

# Harney County Plans for Tomorrow

1969  
Harney County  
Program Planning Council  
Report

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# INTRODUCTION

Looking forward with the aid of the people is a long-standing practice of the Cooperative Extension Service of Oregon State University. Since the mid 1920s, the Extension Service in Oregon counties has periodically called upon the people to study the county situation, determine the improvements needed, and then, by united effort, to work to accomplish the goals agreed upon. This procedure has worked to the benefit of all of the people of Oregon.

This long range planning was repeated during 1969 in Harney County. All who were interested in the progress and in the development of the resources of the county were welcome to participate. Both natural and human resources were considered and studied.

Groups of citizens voluntarily formed committees and sub-committees as study groups. They met on numerous occasions and devoted much time and travel in the interest of Harney County as a community.

After seeking out facts, analyzing the situation, and projecting into the future, these groups recorded some conclusions and recommendations. These are intended as constructive guidelines for future action to enhance the economy, liveability, and community life in Harney County.

In reading the various reports presented in this publication, one might keep in mind that Harney County will move forward to the extent that natural resources are used wisely; to the extent that the quality of human resources is emphasized; and to the extent that cooperative group efforts contribute to progress.

Through the democratic process, local citizens have outlined a future program. Few can question such a procedure. The carrying out of such a program is the responsibility of all the people, supporting leadership wherever it arises. But, forward is the only way to go.

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## HARNEY COUNTY

### PROGRAM PLANNING COUNCIL

Joe Altnow	Mrs. Doris White
Mabel Altnow	Hilton Whiting
O. D. Hotchkiss	Mrs. Twyla Turner
Mrs. R. J. Jenkins	Vera Hotchkiss
John Campbell	Mrs. Tom Howard
Dick Cowan	Mrs. Donna Hurlburt
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Carl Mayo	Judge Newton Hotchkiss
Ralph Reed	John Scharff
Jim Sitz	Dr. Frank White

## HOME AND COMMUNITY LIVING

### COMMITTEE

Doris White, Chairman	Adele Oliver
<b>Family Stability and Health</b>	Etta Temple
Rev. Frank Goodwin, Chairman	<b>Mental Health</b>
Helen Figg	Edna Haines, Chairman
Dr. John Weare	Dr. Frank White
Mrs. Bev Raleigh	Mrs. Sidney Ratzlaff
Anne Grace Edmunson	Henry L. Slater
Myrla Dean	Rev. Warren D. Henry
Selma L. Gutheridge	Mrs. Tom Howard
Hazel Otley	<b>Family Housing</b>
Jeanne Osterman	Carol Hudkins, Chairman

# Health Committee Report

The 1960 Census shows 39.5 percent of the people in Harney County are under 20 years of age. Another 20.2 percent are 20 to 35 years old, and the remainder, 40.3 percent, are 35 and older. For every person in the 20 to 35 year group two are younger and two are older.

A 1966 census shows a county population increase of 6.8 percent since 1960. The committee considered these and many other facts in an effort to determine the needs in personnel, facilities, and programs to protect and maintain the health of people in the county.

The following paragraphs describe the present situation and the committee's recommendations on facilities, services, and health matters for Harney County.

## Professional Medical and Health Personnel

There were six licensed physicians, four civilian dentists, and one military dentist in Harney County in the spring of 1968. A psychiatric consultant is available two days a month.

There are 20 practicing graduate nurses, including the public health nurse, and 50 nurses aides in the county. There are also some home health agency personnel (home nursing services).

Physical therapy personnel was available in the past, but this position was vacant when this report was compiled.

### Recommendation

- A physical therapist should be added to the hospital staff or the staff at the nursing home.

## Health Facilities

The following facilities are available:

- One hospital licensed for 46 beds.
- A nursing home with 34 beds.
- A home for the aged with 15 beds.
- The County Health Office with one public health nurse.
- Out-patient care at a physician's office and at the hospital.
- Facilities for the blind or nearly blind only through state agencies.
- Facilities for mentally retarded provided by schools and state agencies.

The Fire Department, Hines, with 15 volunteer firemen and one modern, fully equipped fire truck.

The Fire Department, Burns, with 24 volunteer firemen and 3 modern, fully equipped fire trucks.

### Recommendation

- Fire department service in the two districts should be upgraded and fire insurance premiums for all should be reduced.

## Law Enforcement

The Burns Police Department consists of four full time uniformed patrolmen and one full time Chief of Police. These men are well schooled in law enforcement. This department is equipped with two radio cars and radio communications with city, county, and state agencies. It renders service to the entire county.

## Public Health Department

The Public Health Department provides services to people throughout the county. The school health program takes a large amount of the time of Health Department personnel. The following figures give a summary of some of the activities which took place the first 9 months of 1967-68. This summary is representative of the services provided by the County Health Department.

### 1967-68 County Health Department Services

Tuberculin skin testing .....	1,099
Mobile chest x-ray unit .....	1,160
Crippled children's clinic .....	16
Diabetes clinic .....	0
Pre-school vision and hearing clinic .....	65
Vision screening .....	95
Dental screening .....	205
Otology clinic .....	19
Tuberculosis hospital commitments .....	1
Mental health agency visits (nursing) .....	48
Non-home health agency visits .....	76
School visits (city, county) .....	159
Hospital visits .....	28
Nursing home visits .....	8
Newspaper and radio releases .....	30

Water samples .....	34
Communicable disease screening (schools) ..	31
General Indian health	
Oregon medical school appointments .....	1
Dental transportation .....	10
Optometric transportation .....	28
Immunizations - number of doses	
Small pox .....	128
DT & DPT .....	252
Measles .....	68
Influenza .....	7
Polio .....	657
Total immunizations .....	1,132
Number of miles traveled in county .....	2,939

Every mass media is used to keep the people of the county informed of available health department services. However, to what extent the people in the county are informed concerning these facilities is not known.

## Mental Health

For several years, the citizens of Harney County have realized the importance of mental health in the life of people. The court has endeavored to provide a budget for mental health services. For the past several years, this service has been curtailed because of inability to keep a director. However, as of March 6, 1968, funds were allocated by the County Court for mental health service.

The psychiatrist presently serving the county for only two days a month cannot aid all of the people requesting help. Operating on such a limited level, the service has developed a backlog of six or more weeks.

