

Inventory Checklist: Start With What You Have

This publication is intended to serve as a workbook. Please write down your ideas, questions, or whatever will help you assess your proposal as you go through the guide.

Start With What You Have

Begin with assessing the potential attractions that already exist on your property, rather than spending money on creating something new. Below is an inventory checklist to help you identify and list your current assets; you will refer to this list as you evaluate different options and ideas throughout this workbook.

1. Physical Resources:

A. *Land Resources* — list what you have (deeded, leased private property, state & federal allotments, rangeland, woodland, hay meadows, cropland, riparian/wetlands, acreage, location proximity, elevation, topography, location of feed grounds, etc.)

B. *Climate* — consider how weather patterns, temperature, etc. will affect what types of activities you might provide:
Temperature (monthly variations; length of growing season) _____

Precipitation (monthly distribution)

Snow (ground cover periods & accumulation depth)

C. *Developments & Improvements* (buildings, fences, corrals and working facilities, equipment, roads and trails, etc.)

D. *Other Attractions* — list those things that might enhance your operation to a visitor, such as wildlife streams, ponds, fishing, livestock, proximity to natural or man-made points of interest, etc.

E. *Hazards* — (Farm equipment, storage, areas that are off-limits to visitors)

II. Operations and Management

A. Owner/Manager strengths and goals — list those intangible assets that can assist you in a farm/ranch recreation operation (e.g., “people person,” marketing ability, knowledge or special skills such as horse riding, livestock management, cooking, knowledge about history of the area, etc.).

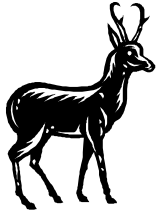
B. Family Strengths and Resources — list those skills and strengths that family members add:

III. Activities

List activities you do on your operation that might appeal to the public. Remember, what seems routine to you is likely unusual and interesting to the non-farm public. Be free with your ideas here: you’ll evaluate them later. Some examples might include: cattle drives, calving or lambing, trail rides, roadside produce stands, machinery operations (harvesting, planting, cultivating), on-site food processing.

WILDLIFE INVENTORY

As you complete this inventory, you will want to add as much detail as possible, including total count, ratios of male/female, trends, locations, size, age, condition, behavior, habitat, etc. This may take considerable time but will be necessary if you intend to build an enterprise around wildlife. You will want this information if you are considering an enterprise to attract wildlife viewers, photographers or hunters. Don't forget that bird watching is one of the fastest growing outdoor activities in the United States. (Check with the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife on hunting of all species as to dates, permits, licenses, etc.).



Big Game:

- Antelope
- White-tail Deer Mule Deer Elk
- Moose
- Bighorn Sheep/Mountain Goat
- Black Bear
- Mountain Lion



Game Birds:

- Turkey
- Grouse
- Partridge
- Pheasant
- Mourning Dove



Small Game:

- Rabbit/Hare
- Red, Grey & Fox Squirrels
- Rock Chuck



Other Birds:

- Songbirds
- Large Birds (falcons, hawks, etc.)
- Other



Furbearers:

- Beaver/Mink/Muskrat
- Badger
- Bobcat
- Weasel



Waterfowl:

- Geese
- Ducks
- Cranes



Predators:

- Coyotes
- Raccoon
- Red Fox Wolf Porcupine Skunk



Rodents:

- Prairie Dogs, Ground Squirrels, etc.

PEOPLE RESOURCES:

Rate the following based on characteristics important to a successful farm/ranch recreation operation (1 limiting factor, 5=asset for success).

	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>
<u>(Family or hired):</u>					
Are they friendly, confident, tolerant of strangers/guests?					
Do they have special talents/abilities, etc.?					
Name _____	—	—	—	—	—
Name _____	—	—	—	—	—
Name _____	—	—	—	—	—
Name _____	—	—	—	—	—
Name _____	—	—	—	—	—
 <u>Paid Assistants:</u> Are they committed to working with you to make a successful venture?					
Accountant _____	—	—	—	—	—
Attorney _____	—	—	—	—	—
Lender/Financier _____	—	—	—	—	—
Consultant _____	—	—	—	—	—
 <u>Neighbors:</u> Will they allow bordering access?					
Any conflicts? Supportive of tourism/recreation options?					
 <u>Sheriff and deputies:</u> Are they supportive of proposals					
or suspicious of outside					
 <u>Game Warden & Biologists</u>					
 <u>Government officials and regulators</u> (local, state, federal)					
Do they understand and support your effort?					
 <u>Economic Development Staff</u> (local, county, regional, state):					
Do they understand and support your effort?					
 <u>Business & Tourism Associations</u>					

What can you do to improve the rating for those who may be a limiting factor in your business proposal?