

CHAPTER 10 RESOURCE ENHANCEMENT PROJECTS, DISPOSAL
SITES AND MINERAL & AGGREGATE REVIEW

SECTION 10.100 Resource Enhancement Projects (GMA & SMA)

Resource enhancement projects for the purpose of enhancing scenic, cultural, recreation and/or natural resources, which may include new structures (e.g., fish ladders, sediment barriers) and/or activities (e.g., closing and revegetating unused roads, recontouring abandoned quarries) subject to the following criteria:

- A. Applications for resource enhancement projects must describe the goals and benefits of the proposed enhancement project. They must also thoroughly document the condition of the resource before and after the proposed enhancement project. Applicants shall seek technical assistance from federal, state or county technical experts for assistance in designing voluntary wetland, stream, habitat, plant, and scenic enhancement projects.
- B. In addition to other guidelines that protect scenic, cultural, recreation, and natural resources, quarry enhancement projects shall comply with the following:
 - 1. Application Requirements. In addition to other applicable requirements, land use applications for quarry enhancement projects shall include a reclamation plan that provides all the applicable information specified in [10.300\(A\)](#) except the words "pre-reclamation" and "post-reclamation" should replace the words "pre-mining" and "post-mining," respectively, and the appropriate state agency or local government does not have to approve the reclamation plan and meet the requirements of [10.300\(B\)\(1\)](#) if any of the quarry enhancement project is visible from Key Viewing Areas. The reclamation plan should provide at a minimum the following:
 - a. (A map of the site, at a scale of 1 inch equals 200 feet (1:2,400) or a scale providing greater detail, with 10-foot contour intervals or less, showing pre- reclamation existing grades and post-reclamation final grades; locations of topsoil stockpiles for eventual reclamation use; location of catch basins or similar drainage and erosion control features employed for the duration of the use; and the location of storage, processing, and equipment areas employed for the duration of the use.
 - b. Cross-sectional drawings of the site showing pre- reclamation and post- reclamation grades.
 - c. Descriptions of the proposed use, in terms of estimated quantity and type of material removed, estimated duration of the use, processing activities, etc.
 - d. Description of drainage/erosion control features to be employed for the duration of the use.
 - e. A landscaping plan providing for revegetation consistent with the vegetation patterns of the subject landscape setting, indicating the species, number, size, and location of plantings for the final reclaimed grade, as well as a description of irrigation provisions or other measures necessary to ensure the survival of plantings.

2. Scenic Resource Standard. Quarry enhancement projects shall restore the site to a natural appearance that blends with and emulates surrounding landforms to the maximum extent practicable.
3. Natural Resource Standard. Sites shall be replanted using native plants found in the landscape setting or ecoregion to the maximum extent practicable.
4. Time Frames. The following time frames shall apply to quarry enhancement projects:
 - a. All grading (e.g., excavating, filling and re-contouring) shall be completed within one (1) year of the date an applicant begins on-the-ground work.
 - b. All landscaping shall be planted within one (1) year of the date an applicant completes the grading.
 - c. An applicant may request one one-year extension to the one year grading time frame if a project is unexpectedly delayed by adverse weather or emergency/disaster. Such requests shall be considered an administrative action. An applicant shall submit such a request to the reviewing agency after grading has commenced and before the one year grading time frame has expired.
 - d. An applicant may also request one six-month extension to the one (1) year landscaping time frame if a project is unexpectedly delayed by adverse weather or emergency/disaster. Such requests shall be considered an administrative action. An applicant shall submit such a request to the reviewing agency after landscaping has commenced and before the one-year landscaping time frame has expired.

C. Enhancement of wetlands not associated with any other project proposal may be allowed, if such efforts comply with the wetlands provisions in the Management Plan. Enhancement efforts shall be conducted pursuant to a written plan consistent with the guidelines under “Wetlands Compensation Plans”.

D. Enhancement of streams, ponds, lakes, and riparian areas not associated with any other development proposal may be allowed, if such efforts comply with the water resource provisions in this Management Plan. Enhancement efforts shall be conducted pursuant to a written plan consistent with the guidelines under “Water Resources Mitigation Plans”.

E. In the SMAs, enhancement of wetlands, streams, ponds, lakes, and riparian areas not associated with any other project proposal may be allowed, if such efforts comply with the wetlands, streams, ponds, lakes, and riparian areas provisions in the Management Plan. Enhancement efforts shall be conducted pursuant to a written plan, consistent with the guidelines described in “SMA Policies: Water Resources”.

