. The homes, in private ownership under special-use permit, were built between 1925 and 1960 and are wood-frame cabin structures with gable roofs and sawn wood or wood shingle or shake exteriors.

During the period of 1933-1942, three campgrounds were constructed by the Civilian Conservation Corps along the Rogue River within the planned recreation complex. These campgrounds exhibited the spacious, secluded campsites expected by the tent campers of the day, with stone stoves and half-log picnic tables ensuring a rustic, CONTINUATION SHEET

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ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 3

forest environment effect. In the Union Creek Campground, a picnic area was established with a community kitchen and confort station reflecting the prevailing concept of rustic construction. Utilizing peeled logs proportional to the trees surrounding the site and stone masonry of native lava rock, the community kitchen is representative of the consideration given by the Forest Service to harmony with the environment, economy of construction, quality of design and workmanship, and public custom and expectation.

With the addition of the winter sports area with its down-hill ski slope, rope-tow and warming shelter, and the construction of segments of the Upper Rogue River and Union Creek trails in 1935-36, the Union Creek Recreation Complex as then planned was complete.

Forest Service timber and streamside management has essentially preserved the historic landscape with little disturbance. The campgrounds, except Farewell Bend, have been expanded to accommodate increasing recreational use, but have retained the initial level of development and quality of experience. Because of extensive flood damage, Farewell Bend Campground has been rehabilitated, with considerable site modification and with modern facilities for convenience and comfort.

With the exception of the Union Creek service station, the Union Creek garage, and the permittee's residence in the resort complex, exterior alteration of the historic structures has been minor. In 1977, the porch extending over the service area of the gas station was removed, the roof design modified, the exterior wall material replaced with vertical board and batten, the sash windows replaced with aluminum casements, and a "Swiss-alpine" decor added. At the same time, the main facade and the roof design of the Union Creek garage were also modified. The permittee's residence has a shed-roofed addition extending across the ground-story level of the north elevation.

In 1976, the Ranger Station office, constructed in 1941, was sold as excess real property and subsequently demolished. The **r**ope tow and the warming shelter at the Winter Sports area have also been removed. Three administrative structures have been built-in the Ranger Station compound (1960-1961), but are located on the periphery. A modern ranch-style Visitor Information Service office, built in 1964, now stands opposite the Ranger District compound on the west side of Highway 62.

The quality of design, construction and workmanship among the architectural features of the Historic District are apparent. Maintenance has been regular and all major structures, except the water tower in the resort complex, are structurally sound, although some material deterioration is evident. In general, the structures are in very good condition. All are used for their originally intended purposes.

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 4

Buildings and Sites Contributing to the Character of the District:

(See accompanying sketch map and appropriate plans for locations.)

1. Farewell Bend Campground: 1933-34 - CCC.

A formal public occupancy site extending along the east bank of the Rogue River. Severely damaged by floods in December 1964, Farewell Bend has been rehabilitated and now exhibits a high degree of site modification.

2. Winter Sports Area: 1935 - CCC. Downhill ski slope, rope tow and peeledpole and shake warming shelter. Rope town, shelter since dismantled. Area now used for snowplay.

3. Winter Sports Area: 1935 - CCC. Large, triangular open hearth stone fireplace from warming shelter remains.

4. The Rogue Gorge: Divided into two channels by an island of resistant basalt, the waters of the Rogue River cascade over steep rock steps in two waterfalls to merge in the narrow rocky defile believed to be a collapsed lava tube. The length of the Rogue Gorge can be viewed from a trail which follows along the upper rim.

5. The rock quarry: Located on the west bank of the Rogue River immediately below the Rogue Gorge, the rock was used in the construction of the Old Crater Lake Road, and many of the Forest Service structures.

6. 1930 Huckleberry Mountain Road: The road trace traverses the bench above the resort complex and the Ranger compound. Built between 1928 and 1934, the road was used primarily as an access road and stock driveway from ca. 1930-1950. Segments are badly eroded and in places washed out.

7. Log Drift Fence: Extending for approximately 100 yards along the 1930 Huckleberry Mountain Road to the north of the resort complex, the fense is constructed of hand-felled large diameter logs, stacked two high and interlocked by means of notched short sections of smaller diameter logs. The ends of the logs were "miserywhipped" and the notches ax cut.

8. Bridge Site - 1930 Huckleberry Mountain Road: Concrete abutments and decaying timbers.

9. Traces of Old Crater Lake Road - 1865 Military Wagon Road: The trace passes northeast to southwest through the Union Creek development. Obliterated in places by subsequent development, overgrown with second-growth timber and littered with

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deadfall, the road bed is about 8 feet in width with wheel ruts visible in places. Rock reinforced embankments are visible on either side of Union Creek where it was crossed with a short-span wooden bridge.

10. Union Creek Lodge: 1937, rectangular, two-story frame structure incorporating the use of a steeply pitched gable roof with gabled dormers, wood shingles, squared timbers, vertical board and batten, multi-light sash windows and native stone. Covered verandah extends across west facade. Interior wall and ceiling materials knotty pine throughout. Large fireplace of inlaid petrified wood. Original light fixtures intact. No major or obvious structural alterations or additions.

11. Resort Cabins: 1925-1935, 13 rectangular, single-story wood frame or peeled pole structures, having steeply pitched gable roofs, wood shingle exteriors, with addition of horizontal lapped siding to the 4 foot level on three facades, multi-light sash windows. Interior alterations include addition of individual shower facilities.

12. Linen Storage Building: Single-story, rectangular wood frame structure with gable roof and wood shingles on exterior walls.

13. Shower House: Small, single-story rectangular, wood frame structure with gable roof and exterior wood shakes. Structurally sound, the building is in deteriorated condition and not in use.

