



CURRY COUNTY

State Parks Master Plan
2003



**This Master Plan is dedicated
to the memory of John Phillips.
(April 1948 – May 1999)**

John was a well-respected park planner and natural resource specialist for Oregon State Parks for 27 years prior to his untimely death in the spring of 1999. This master plan has relied heavily on the interagency and local citizen partners with whom John had built productive relationships during his tenure with our department. The bridges that John built will be a heritage to us all. Most importantly, John's commitment to Oregon's special places will continue to inspire our agency for years to come.

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CURRY COUNTY STATE PARKS MASTER PLAN

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INTRODUCTION

This document is the master plan for the southern coastal parks and properties of the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD) that are located within Curry County. This plan will serve as a guide to future use and development of the park properties. It will also guide the management of the State Park System for this section of the Oregon Coast. The master plan will amend and expand upon the North Curry County Parks Master Plan completed in 1982.

This document includes a narrative, which describes the master plans purpose and process. It also contains descriptions of the existing facilities, environmental analysis, suitability of the land for public recreation uses, information regarding the major resource attractions and issues related to public use and management. The master plan also evaluates the Curry County state parks system and recommends goals and objectives for the future management and development of the properties. Finally, it provides conceptual drawings of any development proposals. A summary of required land use compliance is included in a separate document entitled "Land Use Findings and Zoning Summary, Draft Curry County State Parks Master Plan."

I. MASTER PLAN SUMMARY

The southern Oregon coast offers a unique system of parks. Some factors contributing to the attraction of the Oregon's south coast include the beauty of the coastline and the relative remoteness of the area. Many of this region's visitors come from neighboring California lured by the varied scenery, breathtaking views of the coast, historic resources and forested settings. The OPRD properties within Curry County offer a range of facilities and experiences. The master plan addresses each of the OPRD owned properties. A summary of the pertinent issues outlined in the plan include:

Protecting and Managing Important Natural, Scenic and Cultural Resources

There are many important habitats located on OPRD properties in Curry County, as well as occurrences of protected plant and animal species. These areas need to be protected from intensive use and development, and many require specific actions to preserve and enhance them. Some wetlands and streamside areas have been degraded by past uses and would benefit from future enhancement.

In addition, many areas are rapidly growing up into overly dense, single species forests with poor habitat values. In some these areas trees are invading important grassland or scrubland habitats. Management actions are needed to contain the forest where these other habitats should be preserved and to improve the structure of the young forests where a forest habitat is desirable.

View preservation requires active forest management. Young trees are quickly screening many traditional views to the coastline. OPRD will work with ODOT to ensure the proper placement of tree thinning for view restoration.

Restoring important cultural resource sites is proposed for Cape Blanco's Hughes House and related areas of Cape Blanco, and for the Life Saving Station buildings and grounds at Port Orford Heads

Taking Care of Maintenance and Rehabilitation of Facilities

A high priority will be funding needed on-going and periodic maintenance and rehabilitation of existing facilities, as well as adequate staffing.

Recreational Activities, Current and Proposed

Most of the acreage in the OPRD properties will remain undeveloped. Development is sited to protect resources and to preserve the naturalistic setting that prompts visitors to come to the parks. However, this master plan outlines proposals for additional camping, especially group camping and/or cabins in some of the larger parks. Many of the existing campgrounds are proposed to have a variety of improvements including better circulation, registration, improved campsite size and new utilities.

It should be noted that the number and extent of proposed cabins, outside of existing camping sites, is very low. One small cabin loop and one group cabin area are proposed for Cape Blanco and a new cabin/yurt area at Harris Beach. These parks in particular are considered destination parks. Many visitors enjoy "camping" without having to take their tents or RVs along. Cabins and yurts allow for this type of low investment camping.

A group cabin facility is proposed at Cape Blanco. Because of the destination nature of Cape Blanco, these cabins are not expected to compete with private overnight accommodations where travelers are passing through the area or when they intend to stay in the towns or visit other attractions. Additional group camping is proposed for Cape Blanco and Harris Beach.

Cabins in the parks have been found to increase attendance during the spring and fall. This increased visitation during the shoulder season should have an indirect benefit to the local economy at the time of the year when visitation is generally lower throughout the county.

