

Natural Hazard Action Item Proposal Form

Proposed Action Item:		Alignment with Plan Goals:	
Continue to pursue a secondary emergency access route along the west bank of the Wallowa Lake (between Wallowa Lake and Lake Shore Drive)		Protect Human Welfare, Property, and Natural Resources	
Rationale for Proposed Action Item:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Wallowa Lake State Park has not seen wildfire for 30-40 years. The Forest Service is working on fuels reductions, but under the right conditions, the build-up of fuels will eventually ignite. Access to this area is extremely limited and presents a major vulnerability; with only one access road, summer tourists and residents may have difficulty evacuating in an emergency event. ○ There are daily rock slides at Wallowa Lake on its west side; the county has done exploratory work to create an access route / right of way from the west, but private landowners have successfully prevented this from happening. ○ Wallowa Lake is a major tourist destination during late spring and summer months. Seasonal and accommodation businesses in the area are predominantly dependent on people who come to the area as tourists, on business, or simply passing through, and many food service businesses also serve this clientele. They rely on open transportation networks for both customers and supplies, as well as for open evacuation routes in case of emergency. The businesses that primarily cater to tourists and recreationalists are also dependant on an unimpaired physical environment. Increasing emergency access to Wallowa Lake will allow for faster, and more efficient emergency responses to wildfire and/or landslide. 			
Ideas for Implementation:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Work with individual landowners to emphasize the need for emergency access. Hold a public meeting (potentially a barbeque) to discuss options. 			
Coordinating Organization:		Wallowa County Roads Department	
Internal Partners:		External Partners:	
Wallowa County Fire Department; Wallowa County Emergency Management		Wallowa Lake State Park, Oregon Department of Forestry, Oregon Department of Transportation, local fire departments and/or districts, private landowners	
Timeline:		If available, estimated cost:	
<u>Short Term</u> (0-2 years)	<u>Long Term</u> (2-4 or more years)		
Short Term			
Form Submitted by:	RARE Participant		