### Recommendations

The committee makes the following recommendations in the field of mental health:

- Continuation of the Harney County Mental Health Service, with a full-time, qualified director and all other personnel necessary to meet state requirements and to be eligible for matching state funds; relocation of the Mental Health Service in the Harney County Hospital to eventually occupy a separate clinic.
- A definite strengthening of the Mental Health Advisory Council as a group for policy-making, for retaining local control and authority over our Mental Health Service, for integrating other commu-

ity groups interested in mental health problems, and for keeping the public aware of local mental health needs and action necessary to meet them.

- Support of any legislation to bring a much larger percentage of state liquor tax money back to the counties, earmarked for mental health, to help finance local clinics.
- Instruction for local teachers in psychiatry to aid their understanding of the emotional needs of students who are mentally retarded, physically handicapped, or exceptionally gifted.
- A constructive program of public education on mental health and illness to improve and update public attitudes in general about these problems.
- A good selection of books in our county library on mental health and related topics, with a reading list available to Mental Health Service patients.
- More adequate facilities at the local hospital for emergency mental patient care.
- A continuing enlargement of local volunteer services whose ultimate goal is mental and spiritual well-being.
- More interest and leadership for 4-H, scouting, Little League, and all other youth activity groups.
- Sunday or weekday church school available to every child in the county; to this end, training for potential church school teachers.
- Formation of more Yokefellow and/or other group therapy organizations as the need arises.
- Continuation of the Alcoholics Anonymous program.
- Volunteer counseling services in the churches for families.
- A volunteer telephone-answering service for suicide prevention and other emergencies.
- A social center for retired people.
- A recreation area for teenagers to provide proper entertainment for their physical and mental development.
- Establishment of a YMCA to provide physical exercise facilities for middle aged people.
- More recreational opportunities in the county for people of all ages, and more community interest in community affairs.

## Dental Health

Four civilian dentists and one military dentist serve some 7,000 Harney County residents. The four civilian dentists devote 100 percent of their time to the practice of general dentistry in Burns, while the military dentist spends only one-half of his time in Burns caring for the personnel and dependents of the Burns Radar Base. Thus, Harney County has one dentist for every 1,550 inhabitants. This ratio compares favorably with the national average of one dentist per 1,714 population. In nonmetropolitan Oregon, the comparison is one dentist per 1,944 people. From these figures, it can be seen that Harney County has its fair share of dentists. In fact, Harney County ranks 15th of the 34 counties in Oregon.

No fluoride is being added to the city water supply at the present time. Burns-Hines water supplies contain practically no natural fluoride supply.

No county-wide preventative dentistry program is in operation at this time.

### Recommendations

- Dental examinations should be required for children entering grade school and again when entering high school.
- Community water supply should be supplemented with fluoride content for the prevention of dental decay. The County Board of Health should supervise the community water fluoride program.
- An educational county preventative dentistry program should be planned and carried out.

## Smoking and Drugs

The schools in Harney County have an educational program in the areas of smoking and drinking.

### Recommendation

- Educational programs should be offered to inform the people of the damage the misuse of drugs can cause.

## Veneral Disease

There has been concern over the increased occurrence of syphilis and gonorrhea in some counties in Oregon. A report for the last eight years is given here for Harney County:

Year	Syphilis	Gonorrhea	Records show seasonal shifts in migratory labor and Indian population and, in recent years, Job Corps youth, account for most cases reported. The latter group reports directly to the State Board of Health, so actual county totals are higher than shown.
1968 (April)..	0	5	
1967.....	0	17	
1966.....	1	9	
1965.....	3	4	
1964.....	4	8	
1963.....	2	1	
1962.....	3	1	
1961.....	1	1	

## Eating Practices of School Children

The United States Department of Agriculture has made surveys of food consumption over the past 30 years. The 1965-66 survey reports its findings by regions. Oregon was among the test states in the Western Region. The reports show diets for families were most frequently below the allowances for calcium, vitamin "A", and ascorbic acid.

The Health Committee decided to secure some information about eating practices of some of the children in Harney County.

A check sheet on eating practices of teenagers was filled out by 476 boys and girls in the Burns-Hines and Crane high schools. Some of the significant results are listed below:

About 40% reported drinking four or more glasses of milk a day.

About 20% reported drinking three glasses of milk a day.

About 35% reported drinking two or less glasses of milk a day.

About 5% reported drinking no milk.

This indicates that a large percentage of these teenagers are low in calcium intake.

The 1965-66 survey report referred to above, reported 31 percent of families in the Western Region were below the required allowance for calcium.

The consumption of yellow vegetables is low, as reported in the Harney County study. Only about 10 percent reported eating yellow vegetables every day. A little over 60 percent reported eating yellow vegetables occasionally and the remainder never ate yellow vegetables.

About 50 percent reported eating green salads often. Forty-two percent reported eating green vegetables daily, 56 percent occasionally, and the remainder reported that they never ate green vegetables.

This shows that about 54 percent of these boys and girls had green or yellow vegetables daily. The remainder did not report eating a green or a yellow vegetable daily, which is the daily recommended dietary requirement. The USDA reported 21 percent of family diets as below the recommended daily Vitamin "A" consumption. High school boys and girls in this county appear to be neglecting this daily nutritional need.

About 60 percent of the teenagers reported eating potatoes occasionally, 41 percent of these said they ate them daily. The rest reported that they never ate potatoes.

Fruit was reported as eaten every day by about 42 percent and occasionally by 54 percent, with the remainder reporting that they never ate fruit. There was no effort to find out if fresh or canned fruit was eaten.

Reports of teenagers on their daily intake of potatoes, fruit and green vegetables indicate that they are consuming adequate amounts of ascorbic acid and Riboflavin.

The food eaten daily by the largest percentage of teenagers was bread — slightly more than 77 percent. The remainder reported eating bread occasionally. However, 19 percent reported eating cereal every day. Boys and girls who eat bread and cereal daily are probably consuming the recommended dietary iron and thiamine.

About 60 percent of the teenagers reported eating breakfast every day, with about 30 percent reporting occasionally and about 10 percent never.

Only about 69 percent reported eating meat every day. The remaining percentage may be in danger of protein deficiency.

As a whole, the diets of these teenagers are not portraying extreme dietary deficiencies. However, a need for the encouragement of diet improvement is indicated.

