

NOTES AND TRAIL MAP  
February 27, 2008 Coyote-Catherine  
Interdisciplinary Team Meeting

**Meeting Outcome - map trails for the entire area**

**430 - 5 - Open House**

Review DFC's/Sensitive areas outlined on maps

**5- 630 - Map trails**

To facilitate the hands on work the group will divide into two smaller groups, balancing interests and knowledge of the area. Each small group will map trails across the entire area on maps with the DFC's/sensitive Areas outlined .

**630 - 645 - Break**

**645 - 745 - Reconvene as full group**

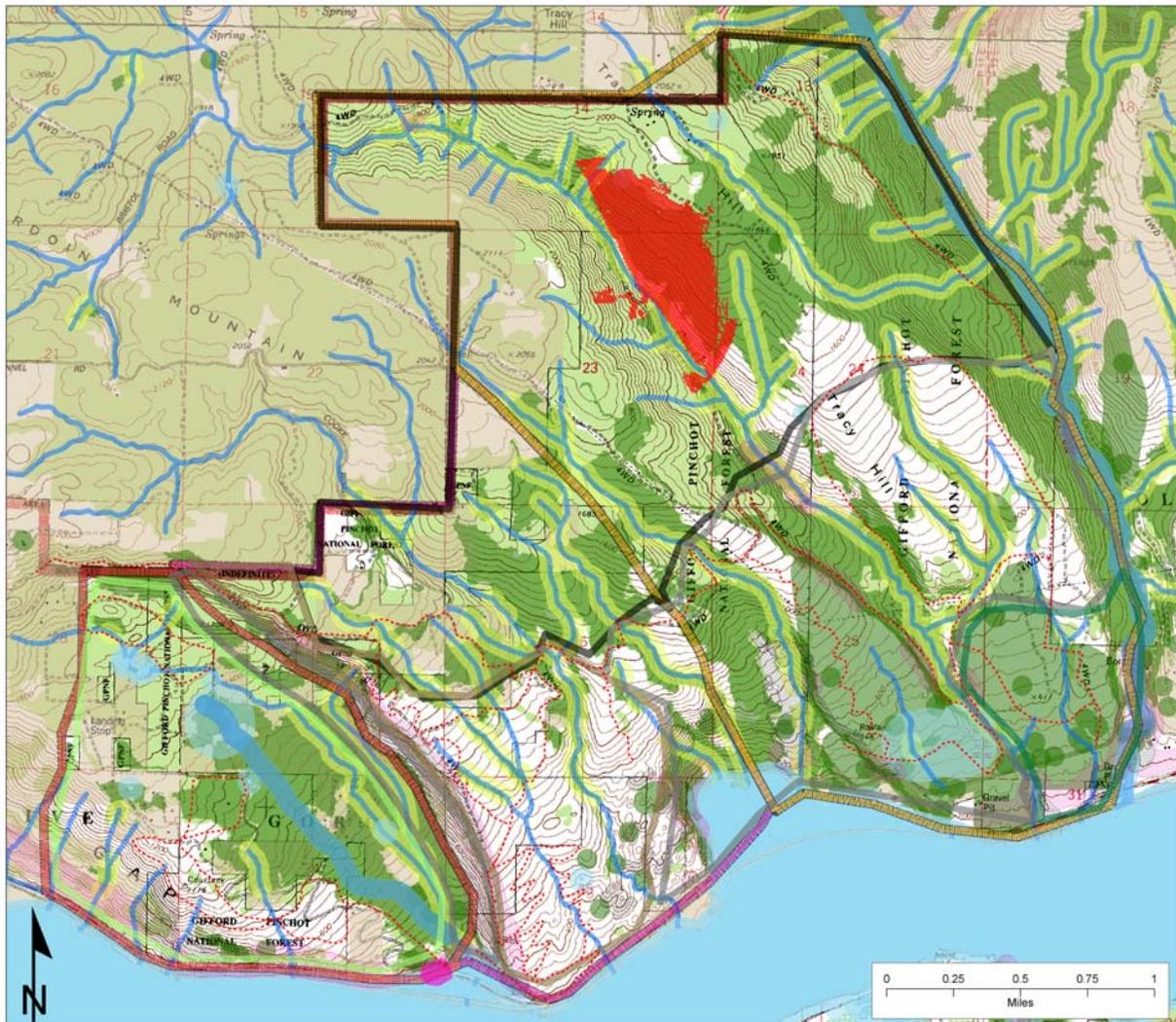
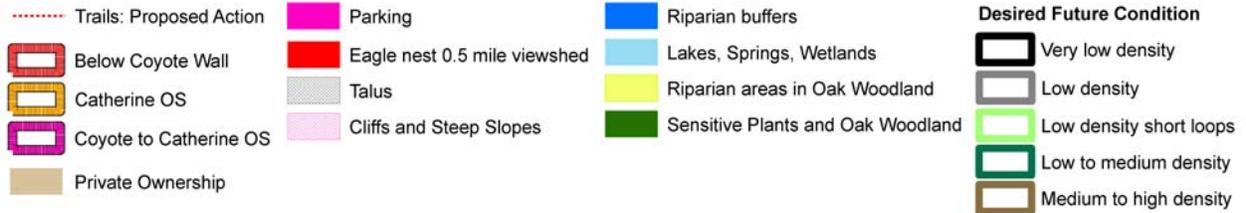
Review all trails and agree on draft proposal to present to large public meeting .

