Issue Comparison Table - Upper Crooked River

(Source: Appendix D - Issue Comparison Table Between Upper Crooked River Subbasin Issues and ICBEMP DEIS Issues)

issue #	issue category	issue statement	DEIS issue = UCR issue ?	person responsible	DEIS page #
	LANDSCAPE:				
1	**Soils and soil productivity**	Soil productivity is stable to declining. Determination of the exact status of soil condition is difficult because of lack of inventory and monitoring data. Generally, greater declines in soil quality and productivity area associated with greater intensities of vegetation management, roading and livestock grazing.	Y	Michelle	ch 2/18
2		Soil organic matter and coarse wood have been lost or have decreased as a result of displacement and removal of soils, and removal of whole tree and branches.			ch 2/18
3		There has been a loss of soil material from direct displacement of soils as well as from surface and mass erosion. Erosion can result from changed water runoff patterns from increased bare soil exposure, compaction, and concentration of water from roads.	Y		ch 2/19

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4		Changes in physical properties of soils have occurred in conjunction with activities that increase bulk density through compaction. These changes have largely resulted in impaired soil processes and function, such as decreased porosity and infiltration, and increased surface erosion.			ch 2/19
5		In rangeland soils, the function and development of microbiotic crusts have been reduced in areas where surface disturbing activities have been high. Microbiotic crusts provide soil stability and retention, and are essential for nutrient availability and cycling.	Y		ch 2/19
6		Sustainability of soil ecosystem function and process is at risk in areas where redistribution of nutrients in terrestrial ecosystems has resulted from changes in vegetation composition and pattern, removal of the large sized wood component, and risk of uncharacteristic fire.			ch 2/19

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7		Floodplain and riparian soils have a reduced ability to store and regulate chemicals and water in areas where riparian vegetation has been reduced or removed, or where soil loss associated with roading in riparian areas has occurred. In these areas, water quality may be reduced during low flows, and water quality may have less buffer from pollution.	Y		ch 2/19
8		Human caused changes in fire frequency have also affected soil organic matter. Where humans have effectively put out wildfires for the last several decades, the present content of the soil organic matter is typically higher than it was historically, resulting in greater productivity. More above ground vegetation, however, now puts these sites at risk to more intense fires, which can lead to long term reduction in soil organic matter and fertility.			ch 2/22
9	**Air quality**	The current condition of air quality in the project area is considered good relative to other areas of the country.	Y	Kevin Dunham	ch 2/26
10		Wildfires significantly affect the air resource. Current wildfires produce higher levels of smoke emissions than historically, because of fuel available to be consumed by wildfire has increased.			ch 2/26

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11		Within the project area, the current trend in prescribed fire use is expected to result in an increase of smoke emissions.	Y		ch 2/26
	TERRESTRIAL :				
12		Long term evolutionary potential- Includes rare and endemic species habitats, and high biological diversity hot spots. This concept represents species that may require additional management emphasis to achieve their long-term evolutionary potential. These groups of species occur only in specific localized places and are highly susceptible to local extinction. Species with a disjunct distribution are such a group.	Y	Lisa	ch 2/33
13	**Forestlands**	Interior ponderosa pine has decreased across its range with a significant decrease in old single-story structure. The primary transitions were to interior Doug-fir and grand fir / white fire.	Y		ch 2/45
14		There has been a loss of the large tree component (live and dead) within roaded and harvested areas. The decrease affects terrestrial wildlife species that are closely associated with these old forest structures.	Y		ch 2/45

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15		Western larch has decreased across its range. the primary transitions were to interior Doug fir, lodgepole, or grand fir / white fir.			ch 2/45
16		Generally, mid-seral forest structures have increased in dry and moist forest potential vegetation groups, with a loss of large, scattered, and residual shade intolerant tree components, and an increase in the density of smaller shade tolerant diameter trees.	Y		ch 2/45
17		There has been an increase in fragmentation and a loss of connectivity within and between blocks of late seral, old forests, especially in lower elevation forests and riparian areas. This has isolated some animal habitats and populations and reduced the ability of populations to move across the landscape, resulting in the long term loss of genetic interchange.	Y		ch 2/45
18		There has been an increase in access for humans which has decreased the availability of areas with low human activities. These areas are important to large forest carnivores and omnivores.			ch 2/45
		Insects and diseases always existed in forests, but the size and intensity of their attacks has increased in recent years due to increased stand density.			ch 2/69
		Dry forests have had an increase in fuel loading, duff depth, stand density, and a fuel ladder that can carry fire from the surface into the tree crowns. As a result wildfire intensity has increased.	Y		ch 2/68