A new walk-in, primitive camp area is proposed for Cape Blanco, for those who prefer that experience. Additional walk-in camping is proposed at Cape Sebastian.

No new major day use facilities are proposed, although some existing facilities will be improved and/or expanded as space allows. This would include Harris Beach, Cape Blanco, Otter Point and McVay Rock. A new beach access with parking is proposed for Crissey Field.

Trail connections and extensions are proposed for most of the parks to some degree, including trailhead improvements at Floras Lake, Cape Blanco, Humbug Mountain, Cape Sebastian, Otter Point and Samuel Boardman State Scenic Corridor.

Interpretation

There was a lot of support for more interpretive opportunities within the parks in Curry County. Opportunities could range from stand-alone signs and sign structures at viewpoints and pull-offs to larger facilities.

This master plan proposes moving the “Welcome Center” from Harris Beach to Crissey Field near the California state line. Siting a large facility in this area will be challenging and will require successfully obtaining the necessary land use and highway access permitting, and funding. If these requirements prove to be too difficult or cost prohibitive the “Welcome Center” could continue to operate at the Harris Beach site. A new purpose for the center would be interpretation of the Scenic Byway on Highway 101 and more information and participation by partners in the area such as the US Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management, Curry County, the Chamber of Commerce, the National Park Service and possibly the State of California. Additional project development and related partner coordination is needed to move this project toward implementation.

Additional emphasis on interpretation is proposed for the lighthouse and Hughes House at Cape Blanco, Life Saving Station at Port Orford Heads and the gravesites at Geisel Monument. Lighthouse interpretation would be in partnership with the Bureau of Land Management, the Coast Guard and local tribes. The Hughes House interpretation would occur in cooperation with the Friends of Cape Blanco, and the Port Orford Heads interpretation would occur in cooperation with the Point Orford Heritage Society. Geisel Monument interpretation would be in cooperation with local historical groups and local tribes.

A number of natural resource viewing stations focusing on whale watching and wildlife with related interpretive signs are proposed for many of the parks.

Access and Orientation

Some access roads need major repairs due to landslides. Others need improvements to sort camping from day use or other activities. New highway access to the proposed "Welcome Center" site at Crissey Field will need to be worked out with ODOT. Some "renegade" trails and service access roads to isolated beaches with no facilities or supervision are proposed for closure. In addition to these OPRD proposals, ODOT is proposing to construct a pull-off at the intersection of the Cape Blanco Highway with Highway 101 and south of Meyers Creek near Pistol River. The Cape Blanco Highway pull-off and Meyers Creek pull-off would provide orienting information about Curry County for southbound travelers. The Welcome Center either at Harris Beach in Brookings or at Crissey Field would help orient northbound travelers.

Improving Administrative Facilities

The plan provides for the construction of needed seasonal staff lodging, additional maintenance shops and crew/management office space at several of the parks as alternatives. However, the major focus is on Cape Blanco with its remote setting and large size. Office and maintenance shop improvements are proposed at Harris Beach and Humbug Mountain.

Public Land Ownership

There were mixed public opinions about what future OPRD land ownership should be. Some felt we should divest of some properties and keep new acquisitions to a bare minimum. Others supported OPRD keeping all of the parcels it currently owns and buying several more to protect resources, increase public access and provide additional recreational facilities opportunities.

The plan mentions "Areas of Concern", areas where adjacent or nearby parcels in private ownership could enhance the park experience. Some of them could also offer additional public access or facility opportunities. Some of the adjacent parcels are currently owned by the Oregon Department of Transportation. Parks with "Areas of Concern" include Cape Blanco, Port Orford Heads, Geisel Monument, Otter Point, Cape Sebastian, Pistol River, Sam Boardman State Scenic Corridor and Crissey Field. Other areas away from current OPRD properties have been identified as "Areas of Concern" including the Arizona Beach and Sisters Rock areas. OPRD is currently pursuing acquisition of Sister's Rock and the Moucharwar Property adjacent to Port Orford Heads State Park. Any feasible additional beach or river accesses will be considered as they become available.