\*The draft proposal appears on page 6 of these notes. The group recommendation was completed after the March 5 field trip. Some additional adjustments were made by the Forest Service team due mostly to private land, parking, or safety issues. A trail to the south of SR-14 connecting to the Catherine Cr. Trail was added. The proposal will be reviewed by the CRGNSA Area Manager and a formal Proposed Action will be presented at the large group meeting scheduled for April 1.

**745 - 800 - Wrap-up**

# BASEMAP USED BY THE TWO GROUPS

## Coyote Wall Trails - Proposed Action



## NOTES

After each sub-group completed their draft trail designs, the two groups met to consolidate the maps. It was noted that the maps were very similar, so the whole group worked on resolving the differences. Most issues came to resolution by using either the Group 1 or Group 2 map solution. It became clear that a trip to the field was necessary for the remaining unresolved areas. The following are the results of that March 5, 2008 field trip:

Attendance: Darryl Lloyd, Steve Waltrous, Ann McDonald, Bill Weiler, Robin Dobson and Stan Hinatsu

Route hiked: Hidden Canyon/Labyrinth - "mid slope cross over trail" - Shoe String - Atwood Road - Loose Lucy.

### Agreements:

#### Hidden Canyon/Labyrinth Trail:

- Keep the trail, however reroutes are necessary, specifically the steep portion, area through the oak grove and other as necessary to avoid sensitive resources and solve erosion issues.
- Relocate stream crossing to a more appropriate location.
- Close misc. spur trails.
- Hidden Canyon - Atwood Road Connection Trail:
- Consolidate two trails to one and stay east of the ridge top to protect upper Hidden Canyon.
- Will require some rerouting to connect to the Hidden Canyon trail.
- "Mid Slope Cross Over Trail":
- Keep the trail.
- Avoid pine/oak habitat in the "bowl" area. Stay in meadows as long as possible. Cross through pine/oak in current location, but make it as direct as possible. Some reroutes needed in this area.
- Relocate stream crossing to a more appropriate location - mostly correct approaches to crossing.

