

# Public Correspondence\*

October 10, 2008

Exhibit

E.E. Wilson and Columbia Basin Wildlife Area Management Plans



**Michelle Tate**

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**From:** ODFW Comments  
**Sent:** Monday, August 11, 2008 9:18 AM  
**To:** Nancy Breuner; Eric Rickerson; Michelle Tate; Liz Bueffel  
**Subject:** FW: EE Wilson management

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**From:** Elsie [mailto:eltzroth@peak.org]  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 07, 2008 9:55 AM  
**To:** ODFW Comments  
**Subject:** EE Wilson management

EE Wilson Management Agenda

You probably know that I'm an advocate for the birds at EEW. I've been the coordinator for the Audubon Society of Corvallis Bluebird Trail since 1976 and have banded Western Bluebirds since 1981. My late husband and I also rehabbed other species for ten years.

The biggest problem we faced on the Bluebird Trail on public, federal, or state land was competition from House Sparrows. We had many bluebird adults unable to breed in boxes due to aggressive physical competition. Bluebird eggs were destroyed and both adults and nestlings were killed by House Sparrows.

Please consider management control for the House Sparrow. Destroying the male sparrow may make a difference for the cavity nesters.

The European Starling was not a threat for bluebirds or other cavity nesters in boxes unless they enlarged the nest box entrance, but they did usurp cavities in trees. In that manner they reduced numbers of some species until boxes were placed in proper habitat. Please consider protection for the smaller cavity nesters. Use boxes with smaller entrance holes.

Feral cats must be eliminated.

Thanks for listening,  
Elsie Eltzroth

August 2, 2008  
1205 NW 21ST  
Albany, Oregon  
97321-1200

ODFW  
Wildlife Division  
3406 Cherry Ave.  
Salem, OR  
97302

This letter is a written comment regarding the 10 year management plan for the E.E. Wilson Wildlife Area. I could not attend the meeting that was held on 7/30/08 at Corvallis ODFW office so I am submitting this note:

In the Albany Democrat-Herald article announcing the public comment meeting I read that Mr. Mike Moore, the Area Manager, said there were not going to be any major changes in the management plan for the area and I was a little disappointed.

In general, from what I have observed over about 25 years of hunting at E.E. Wilson is that upland bird hunting is becoming a very minor part of the Management Plan. During this time development, population growth, the elimination of upland bird hunting from two of the Federal Wildlife Refuges in our area (Findley and Ankeny), and changes in farming practices have continued to make public upland bird hunting opportunities harder to come by.

It seems to me this is a time to be increasing the resources allocated to upland birds and bird hunting. I noticed the article mentioned the addition of more land to E.E. Wilson. Please consider upland bird hunting next time there is an opportunity to add land to E.E. Wilson or another wild life management area. In the 50 acre parcel mentioned in the article the upland bird habitat is too close to the highway to allow pheasant hunting.

During the time I have hunted pheasants at E.E. Wilson it seems to me the area is becoming ever more crowded and at the same time the birds seem fewer. Since 2003 I have been tracking the number of birds stocked and taken using the data that is been posted at the checking stations during the season, and it seems to me the number of birds stocked has not changed. At the same time my own success rate has steadily dropped over the same period.

Anyone reading this will know there are many variables in bird hunting so it is difficult to know for certain why this is happening. However, I would be very interested in seeing the number of hunters added to the data that is posted at the check stations to see if an increase in the number of hunters may be at least part of the cause.

Yours truly,  
Lloyd Fenwick

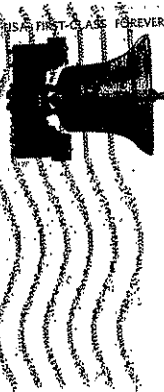


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Lloyd Fenwick  
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Albany, Oregon  
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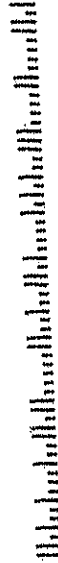
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## WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT WILDLIFE AREA MANAGEMENT?



The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife is seeking your comments regarding management of the Columbia Basin Wildlife Areas. You can add your comments to the record by completing this form and turning it in tonight, faxing it to ODFW at 503-947-6009, or by sending an e-mail to [ODFW.comments@state.or.us](mailto:ODFW.comments@state.or.us). All comments will be summarized and posted to the ODFW Web site.