14. Storage Shed: Wood frame, gable roof, exterior vertical board and batten.

15. Shed: Badly deteriorated wood frame structure; missing roof and exterior wall materials.

16. Large Drinking Fountain: Important landscape feature of resort lawn. Made of quartzite rock, approximately 3 feet high.

17. Beckie's Cafe: 1935 - Single-story, shingled, wood frame structure, utilizing peeled poles in original part, multi-light sash windows. Enlarged in 1933, to include an L-wing on the south, the roof design was modified to exhibit hipped gables, the roof extended to provide cover for the open flagstone porch. The porch exhibits unique architectural treatment in the brackets made of knotted ends of tree limbs, and in the design of horizontal supports separated by small round verticals. The interior, both of the original structure and of the 1933 addition is exemplary, with hand-made furniture, stuccoed plaster, branded woodwork and varnished natural planking and beams. Exterior wall cover of uncoursed lava rock placed ca. 1936.

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ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 6

18. The Permittee's Residence: 1930-33. A rectangular 1-1/2 story wood frame structure with a hipped gable roof extending to function as porch cover: open verandah extending across south facade, with porch detailing similar to that of Beckie's Cafe. Multi-light sash windows on ground story equally important decoratively and functionally. Interior altered, except living room having stuccoed plaster walls, open peeled-pole beam and varnished plank ceiling, branded woodwork. Major obvious addition of a shed-roofed, ground-story annex extending across the north elevation.

19. Union Creek Service Station: 1924. Rectangular, 1-1/2 story structure, remodeled in 1933 to include a porch extending over the service area, and a modification of the roof design, the service station has a hipped gable roof, with wood shake exterior, multi-light sash windows, and ca. 1936, the addition of uncoursed lava rock to the 4-foot level on all elevations. In 1977, the service area porch was removed, and the east gable facade significantly altered by the replacement of sash windows with aluminum casements, and the addition of "Swiss-alpine" decor.

20. Union Creek Garage: 1924. Rectangular, 1-story wood frame, shingled exterior, multi-light sash windows. 1933 - Remodeled to exhibit hipped gables. Later alterations include the addition of shed-roofed, lean-to storage areas to the northeast corner, the length of the west gable end. A truck-van is appended to the south-west corner. Ca. 1936 addition of stonework on east facade to the 4-foot level. 1977 - modification of east facade to remove hipped gable, replace exterior shingles with vertical board and batten.

21. Employee's Cabin: One and a half story, rectangular wood frame, gable roof, exterior wall shakes, multi-light sash windows; shed roofed lean-to abuts west gable end.

22. Water Tower: Ca. 1925-30. Approximately 60 feet high, of peeled-pole construction. Upper cabin structure is square with a hipped roof and rests on an exposed pole platform. Tower is approximately 18 feet square at the base, tapering to 10 feet at the base of the cabin structure. Exterior wall material is wood shingles. Some of the structural members are unsound.

23. Employee's Cabin: One-story, wood frame structure, gable roof, exterior wood shakes. One room with shed roof annexed to east facade.

24. Water Fountain and Reflecting Pool: Important landscape feature. Built of cut and fitted blocks of basalt with retaining wall.

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ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 7

25. Small Drinking Fountain: quartzite rock.

CONTINUATION SHEET

26. Resort Picnic Area: Landscaped with indigenous vegetation and native basalt.

27. Forest Service Residence #1031: 1934 - CCC, T-shaped, wood frame structure, high hipped roof, high intersecting gable, uncoursed lava rock foundation. Exterior sawn wood shingles, multi-light sash windows, covered porches. Exterior in very good condition, altered only by addition of shed roofed lean-to storage shed.

28. Garage #1529: 1935 - CCC, rectangular, detached wood frame, high gable roof, exterior board and batten and wood shingles.

29. Forest Service Residence #1032: 1940 - CCC, single story, L-shaped wood frame, lava rock foundation, hipped gable roof with gabled hip on north end. Exterior, sawn horizontal clapboards and vertical board and batten, multi-light sash windows, covered porches, pine tree logs cut out on west gable end. Exterior in very good condition. Altered only by replacement of sash window with an aluminum casement.

30. Garage #1528: 1935 - CCC rectangular, wood frame with high gable roof, exterior board and batten and wood shingles.

31. Forest Service Residence #1033: 1931, single-story, T-shaped, wood frame, lava rock foundation, high gable roof with cross gable. Exterior wood shingles, multi-light sash windows. Remodeled interior and exterior, 1940 by CCC, converting use from office to residence. Pine tree logos on west and south gable ends and on west porch pediment. Exterior in good condition, no obvious alteration,

32. Garage #1525: 1935 - CCC, attached, wood frame with gable roof, exterior half-round shiplapping. Divided internally with closed storage space. Very good condition, no obvious alteration.

33. Forest Service Residence #1035: 1927, rectangular, single story, wood frame, cement block foundation, high gable roof, exterior narrow, rounded shiplap, multilight sash windows. Formerly Hamaker Meadows Guard Station, was removed to present site in 1955. Lacking integrity of location, no obvious exterior alteration.

37. Horse Barn #2413: 1936 - CCC, rectangular, peeled-pole frame on lava rock foundation, high gable roof, exterior 1x8 wood lap siding butting to 1x4 corner trim. Three bays on east elevation open. Enclosed storage area on north end. Roof material and roof trim damaged on northwest corner, otherwise structurally and materially sound, unaltered.

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39. Fire Equipment Shed #2306: 1942 - CCC, rectangular, peeled-pole framing, exterior wood shakes and vertical board and batten, high gable roof, open length of south elevation. 1962-63 wood shake roof replaced with corrugated metal. In very good condition.