#### Shoe String Trail:

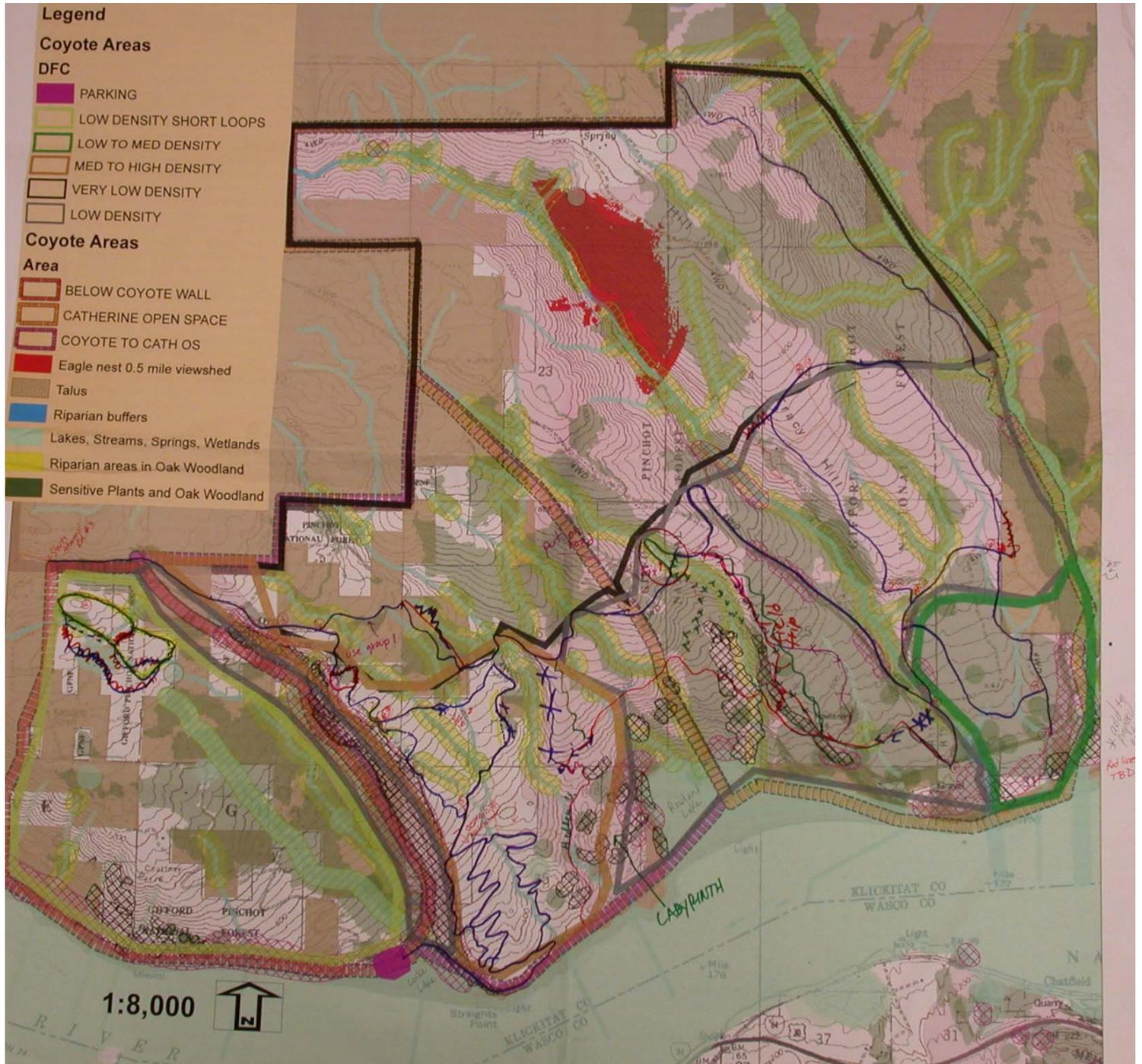
- Drop this trail because it goes through the middle of critical pine/oak and grey squirrel habitat.

#### Loose Lucy Trail:

- Keep the trail.
- Move out of the pine/oak habitat and incised drainage. Trail will be rerouted to connect directly to the Atwood Road on the open ridge top. Trail will also be rerouted/created to stay away from the cliff edge while keeping the integrity of the difficulty level for mt. bikers. Reroutes are for the protection of cliff and pine/oak habitats while maintain trail access and loop opportunities.
- Close the "talus" connection trail. Keep the existing lower (on old road bed) trail as connection to Loose Lucy to "Mid Slope Cross Over Trail." Some rerouting may be necessary to reduce grade on the lower (east of talus area on old road bed) "Mid Slope Cross Over Trail."