①. Past improvements have been excellent. We have noted an increase in wild-life. We hope this can be continued.

I would suggest a committee of citizens joining the area with wild life officials for minor policy procedures.

Bill Danner

7/30/08

## WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT WILDLIFE AREA MANAGEMENT?



The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife is seeking your comments regarding management of the E.E. Wilson Wildlife Area. You can add your comments to the record by completing this form and turning it in tonight, faxing it to ODFW at 503-947-6009, or by sending an e-mail to [ODFW.comments@state.or.us](mailto:ODFW.comments@state.or.us). All comments will be summarized and posted to the ODFW Web site.

Dr. T.P. Kistner

Habitat management necessary to provide quality forage and escape cover for both game and non-game birds and mammals. Grassland - Protect Oakland

(1) For E.E. Wilson; this means annual or biennial mowing to provide early phenological stages of grass and legumes for best nutrition of herbivores. This mowing should also provide good forage for insects and other non-vertebrates for bird nutrition & reptiles.

(2) Burning is also an excellent tool for preventing climax vegetation (e.g. blackberries). It should be a strip or mosaic burn, NOT ENTIRE BLOCKS.

(3) Spraying - Gets broom and poison oak

(4) Need user fees to provide monies for habitat work. No PR funds - would be nice.

(5) Grants - Excellent efforts on behalf of ODFW staff, especially Ray Fiori, who opened many doors.

(6) I realize pheasant hunters would like all the non-blackberry to be removed so most pheasants would not go to the blackberry, but that narrow view is incompatible with proper grassland management!

(7) Birders & other non-hunter users should be aware that legal hunting is practiced during regular hunting seasons on the area, thus forewarned.

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**From:** Triston Canaday [mailto:tjcan1122@hotmail.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 26, 2008 8:52 PM  
**To:** ODFW Comments  
**Subject:** E.E.Wilson Wildlife Area Comments

To Whom it may  
Concern,

8/26/08

I have just finished reading the E.E. Wilson Wildlife Area Management Plan Draft, Dated July 2008. I would like to start by saying that I have been a long time user of the EEWWA, and have been visiting the area since 1975, where as a young Falconer I was searching for places to hunt rabbit's in the Willamette Valley with my Redtail Hawk, and EEWWA was the perfect place to do just that. Since that time I have spent many a day's hunting and exploring EEWWA. I have hunted Pheasant, Rabbit, Quail, Dove, including the Fee Pheasant hunts, I have walked from one end to the other more times then I care to mention. It has always been a special place for me and recentley for my 12 year old son, who all so enjoys the opportunities afforded us by EEWWA.

I think EEWWA has been very well managed in the past, and I agree with the current plan, but I would like to see one more opportunity realized. At this time you can train gun dogs on the area, with a permit from August 15th Until the youth hunts begin usually late September. At this time on EEWWA you can't release birds such as Pigeons, Chucker's, Quail, Pheasant etc.. I assume because of the risk of Avian diseases, and your not allowed to shoot them. I propose that EEWWA sell game birds for dog training. You could create another avenue for revenue from game bird sales, and you would have control of the birds released on the area. Maybe you could create a special area just for this purpose? I would think that there would be many different kennel club's that would be willing to help maintain the area or volunteer to help man the selling of the birds. I would think that you could mark the price up enough per bird to cover the cost plus make a profit. I would propose that this activity be allowed from August 15th until September 15th only, a 1 month period per year!

I know that for myself I have had little to no success finding areas in the willamette Valley for planting and shooting game birds over my gun dogs, and we all know that shooting planted birds is the best way to ready your dog for the upcoming bird season!

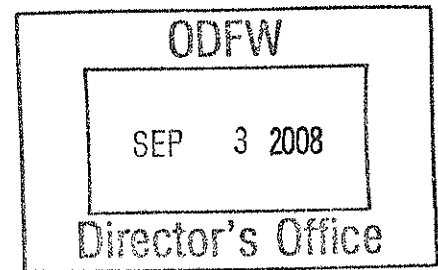
Thank you for taking the time to view this comment.

Sincerely,

Keith Canaday  
4124 Salmon River Hwy  
Otis, OR 97368  
(541) 994-9403

P O Box 487  
Corvallis, Oregon 97339-0487  
August 29, 2008

E.E. Wilson Wildlife Area Public Comments  
Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife  
3406 Cherry Avenue NE  
Salem, Oregon 97303-4924



**Subject: Personal comments regarding the E.E. Wilson Wildlife Area Management Plan Draft dated July, 2008.**

Thank you for the privilege to comment on the draft management plan for the E.E. Wilson Wildlife Area.