40. Fire Warehouse #2205: 1934 - CCC, rectangular, two-story, heavy timber construction on lava rock foundation, high gable roof with gabled and shed roofed dormers. Exterior wood shingles and vertical board and batten, multi-light sash windows, covered porch on south facade, pine tree logo on porch pediment. 1946, second story converted to residential apartments, outside stairs added. 1959, stairs rebuilt, gabled porches added. 1962-63, wood shake roof replaced with corrugated metal, stairs covered with sloping metal roofs. Exterior of structure retains much of its architectural integrity despite alterations, in very good condition.

41. Light Plant House #1602: 1942 - CCC, 13x16 wood frame on lava rock foundation, high gable roof, exterior wood shingles and vertical board and batten. In very good condition, unaltered.

42. Gas and Lube Shed #2564: 1935 - CCC, wood frame salt box on lava rock foundation, exterior wood shingles and vertical board and batten, multi-light sash windows, recessed umbrage. In good condition, several windows boarded, otherwise unaltered.

43. Garage: 1940 - CCC, rectangular wood frame with medium gable roof, exterior horizontal clapboard with 1x4 corner trim, multi-light sash windows. Vertical overhead door on south gable end may be recent alteration. Presently used for storage, the garage originally belonged to the District Ranger Office, demolished in 1976.

45. Union Creek Campground: 1934 - CCC, constructed on the site of early informal camping area, the formal public occupancy site extended along the north and south banks of Union Creek to its confluence with the Rogue River. Subsequently expanded, 23 campsites retain the spacious secluded character of Depression-era tent spaces, including heavy stone stoves. Piped water system, with little to moderate site modification.

46. Community Kitchen: 1935 - CCC, rectangular (20x30) heavy peeled-log construction on raised lava rock platform, high hipped roof, central stone chimney, four stoves, wet sink with drainboard, four half-log picnic tables. Railing of horizontal peeled logs with smaller vertical peeled uprights. Sugar pine shake roof replaced 1978, with like materials, end-nailed as original. Excellent condition.

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47. Registry Booth - Comfort Station: 1935 - CCC, rectangular, post-on-sill construction of half-logs, originally bark-covered. 1956, a cement foundation was placed beneath structure. In very good condition, little altered.

Community Bonfire Ring: 1934-35 - CCC. Ring of cut and fitted basalt blocks, 48. approximately 6 feet in diameter.

Tract of Summer Homes, Block B: 1944-56, private ownership. Tract of 17 50. summer homes, paralleling western bend of Rogue River along Forest Road 3109. Typically cabin-style structures, gable roofs, exterior shakes, wood shingle, clapboards, varied fenestration. Exteriors in good condition.

Tract of Summer Homes, Block A: ca. 1925 - 1955-56, private ownership. Tract 51. of 25 summer homes parallels Rogue River, north to south. Cabin-style structures, gable roofs, exteriors wood shakes, shingles, clapboards, varied fenestration. Exteriors in good condition.

Site of Upper Rogue Civilian Conservation Corps Camp: June 1933. No 52. original structures remain: camp was used seasonally, enrollees housed in tents. Permanent administrative end support structures dismantled in 1942 and transferred to 13th Naval District, Seattle, Washington.

1943-1947 - Site occupied seasonally by crews of U.S.D.A. Bureau of Entomology and Plant Ouarantine. Two structures erected in this period remain, acquired by the U.S. Forest Service in 1948.

Mess Hall #1400: 1943-47, rectangular, gable roof, exteriors and roof 52a. corrugated metal, sash windows. Good condition, unaltered.

Shower House #1725: 1943-47, rectangular, single-story, wood frame cabin with 52b. high gable roof, exteriors clapboard, covered porches, sash windows, unaltered, in good condition.

Tract of Summer Homes, Block E: 1940-1950, private ownership. Tract of 6 53. homes, paralleling Highway 62 on the east. Typically 1- or 1-1/2 story wood frame cabins, gable roofs, exteriors wood shakes, shingles, lapped siding. Exteriors in good condition.

54. Union Creek - Huckleberry Mountain Wagon Road: ca. 1910 by a Mr. Woodruff. Forest Road 3116 now follows the route of the historic road.

Upper Rogue River Trail: 1936 - CCC, segment between Natural Bridge and 55. Union Creek follows the east bank of the Rogue River.

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56. Natural Bridge Campground: ca. 1933-34 - CCC. Extends along east bank of Rogue River above Natural Bridge at end of Forest Road 3106. Nine campsites retain spacious and secluded qualities of Depression-era tent spaces, with heavy stone stoves. Subsequently expanded, the campground shows little site modification.

57. Community Bonfire Ring: Ring of small cut and fitted basalt blocks, approximately 4 feet in diameter. Stone is worn.

58. Stone Walk, Entrance Overlook: ca. 1933-34- CCC. Flagged stone walk over exposed basalt flow to entrance viewpoint. Three foot overlook fence of roughly cut and fitted basalt blocks. Flood damaged 1964, repaired, in good condition.

59. Remnant - Stone Walk, Exit Overlook: ca. 1933-34 - CCC. H eavily damaged in 1964 flooding, stone walk almost obliterated, not repaired. A low overlook fence of roughly cut and fitted basalt blocks above exit. Deteriorated.

60. Natural Bridge: Scenic geo-hydrological point of interest. At this point the Rogue River flows through a lava tube approximately 100 yards in length. At points, the surface of the lava tube is exposed and the passage of the water beneath can be detected by the presence of small spouts bubbling up to form pools. During low water periods, the entire volume of the Rogue River is channeled through the tube.

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7 PAGE 11 CONTINUATION SHEET ITEM NUMBER

Nonconforming Intrusions Detracting From The Integrity of The District:

(See accompanying sketch map and appropriate site plans for locations.)

34. Forest Service Residence #1066: 1960. Rectangular, single-story, wood frame ranch-style house, attached garage. Low gable roof, exterior vertical siding, aluminum casement windows.