Only two areas have been identified as a potential endowment parcels. One site is a part of Samuel Boardman and would be considered for trade with ODOT for their use as a maintenance storage area. The second parcel includes the southern half of McVay Rock. If OPRD determines that this property is no longer needed, the Department may consider this property for endowment. The Ophir parcel was traded previously for a scenic waterfall site on the north coast.

II. MASTER PLAN PURPOSE

"Provide both protection and public enjoyment of state park resources"

The Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD) prepares master plans for its properties as mandated in ORS 390.180.

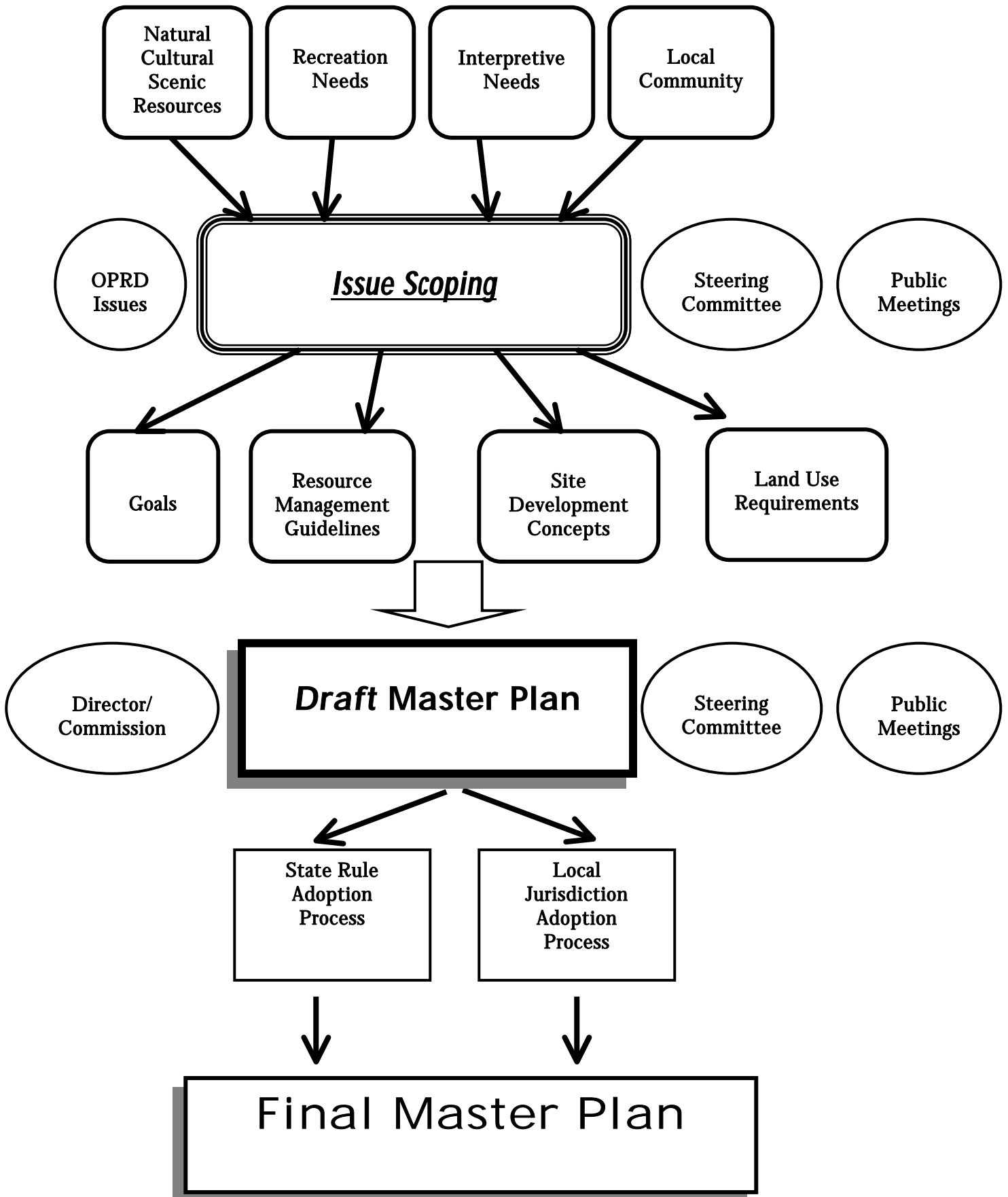
The purpose of the Curry County State Parks Master Plans is to:

- Plan for protection and public enjoyment of state park resources;
- Identify and provide for protection of important natural, cultural and scenic resources within state parks;
- Provide for the most appropriate recreation related uses for the parks based on resource opportunities and constraints;
- Identify development opportunities and constraints;
- Set forth natural, cultural and scenic resource management goals, objectives and guidelines for the parks;
- Provide a forum for public and agency participation;
- Address critical and current recreational use levels;
- Address the impacts on resources and resource management needs;
- Plan for future use based on assessments of future recreation needs and resource constraints;
- Identification of lands desired by the Department for acquisition in relation to the park being master planned,
- Identification of any potential new endowment properties within the parks; and to
- Provide a basis for land use compliance applications.

III. MASTER PLANNING PROCESS

1. OPRD planning staff completes a detailed resource inventory for the parks and properties, including an assessment of its suitability for public recreational use. Staff also completes a recreational needs assessment.
2. Planning staff conducts introductory meetings to collect public and governmental opinions about use and management issues, problems, needs and opportunities related to the park. Ideas, comments and concerns collected from these meetings serve as management goals and objectives for the park. A steering committee is invited to provide issues and comments on the master plan.
3. Staff completes a draft master plan document with maps and site development concepts, and circulates it for public, steering committee and governmental comment.
4. Public meetings are held to introduce the draft master plan and ask for comment.
5. Staff provides comments and recommended edits to the Department Director and the Oregon State Parks and Recreation Commission for direction. Staff prepares a final draft plan based on director and Commission instructions.
6. The final draft master plan is submitted to local governments for land use compliance evaluation and possible plan amendment. The plan is also adopted as a state rule.

OPRD MASTER PLANNING PROCESS



IV. EXISTING FACILITIES SUMMARY

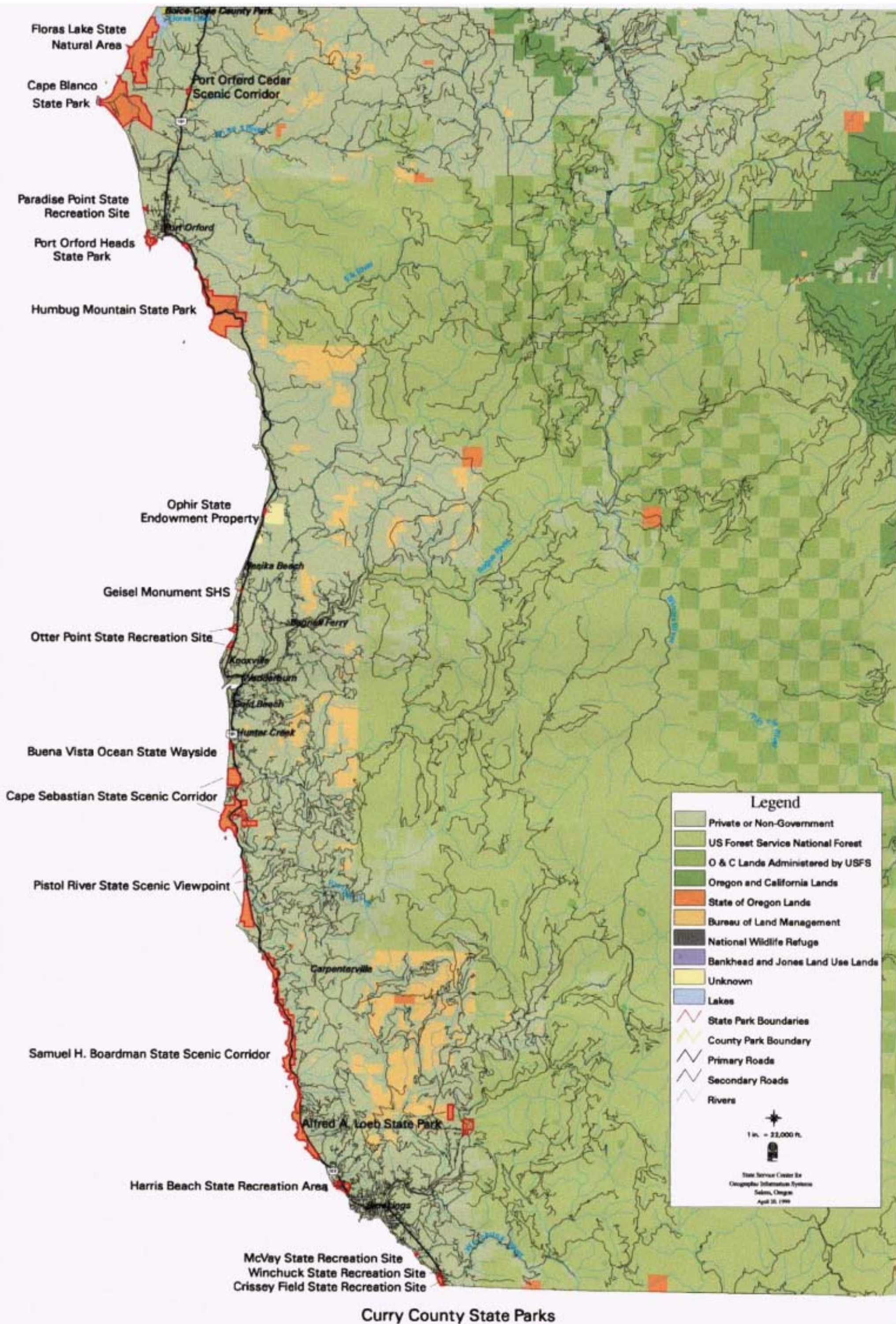
The Curry County State Parks Master Plan covers seventeen properties which includes state parks, recreation sites, scenic corridors and viewpoints, historic sites and natural areas located along a 70 mile stretch within coastal Curry County. Floras Lake State Natural Area, the northernmost of the properties, is located about nine miles north of Port Orford. From Floras Lake south the parks occur intermittently along the Pacific Coast Highway, 101, Crissey Field State Recreation Site at the California border. Alfred A. Loeb State Park is the only inland park, located approximately nine miles up the Chetco River, east of Brookings.