Over all, I feel the Goals, Objectives and Strategies are very good. The following provisions are especially pleasing me:

- The Vision Statement for the E.E. Wilson Wildlife Area.
- It is recognized and stated that the current staffing and funding is insufficient to implement many of the proposed actions for achieving the objectives and goals of this plan (page 36). This matter-of-fact statement has not been included in management plans for the big game species.
- The Plan recognizes the necessity of sufficient staffing and funding to achieve the desired goals and objectives (page 2 paragraph 5).
- The Plan provides for adaptive management.
- The Plan provides for the use of community volunteers.
- The Plan provides for the use of volunteer hosts.
- The Plan provides for the use of chemicals (agricultural chemicals and pesticides).

The following comments are listed chronologically as you proceed through the Plan.

**Page 1, Historical Background: Paragraph 1, line 3:** I suggest changing the mileage from Corvallis to the Wildlife Area from 15 miles to 10 miles. This not only corrects the error in distance, it also makes the mileage consistent with other statements in the Plan.

**Page 2, Planning Approach:** I suggest adding the word “be” to the last sentence so that it reads: A mid-term progress review will occur in 2013 when revisions can be made prior to a complete plan review in 2018.

**Page 11, Figure 1.2 (upper map):** The eastern-most stream is labeled Luckiamute River. Is this label correct?

**Page 30, Objective 1.2, Strategy 2:** I suggest adding insects, diseases and slugs to the list of noxious organisms that may need to be controlled.

**Pages 31, 32 & 33, Goal 2:** Have you considered the reestablishing of any more seasonal ponds in areas where seasonal ponds existed prior to the development of Camp Adair?

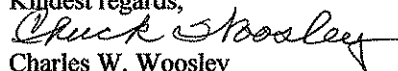
**Page 33, Goal 3, Objective 3.1, Strategy 1:** I suggest changing the first part of this strategy to read: Annually conduct a Youth Upland Game Bird Hunt for approximately 250-300 youth hunters, - - - -.

**Page 36, Funding:** I have historically observed and recognized the insufficient funding and staffing available for the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife to achieve the Department’s multitude of diverse responsibilities. I think it imperative legislative action be enacted in order for the non-consumptive user of wildlife and wildlife facilities be a financial partner towards the management of resources they use and enjoy. Table 7 on page 27 of the draft Plan shows the estimated average annual use days as being 12,597 days (23%) by the consumptive user vs. 43,009 days (77%) by the non-consumptive user. I also feel it imperative for the consumptive user to actively support legislative action to significantly increase user fees. All or nearly all funding for the E.E. Wilson Wildlife Area is from “other funds” (revenue from license and tag sales), not from the Pittman Robertson program as does much of the funding for other ODFW wildlife areas. Thus, the justification to obtain revenue towards the management of the EE Wilson Wildlife Area from the non-consumptive using public is even greater.

Suggested additional revenue for the management of the E.E. Wilson Wildlife Area may be obtained by:

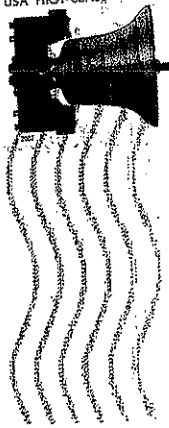
- Charging for dog training trials.
- Including a user fee in the registration charge for educational programs such as Becoming an Outdoor Women and Youth Outdoor Days.
- Establishing a permit for vehicle parking.