35. Inter-Regional Fire Suppression Crew Quarters and Mess Hall #1067: 1961. Rectangular, single-story, wood frame, ranch-style structure, attached garage. Low gable roof, exterior vertical siding, aluminum casement windows.

36. Inter-Regional Fire Suppression Crew Barracks #1068: 1961. Rectangular. single-story, wood frame, ranch-style structure, attached garage. Low gable roof, exterior vertical siding, aluminum casement windows.

BPR Storage Shed #2308: 1956. Rectangular, wood frame, shed roof, exteriors 38. vertical board and batten.

Visitor Information Service - Office #2010: 1964. Rectangular, wood frame, 44. ranch-style building, low gable roof, wide horizontal lapped siding, aluminum casement windows, covered porch. Removal of this structure planned to be replaced with an approved, compatible structure to serve same function.

49. Amphitheater: Recent construction, compatible. Half log benches on rough log bases. Gable roofed screen for slide presentation.

52d. "Tree" House: Plywood shed.

52e. Bunkhouse #1312: 1960. Rectangular, wood frame, ranch-style barracks at site of CCC camp, now Forest Service Work Center.

52f. Bunkhouse #1313: 1960. Rectangular, wood frame, ranch-style barracks at site of CCC camp, now Forest Service Work Center.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Tourism and outdoor recreation have become increasingly popular and economically important in the Pacific Northwest and in the local communities of that Region since leisure time and the automobile became generally available. Union Creek is significant to the broad patterns of local and Regional history in that it embodies the spectrum of forest-oriented recreational uses evolved over an expanse of 80 years, and reflects the changing needs and expectations of the visiting public.

The entire Historic District exists within a geographically definable area and possesses a significant concentration of sites and structures which are united by past events and by aesthetic plans, and which retain integrity of location, design, setting, material, workmanship, feeling and association. The diverse resources of the Union Creek Historic District reflect the interrelated themes of transportation, early forest recreation, early commercial development and Forest Service administration as well as Depression-era America.

The development of Union Creek as a recreation site is directly related to its location on the only feasible travel route up the Rogue River. Constructed in 1865, the Jacksonville-Fort Klamath Military Wagon Road (Union Creek Trail) provided farmers, ranchers and merchants of the Rogue Valley with a passage to the Upper Klamath Basin and other points east of the Cascade crest that was accessible at almost all times of the year. Union Creek was identified as a convenient and pleasant place to break a toilsome journey. By the later years of the 19th century, Union Creek had become popular with Rogue Valley residents as a camping and fishing site where families and friends gathered to visit and enjoy the scenery.

With the establishment of the National Forest system under U.S. Forest Service administration, forest recreation increased. When in 1910-11 the old wagon road was improved for automobile traffic, Union Creek became a favored rest stop for excursionists to Crater Lake and for berrypickers whose ultimate destination was the historic huckleberry patches on nearby Huckleberry Mountain. Recreation sites enhanced by the U.S. Forest Service drew increasing numbers of auto campers.

The end of the World War I brought about the "Good Roads" movement. "Good roads everywhere" included the construction of a two-lane Crater Lake Highway (present State Highway 62) which followed or closely paralleled the route of the other Crater Kale Road - 1865 Military Wagon Road. Although unpaved until 1930, the highway brought more and more tourists to Crater Lake and to Union Creek.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGR HICAL REFERENCES

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PAGE 2

Recognized by the Forest Service as a recreation unit as early as 1920, plans for expanded recreational facilities at Union Creek were made. Special-use permits for commercial facilities, a gas station, repair garage, a delicatessen, a store, cabins and lodge were issued to accommodate the rising tourist trade. The resort structures, independently developed on either side of the highway, were typical of the period, small and rustic with steeply pitched shingled roofs and overhanging eaves in keeping with the forest and mountain setting. Notable among these structures is the four-sided water tower of rustic styling using logs and shakes. Once an important feature of rural life, water towers are no longer found in great numbers.

ITEM NUMBER

Anticipating an ever increasing tourist industry, the cafe was remodeled between 1930 and 1933, enlarging its capacity. Locally famous for its huckleberry pies, Beckie's Cafe was a popular feature of Union Creek. The interiors of the cafe, as well as the unique handcrafted furniture, reflect a superior quality of workmanship as does the permittee's residence also built at this time. The structures on the west side of the highway demonstrate a unity of architectural design in details, materials and coloration.

Built in 1937 of wood shingles, heavy timbers and native stone, the Union Creek Lodge reflects the prevailing concept of rustic alpine architecture found in public accommodations in National Parks and Forests. The interiors of knotty pine are virtually a signature of the times and reflect the care and craftsmanship involved in construction.

Because the popularity of resorts diminished after the 1930s, the resort facilities at Union Creek represent a form of recreation once typical, now vanishing. The Union Creek Resort has retained its integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association in spite of continuous use by the public.

Forest Service administration of Union Creek as a recreational unit has been consistent since its inception. The Federally-sponsored work projects of the Depression-era enhanced previous management concepts and made possible development of the area as a recreation complex. Working from the Upper Rogue Camp at Union Creek, established as one of the first in the Pacific Northwest in June 1933, Civilian Conservation Corps crews constructed and improved campgrounds at Natural Bridge, Union Creek and Farewell Bend. The campsites reflect the spacious, secluded qualities required by families of tent campers who gathered in the forest environment to hunt, fish, hike the trails along the Rogue River and Union Creek, and view the geologic phenomena of Natural Bridge and Rogue Gorge. The community kitchen and adjacent community bonfire ring in the picnic area at Union Creek reflect the family-oriented quality of outdoor experience expected by the public. Integrity of workmanship is exhibited in the log construction of the community kitchen as is the skill of stone masonry in the central fireplaces and chimney. Half-log picnic tables in the community kitchen reveal the attention to detail of the CCC.