State park properties included in this plan contain some of the most scenic and picturesque areas along the Oregon Coast. The parks and properties include prominent headlands, beautiful, open sandy beaches, unique vegetation and wildlife, important historic sites and many scenic areas.

The table below lists the properties included in the plan and their approximate size. The following map identifies the properties.

Table 1: Properties included in the Curry County State Parks Master Plan

Park	Acres
Floras Lake State Natural Area	1,371.45
Cape Blanco State Park	1,895.4
Port Orford Cedar State Scenic	32.6
Paradise Point State Recreation Site	12
Port Orford Heads State Park	101.71
Humbog Mountain State Park	1,842.16
Geisel Monument State Historic Site	4.05
Otter Point State Recreation Site	85.5
Buena Vista Ocean State Recreation	33.7
Cape Sebastian State Scenic Corridor	1400
Pistol River State Scenic Viewpoint	440.05
Samuel H Boardman State Scenic	1,471
Harris Beach State Recreation Area	174.21
McVay State Recreation Site	18.9
Winchuck State Recreation Site	6.8
Crissey Field State Recreation Site	55.59
Alfred A. Loeb State Park	320.23
TOTAL	9,265.35



Curry County State Parks

Legend

- Private or Non-Government
- US Forest Service National Forest
- O & C Lands Administered by USFS
- Oregon and California Lands
- State of Oregon Lands
- Bureau of Land Management
- National Wildlife Refuge
- Bankhead and Jones Land Use Lands
- Unknown
- Lakes
- State Park Boundaries
- County Park Boundary
- Primary Roads
- Secondary Roads
- Rivers

1 in. = 22,000 ft.