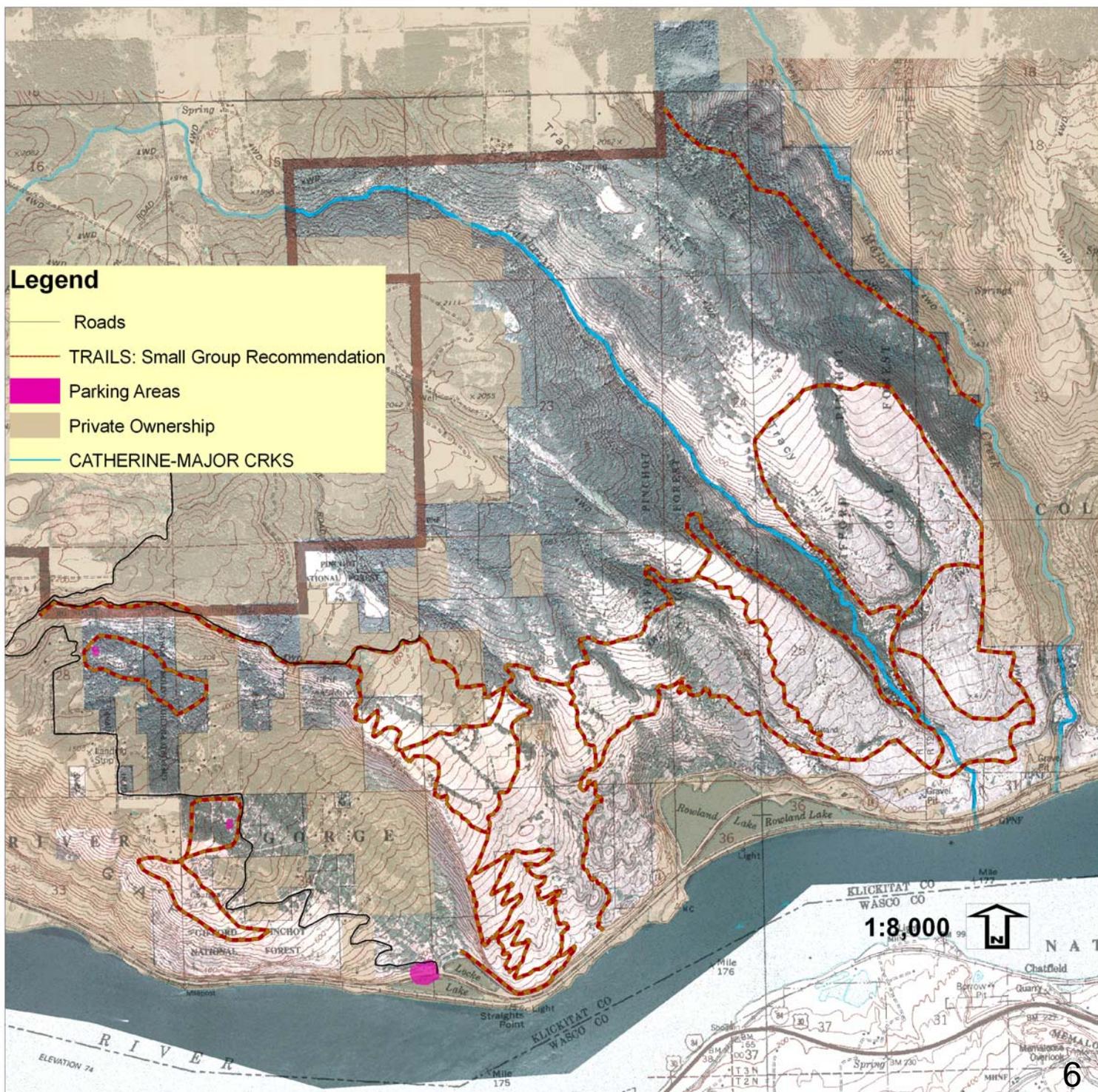
# Group 1 Map

(FS adjusted after field trip—adjustments in green)





# SMALL GROUP IDT FINAL RECOMMENDATION



## NOTES (February 27 cont.)

The following is the full group general evaluation of the maps developed by each sub-group during the February 27 meeting. (The issue areas were resolved one by one and are shown on the Group 2 map on page 5):

- Should have more trails in Burdoin and less in Eastern portion.
- Provide for existing uses.
- Equestrian users like loops. Old roads are good.
- Support group 2 trail user group proposal.\*

\*Group 2 got further through the assignment than Group 1 and was able to assign users to the trail system. They delineated an equestrian route coming from the Catherine area to Atwood Road and then going south on the old Cook Road to Highway 14. They designated the rest of the trail system for hikers and mountain bikers.