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Administration of the Ranger District was transferred to Union Creek in May 1926. Between 1933 and 1942 a District compound was built by the Civilian Conservation Corps at the Ranger Station. Exhibiting the total design and planning of the era, the compound included residences, offices, warehouse, gas house, garages, barn and storage buildings, all constructed in the same design and of similar materials. Rough boards and timbers cut at the site on a portable saw mill and hand-split shakes as well as the use of native stone quarried at a site on the west bank of the Rogue just below the Gorge created a unity of construction compatible with the forest surroundings. The compound retains an integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association undiminished by continuous use. Exceptions to this should be noted: residence #1035, the former Hamaker Meadows Guard Station, was built circa 1925-1927 and removed to its present location in the compound in 1955. Although lacking integrity of location, the structure is architecturally compatible with the Depression-era buildings of the compound and is of historic interest as an early Forest Service administrative structure. Its removal to Union Creek as a residence demonstrates adaptive usage. The 1960-61 Inter-Regional Fire Suppression and Crew Barracks and Mess Hall, while modern ranch-style structures, lie on the eastern periphery of the compound and thus isolated do not intrude.

The ski hill and CCC fireplace remaining from the warming shelter at the Winter Sports Area represent the earliest recognition of the importance of winter recreational use of the Union Creek Historic District.

Because the CCC structures represent a period of great economic and social upheaval, and because they directly reflect the end products of a massive relief program undertaken at that time, they fulfill a significant part of the National Register criteria. They are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to this country's historical development. The architecture itself offers no particular innovation or refinement, but it is work typical of the time, of the location and of the purpose, executed with careful craftsmanship and detail. It is unique in that the programs and the times which motivated them no longer exist. Viewed together the campgrounds at Natural Bridge, Union Creek and Farewell Bend represent several levels of development and, therefore, varying qualities of experience. Too, they exhibit an evolution in campground design which reflects the changing needs and expectations of the camping public.

The Union Creek Historic District retains a charm and quaintness: although in continuous use, the setting, feeling and association remains that of the 1930's. Managed by the Forest Service for its recreational and aesthetic values, Union Creek retains much of its original character and continues to attract tourists and local recreationists much as it did at the turn of the century.

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At Union Creek past and present sensitive management of the environment and its resources has effectively preserved the historic character of the area. Apart from certain explicit stipulations and constraints viewed to be necessary to retain specific elements of historicity, continuation of this management direction should be entirely adequate to preserve and protect the Historic District in the This should allow for necessary growth and development within the future. recreation complex and for its continued use and enjoyment by the public. Continued present management would not preclude the selection of additional maintenance alternatives at a future time.

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Personal Interviews:

George Ring - U.S.F.S. employee, Prospect R.D. Lowell Ash - U.S.F.S. retired, Prospect, Oregon

All reports listed are on file at Forest Supervisor's office, Rogue River National Forest, Medford, Oregon.

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ITEM NUMBER 10 PAGE 3

Unit, to a point 100 feet south of the lava tube exit at Natural Bridge. From this southwestern point a line of convenience is drawn eastward approximately following the natural contours of the land, to the point where it reaches the elevation of the uppermost pumice bench. Turning north and east, the boundary follows the crest of the uppermost pumice bench which is delineated by a change in soil type to a point directly east of the junction of State Highways 62 and 230. A straight line is then drawn between the northern most points of the eastern and western boundaries.

UNION CREEK HISTORIC DISTRICT SITE NUMBER REFERENCE MAP KEY

- 1. Farewell Bend Campground
- 2. Ski Hill Winter Sports Area
- 3. Warming Shelter Fireplace Winter Sports Area
- 4. Rogue Gorge
- 5. Rock Quarry
- 6. 1930 Huckleberry Mountain Road
- 7. Log Drift Fence
- 8. Bridge Site
- 9. Old Crater Lake Road 1865 Military Wagon Road

Union Creek Resort Complex

10. Union Creek Lodge

11. Resort Cabins

| | | 11 - | - | | | " |
|-----|-------|------|---|---|-------|------------|
| a | Cabin | #1. | h | - | Cabin | #8 |
| b - | Cabin | #] | i | - | Cabin | <i></i> #9 |
| c - | Cabin | #3 | j | - | Cabin | #15 |
| d - | Cabin | #4 | k | - | Cabin | #19 |
| e - | Cabin | #5 | 1 | | Cabin | #20 |
| f - | Cabin | #6 | m | | Cabin | #21 |

- g Cabin #7
- 12. Linen Storage Building
- 13. Resort Shower House
- 14. Storage Shed
- 15. Shed
- 16. Stone Drinking Fountain
- 17. Beckie's Cafe
- 18. Permittee's Residence
- 19. Union Creek Service Station
- 20. Union Creek Garage
- 21. Employee's Cabin
- 22. Water Tower
- 23. Employee's Cabin
- 24. Water Fountain and Reflecting Pool
- 25. Small Stone Drinking Fountain
- 26. Resort Picnic Area

Union Creek Ranger Station Compound

27. Forest Service Residence #1031

- 28. Garage #1529
- 29. Forest Service Residence #1032
- 30. Garage #1528

31. Forest Service Residence #1033

- 32. Garage #1525
- 33. Forest Service Residence #1035
- 34. Forest Service Residence #1066
- 35. Inter-Regional Fire Suppression Crew Quarters and Messhall #1067
- 36. Inter-Regional Fire Suppression Crew Barracks #1068

- 37. Horse Barn #2413
- 38. BPR Storage Shed #2308
- 39. Fire Equipment Shed #2306
- 40. Fire Warehouse #2205
- 41. Light Plant House #1602
- 42. Gas and Oil House #2654
- 43. Garage
- 44. Visitor Information Service Office #2010
- 45. Union Creek Campground
- 46. Community Kitchen