State Service Center for
 Geographic Information Systems
 Salem, Oregon
 April 28, 1999

CURRY COUNTY STATE PARKS MASTER PLAN

PARK FACILITIES MATRIX

	Property	Acreage	Location	Zoning	Facilities	Special Features
1.	Floras Lake State Natural Area	1,371.45 Acres	5 miles w of US 101, S of Langlois	PF (Public Facilities)	Trail and undeveloped trailhead at airport	Natural area and remote setting. Blacklock Point.
2.	Cape Blanco State Park	1,895.4 Acres	Off of Hwy. 101, 8 miles northwest of Port Orford	PF (Public Facilities)	54 electrical camp sites, 4 log cabins, 8 horse camp sites; group RV/ tent; hiker biker camp, 7 mile equestrian trail, maintenance shop, caretaker residence.	Destination park; Historic Hughes house (c. 1896), Cape Blanco Lighthouse, 150 acres open riding range, fishing access to the Sixes River and black sands beach, natural areas.
3.	Port Orford Cedar State Scenic Corridor	32.6 Acres	On Highway 101 across from the Pacific High School at the intersection of Airport Road	PF (Public Facilities)	Undeveloped	Forested area.
4.	Paradise Point State Recreation Site	12 Acres	North of Garrison Lake next to the City of Port Orford	PF (Public Facilities)	Parking lot.	Beach access and viewpoint.
5.	Port Orford Heads State Park	101.71 Acres	West of the City of Port Orford	PF (Public Facilities)	Day use area, small parking area, caretaker residence	Historic Coast Guard Life Saving Station grounds & buildings, views and trails.

	Property	Acreege	Location	Zoning	Facilities	Special Features
6.	Humbug Mountain State Park	1,842.16 Acres	Six miles south of the City of Port Orford along Highway 101	PF (Public Facilities)	30 electrical camp sites, 78 tent sites, hiker/biker camp; group tent area; Day Use area & group camp; trailhead; maintenance shop and caretaker residence.	5.5 mile hiking loop trail to Humbug Mountain summit, natural areas.
7.	Geisel Monument State Heritage Site	2.9 Acres	7 miles north of Gold beach	ODOT right of way	Day Use area, parking lot, and memorial	Historic grave sites. Adjacent to Nature Conservancy site and coastal natural areas and views.
8.	Otter Point State Recreation Site	85.5 Acres	4 miles north of Gold Beach	Public Facilities (PF)	Parking, trails and beach access.	Natural area, views.
9.	Buena Vista Ocean State Wayside	33.7 Acres		Public Facilities (PF)	Undeveloped	
10.	Cape Sebastian State Scenic Corridor	1400 Acres	7 miles south of Gold Beach	Public Facilities (PF)	Parking, trails and beach access.	Natural areas, views
11.	Pistol River State Scenic View Point	440.05 Acres	11 miles south of Gold beach	Public Facilities (PF)	Beach access, horse trails, parking.	River and beach viewing, windsurfing in the area
12.	Samuel H. Boardman State Scenic Corridor	1,471 Acres	Between the City of Brookings and the Pistol River	Public Facilities (PF)	Parking, 12 miles of coast trail, trailheads, day use, beach access	Scenic park with a collection of viewpoints, natural areas, wildlife viewing

	Property	Acreage	Location	Zoning	Facilities	Special Features
13.	Harris Beach State Recreation Area	174.21 Acres	Located within the city limits of Brookings approximately 2 miles north of the city center.	Public/ Open Space (P/OS)	34 full hookup camp sites, 52 electrical sites, 63 tent, cable TV hookups; 6 yurts; hiker biker camp; office, maintenance shops, caretaker residence, beach access, RV dump site	Outstanding wildlife viewing opportunities; views of Oregon Coast's largest offshore island, natural areas
14.	McVay State Recreation Site	18.9 Acres	2 1/2 miles south of the City of Brookings	Public Facilities (PF)	Gravel parking area and mowed day use area; beach access.	Open space and beach access.
15.	Winchuck State Recreation Site	6.8 Acres	North side of the Winchuck River along the west side of Highway 101	Public Facilities (PF)	Gravel parking area, beach and river access.	Fishing and beach access
16.	Crissey Field State Recreation Site	55.39 Acres (Includes OSRA)	South side of Winchuck River along the west side of Hwy. 101 adjacent to the California border	FG (Forest and Grazing)	Undeveloped	Historic airstrip, natural area, extensive ocean and beach frontage.
17.	Alfred A. Loeb State Park	320.23 Acres	North side of the Chetco River, approximately 9 miles northeast of Brookings	Public Facilities (PF)	50 electrical sites, 3 log cabins, 1 campsite accessible to a camper with disabilities, day use area, trail, river access.	Myrtlewood grove, 1 mile USFS "Redwood Trail", Redwood Forest, river frontage.