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		Noxious weeds are spreading rapidly, and in some cases exponentially, in most dry forest types.	Y		ch 2/69
19	**Rangelands**	Noxious weeds are spreading rapidly, and in some cases exponentially, on rangelands in every range cluster.	Y		ch 2/89
20		Woody species encroachment by and/or increasing density of woody species (sagebrush, juniper, ponderosa pine, Doug fir) especially on dry grasslands and cool shrublands, has reduced herbaceous understory and biodiversity.	Y		ch 2/89
21		Cheatgrass has taken over many dry shrublands, increasing soil erosion and fire frequency and reducing biodiversity and wildlife habitat. Cheatgrass and other exotic plant infestations have simplified species composition, reduced biodiversity, changed species interactions and forage availability and reduced the systems ability to buffer against changes.			ch 2/89

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22		Degradation of riparian areas and subsequent loss of riparian vegetation cover has reduced riparian ecosystem function, water quality and habitat for many aquatic species.	Y		ch 2/89
23		Expansion of agricultural and urban areas on non-federal lands has reduced the extent of some rangeland potential vegetation groups, most notably dry grasslands, dry shrublands, and riparian areas. Changes in some of the remaining habitat patches and loss of native species diversity have contributed to a number of wildlife species declines, some to the point of special concern (such as sage grouse, Columbian sharp-tailed grouse, California bighorn sheep, pygmy rabbit, kit fox, and Washington ground squirrel).	Y		ch 2/89
24		Increased fragmentation and loss of connectivity within and between blocks of habitat, especially in shrub steppe and riparian areas have isolated some habitats and populations and reduced the ability of populations to move across the landscape, resulting in a long term loss of genetic interchange.	Y		ch 2/89

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25		Slow to recover rangelands (those that generally receive less than 12 inches of rain a year) are not recovering at a natural pace that is acceptable to the general public and are either highly susceptible to degradation or are already dominated by cheatgrass and noxious weeds.			ch 2/90
26		Open road densities and human activity have increased. Higher densities cause many species to leave the areas to avoid human activity. Recreation, plant gathering, and other uses of all types of habitat have steadily increased recently because of increasing human populations in the project area. These uses can increase wildlife displacement and vulnerability to mortality, fragmented habitat, and allow for access of exotic plants into new locations.	Y		ch 2/90
27		Fire frequency has decreased in many locations resulting in an increase in conifer encroachment; an increase in tree density in formerly savanna-like stands of juniper and ponderosa pine; and increased density and/or coverage of big sagebrush and other shrubs, with an accompanying loss of herbaceous vegetation.	Y		ch 2/104

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28		Fire frequency has increased in some areas, particularly in dryer locations where exotic annual grasses have become established. Increased fire frequency has caused a loss of shrub cover and reduction in bunchgrasses.			ch 2/104
29		There are concerns over livestock and big game interactions. Generally, conflicts occur where limited habitat is available for wildlife. Serious conflicts occur when winter ranges are degraded to conditions where biodiversity is lacking, such as altered sagebrush steppe areas, and when winter conditions become severe.	Y		ch 2/115
	AQUATIC:			Michelle/Brent	
30	**Hydrology and watershed processes**	Management activities throughout watersheds in the project area have affected the quantity and quality of water, processes of sedimentation and erosion, and the production and distribution of organic material, thus affecting hydrologic conditions. On federally managed lands, the most pronounced changes to watersheds are due to water diversions and impoundment, road construction, vegetation alteration (including silvicultural practices, fire suppression, forage production, and improper livestock grazing).	Y		ch 2/117

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31	**Streams, rivers and lakes**	Banks and beds of streams, rivers and lakes have been altered by bank and shore structures, including urban development, transportation improvement, instream mining activities, flood control works and alteration of riparian areas. In general, the changes have been the greatest for larger streams, rivers and lakes.			ch 2/118
32		Water quantity and flow rates have been locally affected by dams, diversions, ground water withdrawal. More subtle, but widespread changes in water quantity and flow patterns on federally managed lands have probably been caused by road construction, and changes in vegetation due to silvicultural practices and livestock grazing.	Y		ch 2/118
33		Within the eastern Oregon and Washington planning area, 11% of the FS administered area and 13% of the BLM administered streams are "water quality limited" as defined by the Clean Water Act. On FS lands the primary water quality problems are sedimentation, turbidity, flow alteration, and high temperatures. On the BLM lands- high sediment, turbidity levels, and temperatures are the primary reasons for listing.	Y		ch 2/118

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34		Streams and rivers are highly variable across the project area, reflecting diverse physical settings and disturbance histories. Nevertheless, important aspects of fish habitat, such as pool frequency and large woody debris abundance, have decreased throughout much of the project area. Pool frequency and wood frequency are generally less in areas with higher road densities and in areas where timber harvest has been a management emphasis.			ch 2/118
35	**Riparian areas and wetlands**	The overall extent and continuity of riparian areas and wetlands has decreased primarily due to conversion to agriculture, but also due to urbanization, transportation improvements and stream channel modifications.			ch 2/126
36		Riparian ecosystem function, determined by the amount and type of vegetation cover, has decreased in most subbasins within the project area.			ch 2/126
37		A majority of riparian areas on FS and BLM lands are either "not meeting objectives", "nonfunctioning", or "functioning at risk". However, the rate has slowed and a few areas show increases in riparian cover and large trees	Y		ch 2/126