46a, 46b, 46c, 46d - Original Picnic Tables

- 47. Registry Booth-Comfort Station
- 48. Community Bonfire Ring
- 49. Amphitheater
- 50. Summer Homes, Tract B
- 51. Summer Homes, Tract A
- 52. Site of Upper Rogue Civilian Conservation Corps Camp
 - Blister Rust Camp Forest Service Work Center Structures 52a - Messhall #1400
 - 52b Shower House #1725
 - 52c Storage #1309
 - 52d "Tree" House
 - 52e Bunkhouse #1312
 - 52f Bunkhouse #1313
- 53. Summer Homes, Tract E
- 54. Union Creek Huckleberry Mountain Wagon Road (F.S. Road 3116)
- 55. Upper Rogue River Trail (Union Creek to Natural Bridge)
- 56. Natural Bridge Camground
- 57. Community Bonfire Ring
- 58. Stone Walk and Overlook Entrance Natural Bridge
- 59. Remnant Stone Walk and Overlook Exit Natural Bridge
- 60. Natural Bridge





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JKETCH UNION CREEK RESORT ROGUE RIVER "ICES ENG DEPT



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REPORT ON

UNION CREEK RECREATION UNIT PLAN

CRATER NATIONAL FOREST

(Page 2)

| TRACT | | : Stream :frontage | : Cover :0 = Open :S = Scattered :D = Dense | : Water : Development : Method | |
|---|--|---|--|--------------------------------------|--|
| A-Summer Home B-Club C-Forest Camp D-Forest Camp E-Reserved F-Park G-Club H-Summer Home I-Club J-Resort K-Conmercial L-Resort M-Ranger Sta. N-Reserved O-Park P-Club Q-Forest Camp TOTAL | : : : : : : : : : : : : : : | : 7200 : 3800 : 160 : 1200 : 1200 : 500 : 500 : 1900 : 400 : : 2700 : 1100 | : " " " " " : " " " " : " " " " : " " " " DF, H : " " D-DF, H : " " D-DF, H : " " D-DF, LP : S " D-DF, LP | | Dry flat land, With artificial stream may become popular. Good place for Boy Socuts or like organisation. An excellent roomy camp. Subject to great expansion. Fine flat to gentle land. Open areas for athletios. Dry, bushy, timbered land. Local natural park. Bice, timbered park, to be kept as buffer between camp and user Low heavy-timbered flat. For one or two large clubs. Hice bench, ten to twelve feet above river. Good for clubsite -large club, after crusher is removed. Should be held for future resort site. Fine gorge view. Dry flat. Selected as present resort site. Nice land up stream. Hear water, handy to recreation center. Heary-timbered flat. Local Natural Park. Island park. Reserve from camping and special uses. Moble scenery, nice flat, Reserve for large organizations. Leave for horse camp |
| Summary by Classes | : | : | : | : | |
| Forest Camps Resort Commercial Clubs Summer Homes Ranger Sta. Reserved | : 80.3 : 15.1 : 7.0 : 46.9 : 13.6 : 2.3 : 200.0 | : 2400 : 4400 : 1400 : 400 | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · | | |
| TOTAL | : 365.2 | : 24350 | : | : | |

The following describes witness trees installed by Lee P.Brown and F. W. Cleator in June, 1923:

| From | <u> </u> | | #Course | : Dist. Ft.: | To | | Scribed |
|----------|----------|------------------|---|---------------------------|-------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Bleck | Cor | •.▲-1 | : : \$30• B : \$47• W | : 10. 5 : 12.6 | DP H | 15" 7" | W/A/1 W/A/1 |
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| Block | | | : N50 W : S54 W | : 11.0 : 11.0 | YP YP | : 7" : : 14" : | ₩/B/1 ₩/B/2 |
| п ж | * | B-3 B-4 | : \$87°E : \$54°W | : 43.0 : 11.5 | DJF YJP | 3" 30" | ₩/B/3 ₩/B/4 |
| * | | C -1 C -2 | : 370°W : 362°B : 177°B | : 21.0 : 3.5 : 28.3 | YP YP YP | : 3" : : 3" : : 6" : | W/C/1 W/C/2 W/C/2 |
| | * | C -8 C -4 | : N57°E : N57°E : N48°30'W : S22°E | : 9.5 : 17.5 : 7.0 | IC WF YP | : 10" : : 4" : : 37" : | W/C/3 W/6/4 W/C/4 |
| # # | * | СН-1 СН-4 | : N54°W : N33°W | : 34.0 : 13.5 | Y19 Y19 Y19 | : 17" : : 3" : | W/CH/1 W/CH/4 |
| #: | * | U-1 U-4 | : N16•30'W : N70• E | : 10.5 : 2.3 | YP YP | : 3" : 16" | ₩/U/1 ₩/U/4 |

Course and distance taken to center of tree. ## In Tract B of Union Creak Recreation Unit.

÷ .

10. Sanitation

The Lands Handbook gives all general information on sanitation necessary to proper administration of recreation areas. The map shows by printed schedule toilets on the ground in June, 1923. It is very necessary that toilet labeled 1 on the map be removed if not already done.

11. Improvements

The map shows existing improvements in June, 1923, except two summer homes on Block A.

12. Grasing Values and Regulation

There is some little grazing value to the land within this Unit, but not sufficient to make any trouble with grazing administration. Stock of all kinds should be kept off this unit. except such as the Forest Service may permit for tourist use on Tract Q, or temporarily in proper enclosures in Tracts E or N. No enclosures should be close to Union Creek or Rogue River.

13. Timber Values and Cutting Regulations

- 1

There is a considerable amount of valuable merchantable timber on this Unit. A small sale of shake timber was in progress on Tract N at time of examination. Small selection sales of decadent, diseased, or infested timber should be permitted under supervision of qualified officer who understands recreation values. No clear cutting sales should be made, within the Unit. 14. Reservoir Values

The water courses do not appear to be subject to any reservoir development, other than for local lighting plants, and ditches, which will benefit recreation conditions. Local power plants should be placed out of sight of main road. 15. Fish and Game

Eastern brook, rainbow and outthroat trout have been planted in Rogue River and Union Creek in this locality according to statement of Frank Amy. He states that he planted 18,000 eastern brook fry in 1922.