#### **Grade school breakfast practice**

A grade school breakfast practice check sheet was filled out by 154 second graders in Burns. Of this group, 132 ate breakfast (at home) every morning; 22 reported eating breakfast only occasionally. Only 120 reported consuming milk for breakfast. Other foods reported as eaten by these children were fruit or fruit juice, 80; bread, 105; cereal, 132; eggs, 104; and bacon, ham, or other meat, 74.

The entire group of second graders seems to be typical of the age group who often eat breakfast. The usual trend in teenage breakfast eating is to miss some, if not all nutrients during the very important physical-development period of life.

#### **Recommendations**

- Some leadership should be given in identifying the educational programs needed in the field of nutrition.

- Information should be provided to people in the county on "Weight Watch" workshops for adults and teenagers, available through the Cooperative Extension Service.

## **Abundant Foods and ADC Programs**

The 1968 figures show that 1,542 families received Abundant Food in the county. Nineteen parents received checks under the Aid to Dependent Children program.

Little has been done to help these families make the best use of abundant foods. The foods are of excellent quality but are not in a familiar form or package and the recipients do not plan their use as wisely as they might. (Examples are powdered eggs and milk, lard, pre-cooked canned beef, bulgur wheat, corn meal, etc. Some of these are unfamiliar, especially to younger families.)

The Cooperative Extension Service has an agreement with the Welfare Department to provide instructions in the use of these foods. Tested recipes are prepared and printed by the foods and nutrition specialist at Oregon State University. These printed suggestions have been delivered to the Abundant Food Center for distribution since the beginning of the Abundant Foods program in Harney County. However, demonstrations of the preparation of the foods and lessons on meal planning have had little attention. In most Oregon counties, a very good program is offered by volunteer Extension home economics study group members (unit members) with leadership provided by the county home economic agents. Samples of food dishes made with abundant foods are served.

Parents receiving financial assistance in the form of Aid to Dependent Children have been given no earmarked program, although they are always welcome to attend home economic and youth programs provided by the Extension Service.

#### **Recommendations**

- Women's groups should be encouraged to work with the Extension home economics agent to plan an educational program for families receiving abundant foods. These could be church groups, Extension Units, and others.
- The Extension agent should train the women's groups in demonstrating the use of abundant foods.
- Extension program planning committees should investigate the possibilities of special programs of interest and help to persons receiving welfare assistance.



## Family Stability

The subject of marriage and divorce was discussed. There is no marriage counselor service available to the people of Harney County except through the local ministers or doctors.

### **Recommendations**

- It is recommended that a marriage counselor be on the staff of the Mental Health Department. This counseling should include pre-marital and post-marital counseling.

## Adult Education

Adult education offers little opportunity for the people of Harney County for any educational classes. Treasure Valley College offers some opportunity but is very limited in its present scope and depth.

### **Recommendation**

- Educational television should be brought in to the county to offer adult education classes. This television would offer an informal type of education as well as supplement the local schools.

# Land Use Committee Report

## LAND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

John Campbell, Chairman	Girard Perkins
Art Sawyer	David Reed
C. B. Rumburg	Joel Sword
Marcus Haines	Harold Otley
Carl Mayo	Pat Culp
Jim Sitz	Jack McAllister
Leonard Grimes	Hilton Whiting

### Freeze data:

32° - - - 25-year average (1943-1967) - -	103
32° - - - 8-year average (1943-1950) - -	93
32° - - - 17-year average (1951-1967) - -	108
28° - - - 17-year average (1951-1967) - -	141
32° - - - - - freeze-free: Longest 1957—146	
	Shortest 1943— 61

freeze  
free  
days

## Soil Survey

This committee recognized that newcomers to Harney County need information on climatological data to become familiar with the weather characteristics of the county. There is a United States Weather Station in Burns, located in the Federal Building, where detailed information is available. Records are kept at the Squaw Butte Experiment Station and at the Malheur Wildlife Refuge.

Recorded data reveals that the shortest frost-free season was 61 days in 1943 and the longest was 146 days in 1957. This does not necessarily determine the growing season. Some plants and some crops survive minor frosts or freezing temperatures for short periods.

A soil survey of the agricultural lands of Harney County is needed. From information available, it is known that soils vary throughout the county.

To date, the most reliable study of the soils of Harney County is a report being prepared by the Soil Conservation Service. This is an attempt to inventory some of the county lands. The 1963 report "Harney County Land and its Development" is a good reference on crop varieties and land development.

### U. S. WEATHER BUREAU — Burns, Oregon

Average temperatures and precipitation:

29 years — 1939 to 1967

Month	Max.	Min.	Mean	Prec.
January - - - -	35.4	15.5	25.5	1.58
February - - - -	41.3	20.9	31.0	1.25
March - - - -	48.3	25.1	36.7	1.03
April - - - -	58.3	31.3	44.8	0.72
May - - - -	66.6	38.4	52.5	0.95
June - - - -	73.9	44.1	59.0	0.94
July - - - -	85.4	51.4	68.5	0.36
August - - - -	83.7	49.6	66.6	0.38
September - - -	75.6	41.1	58.4	0.53
October - - - -	63.2	32.6	48.0	0.93
November - - -	47.7	24.6	36.1	1.34
December - - -	38.2	19.3	28.8	1.63
Annual - - - -	59.8	32.8	46.4	11.64

### Recommendation

- It is recommended that a soil survey of agricultural lands in Harney County be made.
- The report "Harney County Land and its Development" should be brought up to date.

## Taxes

Taxes on real property and other taxes are of major concern to ranchers in the county. Many ranchers have expressed the feeling to this committee that a sales tax is a legitimate and equitable way to equalize the tax burden of all citizens.