- Group 2 has trails in the very sensitive Rowland lake talus area?
- Northern portions of the planning area should have the lowest disturbance.
- Cultural protection can be fine tuned through trail relocation.
- Private lands should be avoided.
- Group 1 had a good design for the Coyote wall trail.
- Make sure to choose good vantage points during trail location.
- Group 1 south of Courtney Road has more capacity than shown.
- There are more trails on the Group 2 map that could be on Group 1.
- Need site visit. Good collaboration.
- Implementation and enforcement will be very important.
- The maps are similar. Loops are good.

The pages that follow are the cumulative notes from all the small group meetings. All of this information was used to create the map on the page 6.

## Legend

### Coyote Areas

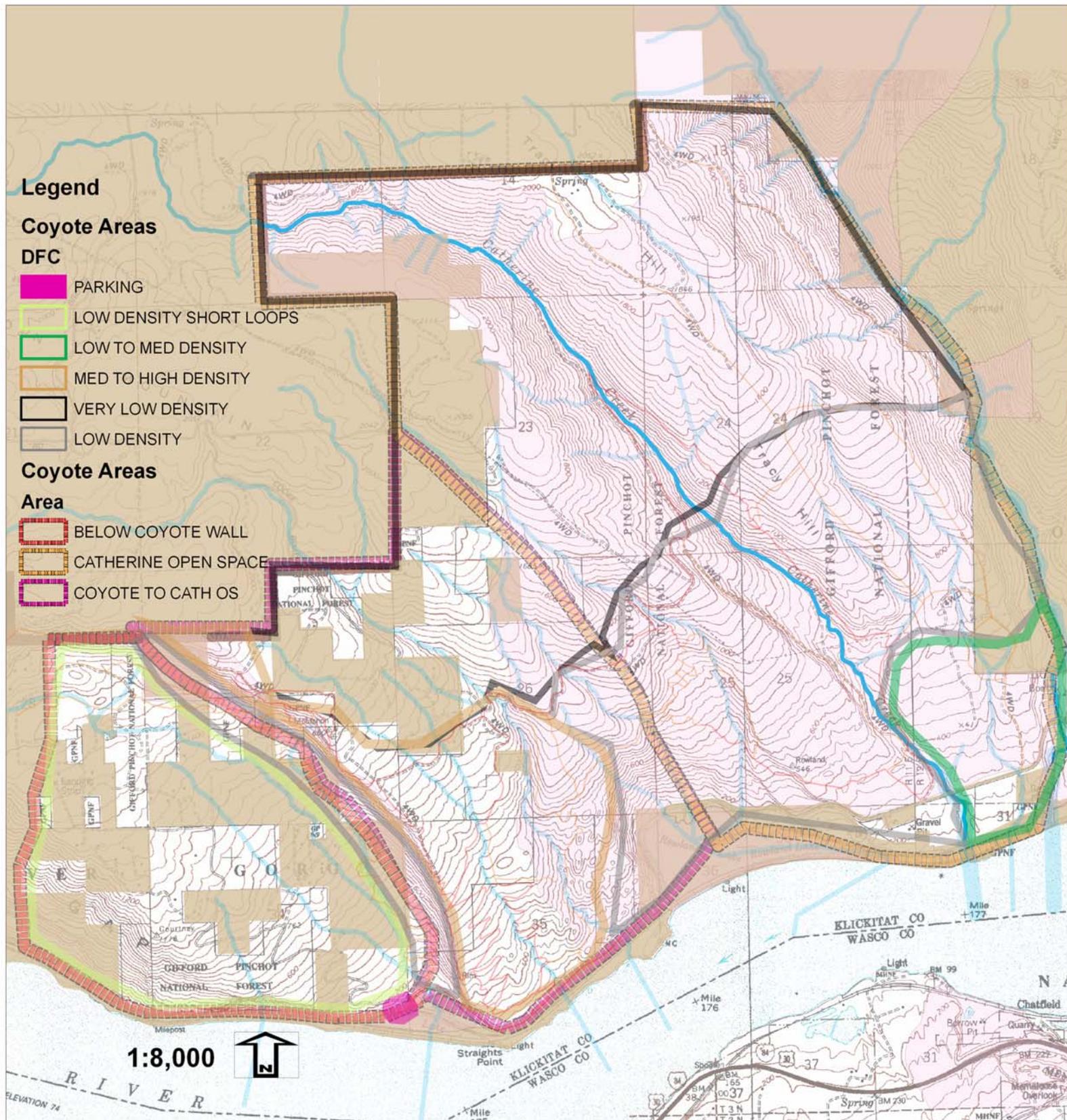
#### DFC

-  PARKING
-  LOW DENSITY SHORT LOOPS
-  LOW TO MED DENSITY
-  MED TO HIGH DENSITY
-  VERY LOW DENSITY
-  LOW DENSITY

### Coyote Areas

#### Area

-  BELOW COYOTE WALL
-  CATHERINE OPEN SPACE
-  COYOTE TO CATH OS



# EXISTING CONDITIONS

## CATHERINE OPEN SPACE AREA

Best Trails/Routes: Major Creek Road, Arch-Tracey Hill, Meadows-cliff (goes under powerline), Archloop (to top arch and down its ridge), Tracey Hill to top above Major Creek-Bathtub, Catherine Creek Pond Trail, loose Lucy (mult. routes), Labyrinth to Catherine Creek OS loop and Hidden Valley, Atwood Road.

Trail Users: Hikers, bikers (not downhillers), horseback riders, runners, wildlife and plant viewers, hunters, orienteers, and dog walkers,

Parking Areas: All parking is located on non-FS lands. Catherine Creek on County Rd. shoulder, rest areas at Rowland Lake, gated road between Catherine Creek and Major Cr. Road, Spur off Major Creek Road, gated road between Catherine Creek and Rowland Lake road, SR-14 at base Rowland Lake, old Highway 8, SR-14 at base of cliff at bottom of Hidden Valley, and SR-14 at Locke Lake.

Riparian Areas: Streams and wet areas—lack of clear routes or crossings through or around, no restriction on numbers of users.

Other Sensitive Areas: Migration Corridor --Too many trails in these areas. Catherine Creek parking area on county road—rare plants

- Major Creek is a wildlife refuge in summer due to water and in winter for protection from cold weather due to low elevation.
- Important nesting and denning habitat