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38		Within riparian woodlands, the abundance of mid-seral vegetation has increased whereas the abundance of late and early seral structural stages has decreased, primarily due to fire exclusion and the harvest of large trees.			ch 2/126
39		Within riparian shrublands, there has been extensive spread of western juniper introduction of exotic grasses and forbs primarily due to activities associated with improper livestock grazing.			ch 2/127
40		The frequency and extent of seasonal floodplain and wetland inundation has been altered by changes in flow regime, and by changes in channel morphology.			ch 2/127
41		There is an overall decrease in large trees and late seral vegetation in riparian areas.			ch 2/127
42		Riparian areas are important for about three quarters of the terrestrial wildlife species. Wildlife numbers have declined in proportion to the decline in riparian habitat conditions.			ch 2/129
43	**Fish**	The composition, distribution, and status of fishes within the planning area are substantially different than they were historically. Some native fishes have been eliminated from large portions of their historical ranges.	Y		ch 2/133

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44		Many native nongame fish are vulnerable because of their restricted distribution or fragile or unique habitats.	Y		ch 2/133
45		Although several of the key salmonids are still broadly distributed (notably the cutthroat trouts and redband trout), declines in abundance, loss of life history patterns, local extinctions, and fragmentation and isolation in smaller blocks of high quality habitat are apparent.	Y		ch 2/133
46		Wild chinook salmon and steelhead are near extinction in a major part of their remaining distribution.	Y		ch 2/133
47		Core areas for rebuilding and maintaining biological diversity associated with native fishes still exist within the planning area.			ch 2/134
	HUMAN USES AND VALUES:				
48		The planning area is sparsely populated and rural, especially in areas with a large amount of agency lands. Some rural areas are experiencing rapid population growth, especially those areas offering high quality recreation and scenery.			ch 2/167

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49		Development for a growing human population is encroaching on previously undeveloped areas adjacent to lands administered by the Forest Service and BLM. New development can put stress on the political and physical infrastructure of rural communities, diminish habitat for some wildlife, and increase agency costs to manage fire to protect people and structures.	Y		ch 2/167
50		Recreation is an important use of agency lands in the planning area in terms of economic value and amount of use. Most recreation use is tied to roads and accessible water bodies, though primitive and semi-primitive recreation is also important and becoming scarce relative to growing demand.	Y		ch 2/167
51		Industries customarily served by agency land uses, such as logging, wood products manufacturing and livestock grazing, no longer dictate the economic prosperity of the region, but remain economically and culturally important in rural areas. The economic dependence of communities on these industries is highest in areas that are geographically isolated and offer few alternative employment opportunities.	Y		ch 2/167

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52		The public has invested substantial land and capital to develop road systems on agency lands, primarily to serve commodity uses. On forest lands, commercial timber harvest has financed 90 percent of the construction cost and 70 percent of maintenance cost. Recreation now accounts for 60 percent of the use. Trends in timber harvesting and new road management objectives make the cost of managing these road systems an issue of concern.	Y		ch 2/167
53		For those counties that have benefitted from federal sharing of gross receipts from commodity sales on agency lands, changing levels commodity outputs can affect county budgets.			ch 2/167
54		Agency social and economic policy has emphasized the goal of supporting rural communities, specifically promoting stability in those communities deemed dependent on agency timber harvest and processing. Even-flow of timber sales, timber sale bidding methods, timber export restrictions, and small business set-asides of timber sales have been the major policy tools on Forest	Y		ch 2/167
55		Service-administered commercial forestlands. Regulation of grazing practices has been important on BLM-administered rangelands.	Y		ch 2/167

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56		The factors that appear to help make communities resilient to economic and social change include population size and growth rate, economic diversity, social and cultural attributes, amenity setting, and quality of life. The ability of agencies to improve community resiliency depends on the effectiveness of agency land uses and management strategies to positively influence these factors.			ch 2/168
57		Predictability in timber sale volume from agency lands has been increasingly difficult to achieve. Advancing knowledge of ecosystem processes, changing societal goals, and changing forest conditions has undermined conventional assumptions underlying the quantity and regularity of timber supply from agency lands.	Y		ch 2/168
	AMERICAN INDIANS:				
58		There is low confidence and trust that American Indian rights and interests are considered when decisions are proposed and made for actions to be taken on BLM-or Forest Service-administered lands.			ch 2/219
59		American Indian values on Federal lands may be affected by proposed actions on forestlands and rangelands because of changes in vegetation structure, composition, and density; existing roads; and watershed conditions.			ch 2/220

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60		Indian tribes do not feel that they are involved in the decision-making process commensurate with their legal status. They do not feel that government-to-government consultation is taking place.			ch 2/220
61		Culturally significant species such as anadromous fish and the habitat necessary to support healthy, sustainable, and harvestable populations of fish, wildlife and plants constitute a major, but not the only, concern. American Indian people have concern for all factors that keep the ecosystem healthy.	Y		ch 2/221