The 1967-68 tax structure for Harney County is indicated in the following table:

	Assessed value	Percent A.V. of total	County tax*	I.E.D. tax	Elementary School tax	U.H. No. 1	U.H. No. 2	Burns & Hines	Total taxes	Percent of total taxes
<b>RURAL</b>										
Real property	\$ 7,537,200.00	\$ 36.12	\$ 74,179.33	\$352,478.73	\$ 27,624.76	\$28,064.13	\$ 22,996.37	\$	\$ 505,343.32	\$ 32.85
Personal property	3,462,150.00	16.50	34,070.74	161,894.30	12,464.31	13,487.72	9,834.93		231,752.00	15.07
TOTAL	10,999,350.00	52.71	108,250.07	514,373.03	40,089.07	41,551.85	32,831.30		737,095.32	47.92
<b>CITIES</b>										
Real property	4,838,060.00	23.19	47,625.10	226,300.72	32,831.23		36,973.95	81,927.97	425,658.97	27.67
Personal property	524,660.00	2.51	5,154.77	24,493.95	3,387.16		4,008.35	8,877.86	45,922.09	2.99
TOTAL	5,362,720.00	25.70	52,779.87	250,794.67	36,218.39		40,092.30	90,805.83	471,581.06	30.66
<b>PUBLIC UTILITIES</b>										
Rural	1,217,480.00	5.84	11,993.56	56,989.92	6,415.71	3,999.40	4,369.93		83,768.52	5.44
Cities	534,695.00	2.56	5,257.45	24,981.88	3,532.17		4,091.00	9,057.62	46,920.12	3.05
TOTAL	1,752,175.00	8.40	17,251.01	81,971.80	9,947.88	3,999.40	8,460.93	9,057.62	130,688.64	8.49
<b>INDUSTRIAL</b>										
Real property	2,190,065.00	10.50	21,563.76	102,464.75	17,544.73		16,735.91		158,309.15	10.29
Personal property	562,210.00	2.69	5,524.43	26,250.49	4,505.88		4,297.62		40,578.42	2.64
TOTAL	2,752,275.00	13.19	27,088.19	128,715.24	22,050.61		21,033.53		198,887.57	12.93
GRAND TOTAL	20,866,520.00	100.00	205,369.14	975,854.74	108,305.95	45,551.25	103,308.06	99,863.45	1,538,252.59	100.00

## Land Problems and Research

The cropping program in the county is largely related to the production of livestock. Advice on growing crops for feeding livestock and on other crop possibilities should be checked with the Extension agent. He has information on varieties of crops and on their adaptability for different areas of the county.

Feeds for livestock are the principal crops produced in the county. These include some grains. Since there is usually a local demand for such feeds, it appears reasonable and economical for these feeds to remain in the county rather than being shipped out and later shipping in similar feeds to satisfy the local demand.

Drainage, alkali accumulation, and related problems are of concern to operators in this area. This committee proposes that the Squaw Butte Experiment Station undertake research projects to deal with these problems.

Reclamation of wet lands poses a problem of major concern. Reclamation of alkali lands also needs attention.

### Recommendations

- This committee recommends that experiments and trials be established throughout the area to study the drainage and reclamation problems of irrigated agricultural lands.

- All effort should be made by the Squaw Butte Experiment Station staff and the County Extension staff to continue off-station trials for new and improved forage varieties. It is further recommended that these trials be conducted in different areas in the county.

- This committee believes that a survey of ground water should be made. Water, if available, could increase greatly the use and value of semi-arid lands in the county and add to its economic wealth. Agencies equipped and qualified to conduct such a survey should be approached. If support is needed for the completion of such a survey, interested local groups should exert an organized effort to get this accomplished. A ground water survey in Harney Basin is being conducted and should extend to other areas of the county.

- Private land use for public recreational purposes is recognized as a resource potential. This committee sees possibilities of using private lands for recreational use in a way compatible with other uses. Members feel that if advantage is not taken of this potential, future demands by the public may force some private control to be sacrificed. Every effort should be made to determine recreational possibilities utilizing private land resources. The committee feels that economic opportunity exists in this area.

- This committee is concerned about large corporate concerns, well financed, buying up ranches

and ranch areas (see the livestock committee report also). The committee views this activity as incompatible with a healthy livestock industry. The committee believes that it works to the disadvantage of normal ranch and farm operations, and that it deprives some who may wish to engage in normal operations. It is recommended that this increasing trend be called to the attention of congressmen, state officials, and U. S. Department of Agriculture personnel as a problem in this county, as elsewhere. Studies should be made of large corporations and their contributions to the agricultural industry of Harney County, and the information acquired should be made available to the proper authorities.

### LAND USE IN HARNEY COUNTY

(U. S. CENSUS)

	1959	1964
Number of farms - - -	292	279
Average Size of farm - - - - -	5,257.2 A	5,077.8 A
Average value of farm - - - - -	\$115,049.	\$179,522.
Cropland harvested -	96,474 A	136,555 A
Cropland only for pasture - - -	85,746 A	59,165 A
Cropland not harvested or pastured - - -	23,925 A	35,547 A
(Summer fallow, crop failure, idle)		
Irrigated land - - -	84,156 A	140,186 A
Crops harvested:		
Grain crops		
Corn silage - - -	50 A	518 A
	500 T	6,000 T
Wheat - - - -	913 A	863 A
	12,383 Bu	20,529 Bu
Oats - - - -	651 A	1,627 A
	14,607 Bu	49,061 Bu
Barley - - -	5,608 A	7,272 A
	82,082 Bu	175,128 Bu
Rye grain - -	1,129 A	2,652 A
	11,871 Bu	19,277 Bu
Hay crops		
Alfalfa - - -	9,332 A	12,397 A
	14,684 T	28,900 T
Clover & grasses - -	5,456 A	8,867 A
	6,965 T	11,747 T
Grain hay - -	5,887 A	9,137 A
	3,759 T	9,388 T
Wild hay - -	64,211 A	89,381 A
	49,229 T	88,039 T
Other hay - -	849 A	2,732 A
	684 T	2,663 T
Grass silage -	787 A	432 A
	2,840 T	3,076 T

# Weed Control Committee Report

## WEED CONTROL COMMITTEE

Hilton Whiting, Chairman	Eban Ray
Dick Cowan	C. B. Rumburg
Ralph Reed	Allan Brayman
John Scharff	Emory Clapp
John Campbell	Joe Altnow
George Purdy	John Riley
	Judge Newton Hotchkiss

## 1969-70 Weed Control Budget

Labor - - - - -	\$2,500
Equipment - - - - -	200
Repairs - - - - -	400
Chemicals - - - - -	2,200
Gas and oil - - - - -	300
Miscellaneous - - - - -	50
Total - - - - -	<u>\$5,650</u>

The committee that studied the weed situation in the county was a sub-committee of the Land Use Committee.

This group devoted much study, time, and effort to Harney County weed problems. Before this report is published, some recommendations will have been realized.

## Noxious Weeds

In 1965, the county was declared a weed control district by the County Court under the enabling laws of the state. Weeds declared noxious are: white top; Canada thistle; Russian knapweed; morning glory and Dalmation toadflax. Presently, these are the declared noxious weeds in Harney County. Other weeds may be declared noxious if evidence indicates that control under district operations is necessary and in the best interests of the public.