- Mountain quail in Hidden Valley
- Sensitive plants, talus, cliff faces, snags, Oregon white oak woodlands—all found here

Trails on or near sensitive habitats cause disturbance to wildlife, bring invasive plants, and cause fragmentation or loss of habitat. e.g. Loose Lucy trail on Coyote Wall disturbs cliff habitat and its unique flora.

Private Land Trail Access: Tribal allotment, up Tracy Hill (Allen property).

Conflicts: All users and sensitive habitats, off-trail use in sensitive habitat, lack of restrooms, hunters and other users, hikers v. bikers in labyrinth, dogs and wildlife, introduction of weeds, trails through cultural areas, poison oak and people.

# DESIRED CONDITIONS

## CATHERINE OPEN SPACE AREA

Allowed Trails and/or Users: This Area would provide the lowest density of trails of the three areas. Any trails in the area would be routed to respect open space values and minimize disturbance to sensitive areas. Some existing trails (including roads) would be incorporated into a trail system with a diverse semi-primitive experience including changes in difficulty, length, and access to points of interest.

Very low density: Northern Catherine Sensitive Area: **Hiking only -designate one loop trail using existing road beds avoiding the northernmost portion.**

**Horse Use Atwood Road only**

Low density: Tracy Hill East of Catherine Creek

Low to Moderate density: Rest of area near Pond Trail

Parking Areas: Parking Areas are located outside of this Area. The Catherine Creek Recreation Area south of Highway 8 may include a small parking area in the future.

Riparian Areas: Riparian areas are buffered, there are a minimal but adequate number of crossings and they are designed to minimize impacts. Trails are located to create as little disturbance as possible. There are educational/interpretative signs as needed to keep users informed.

Other Sensitive Areas: Locate trails to avoid adverse impacts to cultural and other sensitive areas such as talus, cliff faces, and oak savannas. The most sensitive area is the wildlife corridor North of Tracey Hill where there would be very low trail density and limited use in order to maintain access to water, food, and nesting sources without disturbance.

Private Land Trail Access: Tribal Trust is respected and all trails are on public land. Trails do not lead towards boundary.