SECTION 10.200 Disposal Sites (GMA & SMA)

Disposal sites managed and operated by the Oregon Department of Transportation, or the Wasco County Public Works department for earth materials and any intermixed vegetation generated by

routine or emergency/disaster public road maintenance activities within the Scenic Area, subject to the following:

- A. Application Requirements.** In addition to other applicable requirements, land use applications for disposal sites shall include the same information that applicants are required to submit for expansion of existing quarries and exploration, development (extraction or excavation), and production of mineral resources in the GMA which are indicated in [10.300\(A\)](#) & [\(B\)\(1\)](#), Mineral and Aggregate Review, in addition to the following:
1. Cultural resource reconnaissance and historic surveys, as required by [Section 14.500](#). Disposal sites shall be considered a “large-scale use”.
 2. Field surveys to identify sensitive wildlife areas or sites and rare plants as described in [Section 14.600](#).
- B. Siting Standard.** The proposed disposal site shall only be approved if the applicant demonstrates it is not practicable to locate the disposal site outside the Scenic Area or inside an Urban Area. At a minimum, the applicant shall submit a feasibility and suitability analysis that compares the proposed disposal site to existing or potential disposal sites located both outside the Scenic Area and inside an Urban Area.
- C. Scenic Resource Standards.** Disposal sites shall comply with the same scenic resources protection standards as expansion of existing quarries and exploration, development (extraction or excavation), and production of mineral resources in the GMA, in [10.300\(B\)\(2\)](#) through (5).

SECTION 10.300 Mineral and Aggregate Review (GMA Only)

A. All Mineral and Aggregate Operations

1. For all new exploration, development (extraction or excavation), and production of mineral resources and expansion of existing quarries, a reclamation plan is required in addition to the site plan. The reclamation plan shall address the restoration of the site to a natural appearance which blends with and emulates distinctive characteristics inherent to its landscape setting. At a minimum, such reclamation plans shall include:
 - a. A map of the site, at a scale of 1" = 200' or a scale at greater detail with ten (10) foot contour intervals or less, showing pre-mining existing grades and post-mining, final grades; locations of topsoil stockpiles for eventual reclamation use; location of catch-basins or similar drainage and erosion control features employed for the duration of the use; and the location of storage, processing and equipment areas employed for the duration of the use;
 - b. Cross-sectional drawings of the site showing pre-mining and post-mining grades;
 - c. Descriptions of the proposed use, in terms of estimated quantity and type of material removed, estimated duration of the use, and processing activities;
 - d. A landscaping plan providing for revegetation consistent with the vegetation patterns of the

- subject landscape setting, indicating the species, number, size and location of plantings for the final reclaimed grade, as well as a description of irrigation provisions or other measures necessary to ensure the survival of plantings.
- e. Descriptions of drainage/erosion control features to be employed for the duration of the use.
2. All reclamation plans for new quarries or expansion of existing quarries shall be sent to the Oregon Department of Geological and Mineral Industries (DOGAMI) for review and comment. DOGAMI shall have 30 calendar days from the date a reclamation plan is mailed to submit written comments on the proposal. DOGAMI comments shall address the following:
 - a. whether the proposed mining is subject to state reclamation permit requirements;
 - b. if subject to state jurisdiction, whether an application has been received for a state reclamation permit and, if so, the current status of the application; and
 - c. for uses subject to state jurisdiction, any issues or concerns regarding consistency with state reclamation requirements, or any suggested modifications to comply with state reclamation requirements.

B. Mineral and Aggregate Operations Visible from Key Viewing Areas

1. For proposed mining and associated activities on lands visible from Key Viewing Areas applicants shall submit perspective drawings of the proposed mining areas as visible from applicable Key Viewing Areas.
2. An interim time period to achieve compliance with visual subordination requirements in the GMA, for expansion of existing quarries and development of new quarries located more than three miles from the nearest visible Key Viewing Area shall be established prior to approval. The interim time period shall be based on site-specific topographic and visual conditions, but shall not exceed three years beyond the date of approval.
3. New exploration, development (extraction or excavation), and production of mineral resources on sites less than 3 miles from the nearest Key Viewing Area may be allowed upon a demonstration that the area to be mined and the area used for primary processing, equipment storage, stockpiling, etc., associated with the use would be fully screened from any Key Viewing Area as described in 5 below. The applicant shall also meet the requirements of B(2) above.
4. An interim time period to achieve compliance with full screening requirements for new quarries located less than three miles from the nearest visible Key Viewing Area shall be established prior to approval. The interim time period shall be based on site-specific topographic and visual conditions, but shall not exceed one year beyond the date of approval. Quarrying activity occurring prior to achieving compliance with full screening requirements shall be limited to activities necessary to provide screening, for example the creation of berms and planting of trees.