A weed control district is under the direction of the County Court. Individual land owners are responsible, however, for control of any and all noxious weeds on their property. Governmental agencies are responsible for control on roads, streets, right of ways, or on other property under the control of these agencies.

Education and volunteer cooperation by land owners have been the most effective means of applying the weed control law. In cases where cooperation is not offered and the weeds are not controlled, the county may control the neglected weeds and the cost becomes a lien on the property.

The county budget for weed control for the fiscal year 1969-70 was \$5,650. The major program was the spraying along county roads. Some spraying on other lands was done on a charge basis, and all proceeds were returned to the general fund of the county.

This committee realizes that weed control has become a highly sophisticated procedure. Information indicates that some 200 different materials are employed or available for various weed control problems.

Securing qualified personnel to handle equipment and material is a problem. The committee feels that since presently the county is engaged in weed control, the equipment and personnel should be combined with the road department. Here the equipment could be serviced and gas and oil could be supplied.

The committee encouraged the services of a qualified private applicator. A private firm or person could provide weed control services to land owners not equipped to control weeds on their property. This would relieve the county of spraying private lands where requested or in cases of violation. The county could then limit its control to county roads, or perhaps contract with the operator for work to be done.

The committee recommends that the county budget — and the budgets of other public agencies and municipalities should be sufficient each year to carry on an effective weed control program.

## Other Weeds

The noxious weed problem in the county is of major concern. There are weeds other than those declared noxious, that cost farmers and ranchers money each year. These may be annual or perennial weeds or weedy grasses. There are control methods for most, if not all, of them. If palatable grasses, legumes, or other crops can be grown where weeds now grow, this will mean more money to the operator and add to the economy of the county.

The Cooperative Extension Service, Courthouse, Burns, can supply information and control recommendations for all weeds, noxious and other. This information is revised and brought up to date annually by Oregon State University specialists, Extension agents, and other qualified persons.

### **Recommendations and Concerns**

After thoroughly studying the weed control situations in Harney County and after obtaining information from other counties in the state which have had longer experience with weed control districts, this committee offers the following recommendations and information.

- An all-out, broad-based educational program is necessary to inform all the people of the county of the serious consequences of allowing noxious weeds to go uncontrolled. Education should be directed to owners of private lands, to organizations controlling public lands, to business and civic groups, and to the public at large.

- All media for getting information to the people should be used; costs of controlling various weeds should be quoted; and cost-sharing under the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service should be continued.

- An effective education program should try to get all of the people of Harney County to recognize that a serious weed problem exists; that this problem is the concern of all who live or own prop-

erty in the county; that weeds are a threat to the economy and to the well-being of all.

- The committee recognizes that an educational program is the responsibility of the Extension Service, but that other programs demand the Extension agent's time. However, due attention needs to be given to weed control, and the cooperation and involvement of many people is needed.

- Much has already been accomplished through education and through some cooperative efforts. Through meetings and conferences held, a cooperative arrangement has been developed that provides for the highway department, the City of Burns, and the City of Hines to budget funds for weed control. These funds are to be used to reimburse the county for work done in these cities and on highway rights of way.

- The U. S. Forest Service reports spraying each year for white top. Chemicals have been used effectively on refuge lands, it is reported, but biologists are concerned and are watchful for residue build-up that may affect wildlife.

- A report from the Bureau of Land Management indicates that weed control on these public lands are the responsibility of this agency.

- The county budget and the budgets of other public agencies and municipalities should be sufficient each year to carry on an effective weed control program.

# Youth and Family Committee Report

## YOUTH COMMITTEE

Twyla Turner, Chairman

<b>Sub-Committees:</b>	Ron Brown
<b>Labor Problems</b>	Eugene Vinarski
Bud Garland, Chairman	Helen Figg
Rep. Bob Smith	<b>Swimming Pool</b>
Wendell Gronso	Bud Rumburg, Chairman
Charlie Otley	Arlie Oster
Lynn Brinkley	Carol Lowe
<b>Education</b>	Bob Raleigh
Mrs. William Cramer, Chairman	Tom Kern
Rosina Sawyer	Wendell Gronso
Austa Carlon	Teresa Peila
Inez Ausmus	<b>Recreation</b>
Al Starns	Larry Woodell, Chairman
Jim Red	Ray James
Stewart Smith	Judy Barnes
Henry Slater	Molly Mogan
<b>Juvenile Problems</b>	Mary Dorman
Marc Anderson, Chairman	Pauline Reed
Vera Hotchkiss	Dr. Richard Thompson
Peggy Sitz	Bob Raleigh
Orm Carter	Bud Rumberg
	Joe Tiller

### Juvenile Delinquency and Family Service

Records in the county indicate that juvenile delinquency in Harney County is increasing. In 1964, 124 cases were referred to the courts; in 1967, 228 cases. About 6 percent of the school-age population is affected. The committee found that delinquency prevention and correction are best handled by the community, involving the active support and participation of all citizens.

The County Court Juvenile Department has a part-time court counselor, a part-time attendance officer, and a part-time secretary.

Family court services are fragmented in Harney County. Four courts are involved in handling

cases that relate to families, for example, divorce, annulment, child custody, and domestic-relation action are handled exclusively by the circuit court. Other family affairs including parental rights, probation, adoption, and narcotics, are handled by three other courts in the county. In Oregon it is now possible to have a family court that handles all problems related to family matters.

Families in Harney County realize the important role that parents have in helping young people become good citizens. Groups of women in the county are asking for help in learning to understand and teach children. A survey was made of homemakers in the county. One of the questions was concerned with what kind of knowledge was needed for families to rear children. Mothers indicated a need for help in how to discipline children, understanding the teenager, how to develop a sense of right and wrong, and developing responsibility.

The County Court Juvenile Department is undermanned according to the standards of the National Council on Crime and Delinquency.

Family court services are fragmented in four courts with information and approaches to solution of problems scattered among the courts.

Families lack understanding of inter-personal and family relationships.

### Recommendations

- Full staffing of the Harney County Juvenile Department is necessary to meet standards of the National Council on Crime and Delinquency and should include a full time director, a full time counselor, and a full time secretary. It is hoped that this will be enough manpower for the maintenance of existing programs and also for the development of new foster-care and shelter-care resources.