AUG 13 m

(Fish and Game, Con't)

Rogue River is a justly famous trout stream and should be annually stocked since it is so accessible by automobile. Union Creek is a very fine fishing stream, but less used on account of dense brush and difficulty of travel. It will no doubt be kept well stocked by resort permittees and others directly interested, but yhe Forest Service should cooperate wherever possible. 16. <u>Fire Protection</u>

The used portions of this Unit are well protected from fire, being almost altogether between the Highway and the river. Resort permittee should be careful in country adjacent to his tract since it adjoins brushy areas that are a fire menace.

Forest Service patrolmen should use special care south of Union Creek where fire may easily spread south in brush and timber of Tracts D and E.

There will always be some menace from hikers down the river, and up Union Creek which may best be taken care of by good trails and patrol.

17. Summary of Recommendations

Q.

A recreation plan should be made in the near future for Natural Bridge Unit adjoining this Unit to the south, with the idea of a good sized Forest Camp at the Natural Bridge and perhaps olub and summer home territory on the river. It will be very important, however, to have a natural woodland trail leading along the east river bank between Union Creek and the Natural Bridge.

In three or four years a study should be made of Union Creek east of Tract L, since it is quite possible that there may be good summer home or club ground along the banks not too inaccessible. or it may be more desirable to keep it for a fisherman's stream with a loop trail connecting with the Highway farther up.

There has been some poor landscaping done on Tracts C and L, but mostly on the resort site. The "short skirt" method is not approved. Small trees or brush should either be out to the ground or left in entirety. There is a nice road fringe of brush and reproduction where Tract K joins Tract C. This should not be touched. In trimming or clearing for comping space, it should not be the idea to make one great clearing. Larger openings for community camping are allright especially in such a camp as this, but there should be smaller clearings to fit one, two and three families, so that those who like it may have some measure of seclusion.

Long stay campers should be sent west of the loop road. Between it and the highway should be reserved for pionickers or one-day visitors.

River trail to Natural Bridge and Union Creek trail loop should be considered early although their principal value will be as recreation trails. The river is very scenic in front of Tract P and there should never be any interference in traffic along the river. More than this, such improvements as may be put on Tract P in the future should be well back from the river so that they will not obtrude on such stirring scenic spots as the defile

Conv

L Recrettion, Crater, Union Cr. Unit

CORRECTION MEND NO. S.

Sumer has treet recently surveyed south of Ranger Station and east of highesty is hereby labeled Treet R.

That part of Fract L lying south of Union Crock is hereby reclassified as Amager Station site. Bathlishmet of min renger headquarters at this point requires considerably more space than Appeared necessary when plan was submitted. On account of gravel pit operations on track 1, the use channet be as classified until gravel pit is abandened. Bottfinisten of these corrections at proper points in map and report sheple be male.

Assistant Distrist Forestor.

Jammary 4, 1928.

gorge and the heas of the island, Tract 0.

In time of course a river trail will grow north of Union Creek up to and including Tract Q. With a footbridge across the mouth of Union Creek, this will be a most interesting route.

It is believed that Union Creek Camp and along river trail will be an excellent place for arboretum tree signs. It might ue sufficiently worth while to put a spirit of contest into it by setting signs, "What is this?" on certain specimens with an answering sign on the other side. There is perhaps no better example of a natural arboretum in the District and it surely is worth while to make the most of it. A well figured scheme will doubtless make a great hit with tourist travelers and be educational.

Tracts A and B do not have the earmarks of being popular very scon, but the ditch or artificial stream may make a big difference.

Tract J should be kept in mind and thought of as the probable future main resort tract of the Unit, although it may take years to bring it about. The gravel pit across the river from Tracts I and J will be something of an eyesper for years, out will finally blend in with the river scenery. 18. <u>Photographs</u>

Photos numbered 182507 to 182525 taken by F. W. Cleator in June, 1923, illustrate this Unit, and the Natural Bridge Unit. Photos 47210A and 47212A taken in 1920 form a panorama of Union Creek Camp. Number 47214A shows the highway and surroundings in 1920.

A representative collection of these photos should be mounted on 18 x 21 sheets and added as a part of this report. The Natural Bridge photos should be put on/different sheet or sheets so that transfer may be made to Natural Bridge Unit Plan when it shall have been made. Numbers 182507 to 182510 illustrate the Natural Bridge.

Respectfully submitted func 15,1914 Mit icatar Respectfully submitted

Forest Examiner. Approved: august 15-24 Hugh BRankin Forest Supervisor.

O: Due

Acting District Forester

Approved: ______ Aug. 7, 1924

District Forester.

NUG 1 3 th

with provision that the portion morth of Creek on tract L shall be developed first, and that no resort dowelopment shall take place on tract L south of Creek until it is found that the land is not needed for ranger station.

L Recreation, Crater Detober 15, 1927. Union Cr. Bec. Unit

CORRECTION MEND NO. 2.

Reelessification of that part of Trast H southerly from Trust H and adjacent to east side of Crater Labor Highway is hereby made to enumer heme uses. Lots should be surveyed as needed fronting highway but is much location and with such follow-up supervision that as residence is placed mearer than 160 fost to center lime of highway, and that timber and bruch screen is to be minimized between house and highway, which two provisions about be placed in any permits issued on this trust. Appropriate notification of this residentification should be made on maps and plans of this Dait.

Assistant District Forester.