Resolution of Conflict: Use is low density, if density causes conflicts with sensitive resources or between users, consider seasonal use. Trails are clearly designated for users allowed. Trail Design minimizes blind corners.

Dogs are on leash except where specifically permitted off leash. Hunting seasons and regulations are posted encouraging the use of blaze orange clothing for all users. Off-trail use in sensitive areas is cooperatively discouraged. Trails are offered "up for adoption" through the cooperation of user groups. Interpretative signing is used to increase awareness of potential impacts and need to stay on trails. The area is monitored for weed introduction and steps taken to eradicate as needed.

# EXISTING CONDITIONS ABOVE COYOTE WALL TO OPEN SPACE AREA

Best Trails/Routes: Blind Ambition, Loose Lucy, Maui Loop to Moab Rocks, Coyote Cliffs to Atwood to Maui, and Maui to Hidden

Trail Users: Hikers, bikers including downhillers, rock climbers, horseback riders, runners, wildlife and plant viewers, hunters, orienteers, and dog walkers.

Parking Areas: All parking is located on non-FS lands: Catherine Creek on County Rd. shoulder, rest areas at Rowland Lake, gated road between Catherine Creek and Major Cr. Road, Spur off Major Creek Road, gated road between Catherine Creek and Rowland Lake road, SR-14 at base Rowland Lake, old Highway 8, SR-14 at base of cliff at bottom of Hidden Valley, and SR-14 at Locke Lake.

Riparian Areas: Streams and wet areas—lack of clear routes or crossings through or around although there are some developed crossings, no restriction on numbers of users.

Other Sensitive Areas: Trail density is the highest of the three areas and trail braiding is common. Poor trail design leads to erosion and off-trail use.

- Important nesting and denning habitat
- Mountain quail have been observed in Hidden Valley
- Sensitive plants, talus, cliff faces, snags, Oregon white oak woodlands—all found here

Trails on or near sensitive habitats cause disturbance to wildlife, bring invasive plants, and cause fragmentation or loss of habitat. e.g. Loose Lucy trail on Coyote Wall disturbs cliff habitat and its unique flora.

Private Land Trail Access: Private lands are found primarily north of Atwood Road.

Conflicts: All users and sensitive habitats, off-trail use in sensitive habitat, lack of restrooms, trails on private property, hunters and other users, dogs and wildlife, weed introduction, trails through cultural areas, poison oak and people.

# DESIRED CONDITIONS ABOVE COYOTE WALL TO OPEN SPACE AREA

Allowed Trails and/or Users: This Area would provide Moderate to higher density trails except in the northern portion in which use would be discouraged due to private holdings. Any trails in the area would be routed to respect open space values and minimize disturbance to sensitive areas. Some existing trails (including roads) would be incorporated into a trail system with a diverse semi-primitive experience including changes in difficulty, length, and access to points of interest.

Use discouraged: North of Atwood road where private lands become more common.

Moderate density: From Open Space west to a north-south line through the Labyrinth. **Horse use would be on the Atwood Road only.** Trails would progressively increase in density from east to west. Most trails would be available for biking and hiking.

Higher density: From Labyrinth west trails would be more density with a variety of lengths, difficulty, etc. **Most trails would be available for biking and hiking, with potential use on the road west of Labyrinth (Cooke Rd).**

Parking Areas: Parking Areas are located outside of this Area.

Riparian Areas: Riparian areas are buffered, there are a minimal but adequate number of crossings and they are designed to minimize impacts. Trails are located to create as little disturbance as possible. There are educational/interpretative signs as needed to keep users informed.

Other Sensitive Areas: Locate trails to avoid adverse impacts to cultural and other sensitive areas such as talus, cliff faces, and oak savannas. The most sensitive area is Coyote Wall Open Space where there would be limited use **(probably in the form of a buffer)** in order to maintain access to water, food, and nesting sources without disturbance.

Private Land Trail Access: All use to the north of the Atwood road would be discouraged and at very low density, if any at all, to protect all private lands. A few private in-holdings will likewise have no trail use unless the trail is important to the overall design and a legal easement is acquired.