- A family court system should be inaugurated in Harney County. Its jurisdiction should include all family matters and should reside in the circuit court when Harney County has its own circuit court separate from other counties.

- Informal education programs should be set up by the Extension Service to help families acquire a better understanding of family and inter-personal relationships.

## Jobs for Young People

Many young people are willing to work, but laws prevent ranchers and others from hiring youth under 16 years of age. There are about 600 young people between the ages of 12 and 16 in the county.

Work habits are formed during these years, and earning money develops independence in young people.

Young people are unable to find jobs in the county. There is a need for a youth employment center to inform young people of available jobs and to inform employers about available help.

### Recommendations

- A training program to train young people to work on ranches should be set up.
- Training programs should be established to train young people to babysit, care for lawns, and work in homes and to help young people find jobs.
- A youth Employment Center should be established to serve Harney County with a full-time counselor; to include job listings, screening of applicants, and employment-rating records. A confidential detailed report on employees progress should be filled out by employers and kept on file for future reference at the Center.

## Recreational Facilities

The community delayed improvement of the old swimming pool until it was finally closed by the Public Health Service. Because of location and costs, a new pool now appears to be more feasible than reclamation of the old pool.

A committee working toward the erection of a new pool, proposed a covered pool adjacent to the high school at a cost of \$275,000. The bond election for the \$275,000 was defeated. The primary reasons given for the defeat were (1) total cost was too high, and (2) many voters were opposed to distributing the construction cost county-wide, feeling that this was primarily an urban problem.

Covering a pool adds 75 to 100 percent to the cost. If costs are to be reduced and still provide an adequate pool, this must be accomplished by constructing an open pool. However, there are advantages to a covered pool in addition to extending the season.

### Recommendation

- Construction of a new swimming pool in proximity to the high school is recommended. The pool should be open but **serious consideration** should be given to providing protection in order to lengthen the swimming season, or the pool should be

planned so a cover can be added at a minimum cost in the future. The method of financing the pool will be left to the committee working toward a new pool. However, some base would provide continuous financial support (to prevent a new pool from falling into the same state of disrepair as the old pool) is recommended by this committee.

## Population

The population of Harney County has increased 6.8 percent in the last few years. A small segment of the population live in the county only for a short period of time because of some seasonal work.

The schools provide some recreational programs during the summer, using school facilities.

There is a lack of information among people new to the county about clubs and available activities in Harney County.

There is a need for new playground facilities and equipment.

### Recommendations

- A booklet about Harney County should be compiled. Information about organizations, facilities, and clubs should be included. The publication should be made available to new people through the Chamber of Commerce.
- Existing community parks and recreational areas, such as Lake Creek, should be utilized.

## Education

The number of young people who will start school is increasing. Twelve percent of the population is under five years old. The total population is increasing in the county.

Treasure Valley Community College provides some formal adult education for citizens in the county, and the Division of Continuing Education of the State System of Higher Education offers classes for college credit. The students in these classes are usually teachers.

Vocational classes are taught at the high school, but they are very limited. The hospital provides training for hospital aides.

The Cooperative Extension Service provides informal educational programs for young people as well as adults.

At present the county library extends no service other than within the library. Distances are great and this prohibits the use of the library by all citizens in the county.



Educational television is not available for people in the county or for use by the schools in the county.

### Recommendations

- The volume of reading materials for students and adults should be expanded. Library service should be extended to the rural communities, including the Indian Village, either by mobile unit or mailing service, or both. The use of library aids to small communities should be offered through a training program developed through the central library with professional assistance; work training sessions to develop community library services through the mail should be provided, using aids for controlling and operating small library centers.
- The community should support the necessary steps in getting educational television into the schools as a teaching tool for both youth and adults, including the use of educational channels, video tape, and closed-circuit television.
- A committee should be appointed to investigate needs for vocational training and to determine whether to establish a school in the county or to use vocational schools already established and provide scholarships or grants to help students.
- A study should be made on the basis of population and needs to determine the need for a formal continuing education program in the county.
- An informal educational program should be instituted by the Cooperative Extension Service office to help low-income families in the county. Teaching could be done by the agent and/or volunteer teachers.
- Leadership training programs should be organized, as needed in the county, to train leaders of youth and adult groups.

## Marriages and Divorces

The committee was concerned with increases in teenage marriages. The Department of Vital Statistics of the Oregon State Board of Health showed that such marriages are increasing. Statistics show on the national level the percentage of teenage marriages are more apt to end in divorce than marriages of mature persons.

The Department of Vital Statistics reported the number of divorces in the county as follows:

1960.....	23	1964.....	26
1963.....	18	1965.....	29

The only organized counseling provided in Harney County for couples experiencing difficulty in marriage is through the Harney County Mental Health Service. This is a limited service.

In a county survey involving 75 homemakers, the need was indicated for understanding in the areas of disciplining children, handling finances, understanding in-laws, learning to share responsibilities, and communications between husband and wife.

### Recommendations

- A full-time marriage counseling service for pre-marital and post-marital couples as a part of the Mental Health Service, utilizing local clergy and physicians as needed, should be implemented.
- Educational programs, both formal and informal, in the area of family relationships should be set up in the county as needed.
- The Extension Service should expand their programs in the area of family life, with special emphasis on young married families.
- The Extension Service, in cooperation with business people in the community, should plan and conduct an informal educational program in the area of family finance.

# Consumer Competence Committee Report

The Consumer Competence Committee, in trying to determine the problems and concerns in the county, used several types of questionnaires. One was designed to try to determine buying plans and areas of concern for consumers. Other questionnaires were answered by managers of grocery and appliance stores. The surveys were not scientifically conducted, and answers can indicate only how the person involved felt and what he was planning to do. The consumer questionnaire was answered by 130 families. The consumers, and these answers, were helpful to the committee in determining problems and in making recommendations for action in the area of consumer competence.

## Family Incomes

The net effective buying income for 1965 in Harney County as reported by Sales Management was \$6,200, slightly lower than the state average. Over 20 percent of the families in the county had two wage earners. Through a survey of 12 Indian families, the committee found that these families all had incomes of under \$4,000 and that 40 percent of these families had incomes under \$2,000.

Persons other than the Indians answering the questionnaires showed a higher income level — only 11 percent had incomes under \$4,000 and 21 percent had incomes of over \$10,000.

In 1968, 712 families received public assistance and 19 parents received Aid to Dependent Children.