REPORT ON

1

UNION CREEK RECREATION UNIT PLAN

CRATER NATIONAL FOREST

Note: This Unit was studied by Recreation Examiner F. W. Cleator and Forest Examiner Lee P. Brown in June 1923, by which the classification was agreed upon about as indicated. Memorandum, L. Recreation, Grater, Union Greek Unit of July 16, 1925, by F. W. Cleator, is pertinent to this report.

1. Location and Area

At the mouth of Union Creek, Rogue River including Gorge closely adjacent. The total area of used and potential recreation ground reported on is about 365 acres. Out of a total of about 24,350 feet of stream frontage, practically all of which is usable, about 9700 feet lies along Union Creek and 14,650 feet along the Rogue reported on under this Unit.

2. Accessibility

Union Creek is about 59 miles by Crater Lake Highway from Medford, and about 22 miles from the lodge at Crater Lake. It lies close to the junction point of the Diamond Lake road with the Highway.

3. Climate

Very satisfactory summer climate. Snow not very heavy.

4. Topography

Old lava flows have left fine/flats about the mouth of Union Creek, and the river has carved out remarkable rock gorges and the Natural Bridge. The map indicates local topography.

5. Cover

Cover is variable and indicated to some extent on the map. On Tracts C. D. F. and G there is a remarkable natural

arboretum. This seems to be a transition ground between the

Douglas fir region to the north and sugar pine region to the south. The following species were noted in mixture:

Sugar, white, yellow and lodgepole pines; Douglas, grand, noble (Shasta) firs; hemlock; yew; incense cedar; (cottonwood; alder; willow; dogwood; mountain ash; wine maple; chinquapin; madrone; hazel; red-osier; service berry; ceanothus; and other brash. The examination was cursory from this standpoint and there may have been other tree species.

A special effort should be made along the trails in Tract C to put up arboretum signs in the interests of educating the public.

6. Use by the Public

Visitors estimates for 1923 showed 25,357 total, practically all of which were auto compers or picnickers. The increase has been steady from year to year. Crater Lake is the principal competitor, Diamond Lake next. Natural Bridge, Huckleberry City, and Woodruff Weadows compete to some extent.

7. Existing developments

The map shows by legend and schedule the improvements up to June 1923, except that two lots in Block \blacktriangle had summer home buildings. 3, <u>General Requirements to be Met</u>.

Being close to the junction of the Diamond Lake Road with Crater Lake Highway and a three hour journey from Medford it will always be subject to heavy camping and pionicking. The Forest Camp is, therefore, made sufficiently large to meet future demands. With another camp at Natural Bridge, within easy walking distance down river. Union Greek, it is believed that sufficient ground in the locality has been reserved for the purpose. Jater frontage summer home lots are rather few on this Unit. It is believed that more water frontage for this class may be found on Rogue River above and below and possibly further up Union Creek.

There will always be need of a resort at Union Creek. The present resort is not very prepossessing and apparently not very popular. It is believed that in the future a higher class resort on Tract J will be prectical using the Tract L perhaps as an auxiliary.

9. Classification

The map shows detailed topography, aspects, slopes, water courses and other features descriptive of individual tracts. The following water temperatures were recorded for this Unit:

> Union Creek at road crossing, 4:00 P.M., 6/9/25 - 50° Fahr. """, 8:00 A.H., 6/10/23- 46° " Rogue River " Natural Bridge, 4:00 P.M., 6/10/23-49.5° "

The following schedule takes up matters that the map does not adequately indicate. In Paragraph 17, summary, a few special considerations are given.

(See next Page)

AUG 13 BBB

L Recreation, Crater, Union Cr. Unit

July 3, 1931

FOREST SERVICE

Crater National Porest MED OREGON

JUL 9 1931 BCEIVED

CORRECTION MEMO NO. 4

Tract A No building should be placed within 200 feet of centerline of highway. This is effect eliminates all that row of summer home lots adjacent to highway.

Tract B No building should be placed within 200 feet of centerline of highway. No clearing or other improvement should be done within this strip except by authority of the Forest Supervisor.

Tract D

Is hereby reclassified to public camp use on account of expected future demand. Tract G

This tract is hereby reclassified from organization to summer home usage except a 200foot strip at west end which should be reserved as local park and thrown into tract F. This is done because large organizations need more playground facilities and more seclusion. There are more suitable areas on Rogue River.for organization usage.

Tract J

This was originally classified as a resort tract upon application of the then concessionnaire of Crater Lake National Park. Since the resort Tract L has been substituted and tract J is adjacent to the spectacular gorge scenery it is hereby reclassified to local park and scenic strip usage.

Tract K

No more commercial development should be dome on this tract except for actual expansion meeds of the restaurant, garage and filling station now existing. That portion of Tract K west of highway and north of the filling station is hereby reclassified as local park and thrown with Trast F. That portion of Tract K east of highway is hereby reclassified as resort ground to be thrown with Tract L except a strip 200 feet from centerline of highway which is reserved as scenic strip.

The file in the Amy summer home case which affects Tract K should show in writing the fact that it is not subject to further transfer. It is understood that the Supervisor has made verbal agreement with permittee Amy that the cabin will revert to the government upon death of Amy.

Tracts P and Q

Are hereby reelassified to local natural park and scenic road strip since the river is very scenic here; also on account of the meanness to the Union Cr. recreation center and National Park Highway.

9 Duch Regional Forester.

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L Becreation, Crater Correction Hemo No. 1 Union Freek Sec. 1 an

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The traffic at Union Creek, as indicated by visitors' reports and the observation of Supervisor and Rangers, indicates that an additional service of a delicatessen shop to furnish lunch goods to campers is justified.

2. Mark

This should be located on about 1/8 acre in the extreme east corner of tract, almost directly across the main highway from store.

Map and report should indicate these corrections in appropriate places.

t District Porester Anglata

AUG 1 3 1980

February 5, 1925