Resolution of Conflict: Use is moderate to higher density here so conflicts between users and sensitive resources may become problematic. In some cases seasonal management techniques such as seasonal use or separation of trails may be necessary. Trails are clearly designated for users allowed. Dogs may be permitted to be off leash here. Hunting seasons and regulations are posted encouraging the use of blaze orange clothing for all users. Off-trail use in sensitive areas is cooperatively discouraged. Trails are offered "up for adoption" through the cooperation of user groups. Interpretative signing is used to increase awareness of potential impacts and need to stay on trails. The area is monitored for weed introduction and steps taken to eradicate as needed.

# EXISTING CONDITIONS

## BURDOIN AREA—Below Coyote Wall

Best Trails/Routes: Sick Puppy (Cute Kitty), Coyote Cliffs, Lower and Upper Homeboy, Cry Baby

Trail Users: Hikers, bikers including downhillers, horseback riders, runners, wildlife and plant viewers, hunters, orienteers, dog walkers, and rock climbers. Off-trail use is less common here.

Parking Areas: Parking is presently at the bottom of Courtney Road with some parking at the top of Courtney. There is also some parking on Atwood Road and Courtney Road at the spring loaded gate.

Riparian Areas: Streams and wet areas—lack of clear routes or crossings through or around, no restriction on numbers of users.

Other Sensitive Areas: The sensitive areas in this portion include Coyote Wall and the talus areas at its base, the wet springs and seasonal creeks, and extensive oak woodlands supporting a known population of western gray squirrel.

Trails on or near sensitive habitats cause disturbance to wildlife, bring invasive plants, and cause fragmentation or loss of habitat. e.g. trails at base of Coyote Wall disturbs cliff habitat and its unique flora. Trails cross spring areas.

Private Land Trail Access: Burdoin area has many private parcels. There are existing trails that cross private land.

Conflicts: All users and sensitive habitats, off-trail use in sensitive habitat, lack of restrooms, trails on private property, hunters and other users, dogs and wildlife, weed introduction, trails through cultural areas, poison oak and people.

# DESIRED CONDITIONS

## BURDOIN AREA—Below Coyote Wall

Allowed Trails and/or Users: This Area could provide for moderate trail density but is limited by land ownership. one main trail to the top of Courtney rd. with links to more dense trails above Coyote wall. Concentrate on small loops on public lands. The lowest density of trails would be associated with the sensitive resources. Any trails in the area would be routed to respect open space values and minimize disturbance to sensitive areas. Some existing trails (including roads) would be incorporated to create a diverse semi-primitive experience with changes in difficulty, length, and access to points of interest.

Low density: Coyote wall, associated talus areas, including the steep areas at the northern portions of Burdoin area. Check possible trail connection to the east.

Parking Areas: All parking is located on FS lands at the bottom of Courtney Road and avoid conflict with cultural resources in the general vicinity. Additional parking at the top of Courtney will be explored.

Riparian Areas: Riparian areas are buffered, there are a minimal but adequate number of crossings and they are designed to minimize impacts. Trails are located to create as little disturbance as possible. There are educational/interpretative signs as needed to keep users informed.

Other Sensitive Areas: Locate trails to avoid adverse impacts to cultural and other sensitive areas such as talus, cliff faces, and oak savannas. The most sensitive area is Coyote Wall Open Space where there would be limited use (probably in the form of a buffer) in order to maintain access to water, food, and nesting sources without disturbance.

Private Land Trail Access: Private lands are respected and no trail use will be allowed on private land unless the trail is important to the overall design and a legal easement is acquired.

Resolution of Conflict: Trails are clearly designated for users allowed. Trail design minimizes blind corners. Dogs are on leash here. Hunting seasons and regulations are posted encouraging the use of blaze orange clothing for all users. Off-trail use in sensitive areas is cooperatively discouraged. Trails are offered "up for adoption" through the cooperation of user groups. Interpretative signing is used to increase awareness of potential impacts and need to stay on trails. The area is monitored for weed introduction and steps taken to eradicate as needed.

## OBJECTIVES:

The Coyote Wall, Burdoin Mountain, and Catherine Creek Recreation Use System will determine strategies for Forest Service recreation management of the area including:

Trails to be recognized as NFS system trails.

Needed reconstruction to bring the selected system trails to Forest Service standards.

Appropriate trail uses  
(e.g. hiking, bicycling, horses).

Support development  
(e.g. trailheads, gates, fences).

Management strategies

Needed resource protection or rehabilitation