## Consumer Credit

Credit is being used in making many purchases of household goods in the county. Appliance dealers said the majority of the purchases made were financed through the local banks. The consumers' survey showed that 41 families were making credit payments on their cars. The appliance dealers, however, indicated a low rate of repossession — about 1 percent. A representative from one employer in the county said that many of their employees were having their wages garnished.

## Purchasing of Goods and Services

Many of the families in the county are involved in making consumer decisions, and these decisions are more complex as models of appliances change and new and improved products are introduced on the market. The consumers answer-

ing the consumer survey indicated the following plans for purchase: 30 families were planning to buy a car, either new or used; 20 families were planning to buy or build a house; and 11 families were planning to buy a range and a stereo; 10 families hoped to buy a refrigerator and a color TV; and fewer families indicated plans to purchase a washer, dryer, freezer, and dishwasher.

These same families also indicated some concern about the market in the county. They felt that they had a very limited choice of goods and services; that prices were high for both goods and services due to lack of competition and that services provided for repair of their homes and household equipment were inadequate. Thirty families indicated that unethical sales practices are being used (many of them by people coming into the county for a brief period of time). These practices include many types of gimmicks — telephone solicitation, prizes that really are not prizes, high-pressure selling, and door-to-door soliciting.

Store managers think that homemakers could purchase more wisely. More knowledge is needed in purchasing vegetables and meat; two managers indicated the need for more information about purchasing frozen foods and one was concerned about the purchase of cases of food.

The wife is the primary shopper in all stores.

## Housing

According to the 1960 census, there are 2,343 housing units in Harney County, but only 2,037 that are occupied. Of the units in the county, 1,673 are listed as sound, others are deteriorating or dilapidated. There are toilet and bathing facilities in 2,058 of the units.

In the consumer survey, questions were included about plans for buying a home or remodeling. Of the persons in the survey, 12 who were renting indicated that they were planning to buy and 9 who had bought said they expected to buy another home. The number who were planning to remodel included 13 who were planning to add another room, 18 who were remodeling present rooms, 32 who were going to paint, and 16 who were interested in landscaping. Twenty-six indicated that they were not sure the wiring in their homes was adequate for family needs.

The committee also found that there were 427 licensed mobile homes in the county. There are seven mobile home parks. Not all of the mobile homes are in the parks. A sample of mobile home owners indicated that information about buying and paying for a mobile home would be helpful in making decisions about buying. They also indicated an interest in learning more about storage in mobile homes.

## **Recommendations**

- Schools in the county should be encouraged to provide education in money management and use of credit for all students.
- Adult education programs in the area of consumer education should be planned, and businessmen should be asked to help teach classes.
- Educational programs to help people understand the marketing system in the county should be organized.
- People should be encouraged to buy goods and services in the county rather than in outside communities.
- Families should take advantage of Extension offerings in comparative shopping, particularly clothing. Instruction in clothing construction would also be helpful.
- Educational programs to help Indian families in making consumer decisions should be planned.
- People should be made aware of protection provided by legislation and kept informed about new legislation.

- Educational programs should be conducted by Extension and business in the county to provide information needed by families in making decisions about housing.
- Other educational programs should be planned to help families in remodeling problems and landscaping their present grounds.
- Housing facilities in the county should be improved.
- The need for zoning laws and building codes in the county should be studied.

## **CONSUMER COMPETENCE COMMITTEE**

Jess Ereno, Chairman	Hank Dickerson
Emmett Nyleen	Marvin Maxwell
Pluribus Tiller	Corky Corbett
Nancy Williams	Glenn Nelson
Mrs. Buck Weil	Marvin Marrill

# Livestock Committee Report

## LIVESTOCK COMMITTEE

Joe Altnow, Chairman	Glenn Sitz Dorman Otley
John Campbell	Jim Sitz
Fred Witzel	Lloyd Hill
Don Hotchkiss	Girard Perkins
Tom Howard	Carl Mayo
George McGee	Walt McEwen
Dick Hotchkiss	Art Sawyer
Elden Catterson	Dick Jenkins
Don Corcoran	Harold Otley
Doug Campbell	Ray Novotny

## Cattle

Cattle (oxen) pulled many of the wagon trains west when the pioneers began their trek over the Oregon Trail. Following these were more cattle, if only a few, for a limited supply of milk for the very young in the party.

Cattle consume forage, be it grass, legume, browse, or hay. In Harney County, as in much of the arid west, forage was the prize for those looking for a place to camp, to rest, or to settle. Only native forage and water were attractive.

Cattle and Harney County are synonymous. The free grass is gone, but forage and water are still the substance that support this prime industry. Much has changed and change is continuing.

This committee appraised the past and present situation. With all available facts considered, it has suggested some desirable actions: 1. range improvement on both private and public lands. 2. improved quality of livestock. 3. improved operational management. 4. greater emphasis on financing and marketing. Recommendations on these and other items studied by the committee are presented in this report in the interest of an improved livestock industry.

Beef cattle, in 1967, contributed 8.8 million dollars to the total of 10.05 million total gross farm income in Harney County. On January 1, 1968, 104,000 head of cattle were in the county. During the same year, 56,900 head were marketed. Presently, this makes cattle "King" in this range county.

Of the 6,484,480 acres in the county, private ownership claims only 1,530,261 acres. But, the livestock are all privately owned. This is the cause of some concern to the ranch operators.

## Land Use Permits

The livestock committee, representing the interests of the industry within the county, is concerned about the permit system for the public lands. The question arises as to whether permit tenure on public lands is realistic. With the trend toward fewer and larger operations, management decisions and operational programs need to be considered over longer periods. Short term permits make operational planning difficult and are a definite handicap to those depending on this feed resource.

### Recommendation

- In order to insure greater stability in tenure of use of public lands, it is suggested that all effort be made to implement and stabilize tenure for the future development and growth of the livestock industry.

## Exchange Use

The exchange of use of public and private lands where they are intermingled poses some problems. This situation, too, needs study and an organized effort by private owners to work out a more realistic program of exchange of lands. Operators concerned may well develop alternative plans to present to administrators of public lands.

### Recommendation

- All effort should be made to establish a realistic program for exchange of public and private lands to improve management of the range resource.

## Land Agencies

Stockmen believe that coordination of policy is needed between administrators of public lands. Specific reference is to lands administered by the United States Forest Service and those controlled by the Bureau of Land Management. Inconsistencies, relative to turn-out for stock is a case in point. Stockmen believe the lack of coordination, particularly in this instance, is confusing and often costly to operators dependent on the use of these public lands.