Kindest regards,

  
Charles W. Woosley

Cc: Mike Moore, E.E. Wilson Wildlife Area  
Jim Young, ODFW Corvallis  
Steve Marx, Corvallis

USA FIRST-CLASS FOREVER



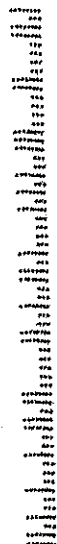
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Salem, OR 97303-4924



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**Michelle Tate**

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**From:** ODFW Comments  
**Sent:** Monday, September 08, 2008 1:56 PM  
**To:** Peter Test; Michelle Tate  
**Subject:** FW: blacktail deer

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**From:** Ian O'Connor [mailto:oconnor1033@hotmail.com]  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 06, 2008 9:24 AM  
**To:** ODFW Comments  
**Subject:** blacktail deer

In regards to a blacktail deer management plan:

I have been an active deer hunter for the past 18 yrs. I began at age 14. of 18 seasons I have only hunted 2 seasons in eastern oregon controlled hunts the rest have been in NW oregon for blacktail deer. The 2002, 2003, 2004 seasons were the best hunting I have ever had for blacktail. My hunting party of 3 all took bucks in those 3 years and saw many deer. Prior to that and following the 2004 season it has been very poor, I don't know why those 3 yrs were so good. We have taken bucks in the years prior but very sporadic with probably an average of at least 10 full days of hunting in all those years. That is my best guess, it could have been a little more or a little less. All hunting occurred in the Saddle Mt. unit. I think that antlerless deer hunting, while controlled, should be eliminated and has been the downfall of the blacktail deer over the past several decades. There must be a better means of determining blacktail numbers. I don't think the current method used is very accurate. After reading the deer report, I find it amazing that with a 13% success rate for blacktail that the state has not taken the hint that there is a problem and made some attempt to correct that. When a hunter can spend all day driving and hiking through forests and clear cuts and being lucky to see one antlerless deer (this has often been my experience) that there is a problem. I also have found there to be more deer on public land as opposed to private land. (what are they putting in the forests on private land). While I have no real scientific data to back up what I have to say I hope you will take this into consideration. Thanks for reading.

Ian O'Connor  
2828 18th Ave  
Forest Grove OR 97116  
503-791-4633

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## PLANNING DEPARTMENT

P. O. Box 40 • Irrigon, Oregon 97844  
(541) 922-4624 or (541) 676-9061 x 5503  
FAX: (541) 922-3472

September 9, 2008

Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife  
3406 Cherry Avenue NE  
Salem OR 97303-4924

RE: Columbia Basin Wildlife Areas - Management Plan Update

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Columbia Basin Wildlife Areas - Management Plan Update (Plan), or as I understand the first Management Plan for many of these areas. Morrow County has worked most closely with Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) staff in relation to the Irrigon Wildlife Area as partners in the Morrow County Columbia River Heritage Trail (Trail).

The Trail, when complete, will be approximately 33 miles in length and travel from the Umatilla/Morrow county line to the Morrow/Gilliam county line. As it travels along the Columbia River the underlying land owners are predominately the Army Corps of Engineers, the Port of Morrow, Threemile Canyon Farms and Morrow County (county road right-of-way). In addition to the land owners several additional land managers are working with Morrow County on development of the Trail. Those land managers include the ODFW, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, the Irrigon Park and Marina, and the Boardman Park and Marina. As to the proposed Plan two comments come to mind relative to the Trail.

- Throughout the Plan there is reference to the "Lewis and Clark Heritage Trail" which appears to be combination of the Umatilla County Lewis and Clark Trail and the Morrow County Columbia River Heritage Trail. While the trails do connect at the Umatilla and Morrow County line, they are two separate and distinct trails. I would respectfully request that they be properly identified in the Plan. For more information on the Trail please see the enclosed Concept Plan and the website at [www.columbiarivertrail.org](http://www.columbiarivertrail.org).
- On page 34 the Plan discusses some potential Land Acquisition and Adjustment planned for property west of Irrigon on land currently owned by the Army Corps of Engineers. The Trail does pass through this land and the Planning Department fully supports the ODFW acquiring management of the land.

Three Goals are identified within the Plan and my interest is in Goal 3 which is "to provide a variety of wildlife oriented recreational and educational opportunities to the public." Objective 3.2 is to "provide wildlife viewing and education/interpretation opportunities." Both Goal 3 and Objective 3.2 can be viewed to work cooperatively with the Trail and the development of the Trail can support the stated Goal and Objective. On page 46 four strategies are identified to facilitate achievement of the stated Goal and Objective. Again Trail development can be compatible with these strategies.

If you have any questions about this letter or want to discuss the comments in more detail, please do not hesitate to contact me at the number above or by email at [cmclane@co.morrow.or.us](mailto:cmclane@co.morrow.or.us).

Cordially,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Carla McLane".

Carla McLane  
Planning Director

Encl: Columbia River Heritage Trail Concept Plan