Stockmen have noted that the short tenure of Bureau of Land Management district managers causes some confusion and often causes changes in policy as personnel is changed. This point may well be called to the attention of the proper administrative authority.

### **Recommendation**

● It is recommended that the policies of the Bureau of Land Management, as related to the limited tenure of the district managers is confusing and restricting full development of the land resources.

## **Research**

Research related to range improvement needs to continue or be accelerated if maximum utilization of this important resource is to be attained. Brush and weeds need to be removed. A search for new varieties and trials of forage plants that might be more productive should be made. Stocking rates, grazing practices, and economic levels of winter feeding are some of the other items suggested for attention. The research undertaken should be designed to benefit all lands, public and private.

### **Recommendation**

● Research is significant to the application of knowledge in developing the resources of an area. It is recommended that all research information be passed on to ranch operators as rapidly as possible.

## **Credit**

The lack of long-term credit is of concern to many operators. This is particularly true where finances are needed to develop the land and water resources that would make for a more efficient operation. The cost of these developments, added to operating expenses, requires large sums of money. Commercial sources of such credit are usually on a short term basis while the improvements are on a long term basis. Such costs cannot be paid off in a short time. Commercial credit on longer terms or liberalization of qualifying requirements for government or government-sponsored credit is needed. It should be called to the attention of credit sources that loans for resource development on well-managed ranches may entail no more risk than many urban and business loans.

### **Recommendation**

● Credit, of concern to agriculture in any area, needs to be considered fully. The possibilities of long-term loans for resource development should be explored to a greater extent. Commercial sources of credit generally are short term and thus impede development of our land and water resources.

## **Labor**

Adequate farm labor is a problem that must be tackled. Highly skilled people are more in demand as farmers and ranchers mechanize their operations. The total wage offered ranch help of-

ten is not calculated by employment agencies or by the employee. Ranchers need to emphasize the noncash benefits offered. These are items such as rent-free housing and farm produce, such as meat, milk and eggs. Some form of transportation is often included. Opportunity for earnings by members of the family is often possible. The value of these extra benefits should be added to the cash salary offered. If this were done, ranchers might be better competitors in the labor market.

### **Recommendation**

● Skilled people needed by agriculture should be made aware of all advantages and opportunities of agricultural employment.

## **Marketing Opportunities**

Marketing always has been, and will continue to be a major concern of agriculture. The old adage that, "He is furthest from market who has nothing to sell", may be paraphrased to read, "He is far from a market if the quality of his produce is not in demand".

Harney County is a producer of feeder cattle. The reputation of a producer or of an area, as to the quality of goods produced, is soon known to market outlets. A favorable reputation for the county cannot be built by a few that do a good job and deliver cattle of high quality.

This committee raised a number of questions concerning marketing. Perhaps paramount is an educational program. Producers need to understand their opportunities and to evaluate them carefully. Management and feeding practices to obtain the best quality and the greatest poundage per cow, per acre, per dollar invested, per man hour, or whatever may be the yardstick, should be the goal of each operator.

Much information relative to attaining the determined goal is available. It is the responsibility of the Extension Service to get such information to all producers. It is equally important that the producer should understand how the information applies to him and how it can benefit his operation. This information may be about feeding practices to improve quality; it may be about range management practices to obtain full utilization without abuse; it may be about production testing to upgrade the herd; or, it may be timely market information.

Demands of the market (consumer) change. The committee recognizes this and raises questions as to the type of cattle to produce for the present and for the probable future demand. Information on acceptable grades and finish is available. In addition to market activity and acceptance of certain types of cattle, carcass contests conducted throughout the county give advance notice of acceptable cattle. This information is available and can be a guide to producers.

The promotion and selling of beef is the responsibility of all producers. No one sells cigars but the people who make them. Agriculture may learn to do the same. Progress in this area has been made through organized state and national efforts to promote and sell beef. This effort is one of self interest and should be supported by all producers.

This committee, on behalf of the industry, seeks more information on controlled breeding, specifically on controlled estrus activity.

Change of ownership of cattle poses some problems for producers and for buyers. The committee feels that all transfers of ownership be required to include brand inspection by a state inspector.

### Recommendations

- All efforts to implement improved marketing techniques, practices, marketing decisions, and marketing opportunities need to be increased greatly.
- Every effort should be made to implement methods of improved breeding practices, particularly controlled breeding through the use of hormone treatments.
- Change-of-ownership brand inspection should be a requirement; this would eliminate many of the problems relating to theft and to confusion in cattle ownership between buyer and seller.

### Imports

Imported meat is of concern to all United States producers. International affairs and world diplomacy complicate the problems of producers and of the industry. The united efforts of national, state, and local producer groups have had some effect in establishing import quotas. For example, a build up of imports reached a high point in 1963. Nation-wide efforts of producer groups obtained some concessions in import quota allowances. It would appear that a watchful eye by the total industry can be helpful. This would involve the individual, the local association, and state and national producer groups, with all being well informed and with supporting action whenever appropriate.

### Recommendation

- Since imports are of concern to all livestock producers, attempts to establish import quotas should be implemented.

## Sheep

Trends in the past few years indicate that the range sheep enterprise is declining. The committee recommends the distribution of the results of studies and other information explaining how farm flocks might fit into a livestock program and add to the economy of the county.

Recent figures show that there are about 8,200 breeding ewes in Harney County. This enterprise contributed \$185,000 to the gross agricultural income of the county in 1969.

### Recommendation

- Sheep numbers continue to decline, regardless of incentive payments and various programs to aid this industry. Every effort should be made to present an economic evaluation of the sheep industry in Harney County.

## Water Resources Committee

Bill Cramer, Chairman	Henry Ausmus
John Scharff	J. O. Harris
Clarence Young	Hilton Whiting
Judge Newton Hotchkiss	George McGee
Leonard Grimes	Harold Otley
Merle Clark	Ray Novotny

The Water Resources Committee, on January 19, 1966, in conjunction with the State Water Resource Board, prepared a detailed water resource study on the Malheur Lake Basin area. This study was in depth and in detail.

### Recommendation

- The Harney County Water Resources Committee recommends that all recommendations in the 1966 Malheur Lake Basin Hearing be followed. No further detailed report will be presented from the Water Resources Committee.