V. HERITAGE ASSESSMENT SUMMARY

This chapter provides an overview of the region's natural and cultural heritage. Detailed mapping of these resources contributed to the completion of the Composite Resource Suitability Map, which is addressed in the next chapter. Detailed maps and background information are stored at the OPRD headquarters office, in Salem, and may be viewed there upon request. The maps are also available at the park's district office.

The park properties included in this plan are all located within Curry County. The parks are located primarily along Curry County's 70-mile coastline. The only exception is Loeb State Park that is an inland park located approximately 9 miles up the Chetco River. 27 miles of Curry County's 70-mile coastline is located within State Park boundaries. State Highway 101, which accesses many of the parks, has been designated as a National Scenic Byway.

The 17 sites associated with this plan encompass a range of recreational opportunities, from extensive campground facilities of Cape Blanco, Humbug, Harris Beach and Loeb; to beach access points known only by area residents such as Paradise Point, Winchuck and Crissey Field. Some of the properties are scenic corridors, preserved for the scenic qualities of driving the coast highway. The outstanding examples include Samuel A. Boardman and Cape Sebastian.

Curry County is located in the southwestern corner of the State of Oregon and entirely within the Klamath Mountain and Coast Range physiographic regions. Curry County is topographically rugged with steep mountain ridges separated by deep narrow canyons and valleys. The only transportation link through the county is US 101 that bisects the county in a north-south direction along the coast. No major roads cross the county in an east-west direction.

Topography

The topography has generally determined the settlement pattern of the county. Since most of the county is mountainous terrain, settlement has historically been confined to the relatively flat areas near the coast. Physiographically and geologically all of Curry County lies within the Klamath Mountain region which is characterized as a high mountain massif that drops off into the ocean as a series of headlands. The county's landscape is broadly classified as uplands, terraces, and lowland valleys. Mountains rise precipitously from the ocean in many places. The coastal terraces are either wave cut surfaces along the coast or are the dissected remnants of elevated floodplain along streams. Coastal terraces are generally less than 200 feet in elevation above sea level. Most of the parks are located on coastal terraces.

Climate

The climate of Curry County is generally moist and mild. From April through October strong prevailing winds blow from the northwest averaging approximately 17 miles per hour. From November through February winds are predominately from the southwest averaging 15 miles per hour. The winds are a very strong factor in the generation of higher waves along the coast in the winter. These waves are the primary cause of coastal erosion which occurs principally in the winter and which can be severe. These winter waves cause a seasonal change in the beach profile. Generally, in the summer, gentle waves move the sand on shore and the beach is enlarged. In the

winter, the stronger waves move the sand off shore and the beach becomes depleted of sand. Average annual precipitation ranges from 72.8 inches at Port Orford to 81.4 inches at Brookings and Gold Beach. Temperatures generally range on an annual basis from 65 degrees to 40 degrees Fahrenheit along the coast. Sometimes in July, the hottest month inland, cold offshore currents result in fog along the coast.

Natural History

Human presence has had an impact on the physical nature of the coast area in the past 200 years. Many features have been altered through accelerated erosion, fire, logging, grazing and clearing the land. Dune stabilization and the introduction of European Beach grass in the 1930s caused great changes forming a nearly continuous foredune along the coast. The introduction of Gorse is causing the degradation of many open grassy areas and headlands.

The ecosystems in Curry County have largely been changed from pre-settlement conditions. Although the distribution of vegetation types has not changed dramatically over the last 100 years, the loss of old growth or mature age forest has been significant in affecting the overall biodiversity of the area. Most of the remaining mature forest is located on public lands, including some OPRD properties. Over all, second and third growth forests are rapidly growing up in former forested and unforested areas. Former open headlands and shrublands are rapidly being invaded by young coniferous forest due to the cessation of fires and grazing. Sand dune communities have been greatly changed by the invasion of European Beach grass. Flood plain, wetland and riparian habitats have been severely impacted in the area. Changes in habitat conditions have contributed to a marked decline in Anadromous fish and other species.

A portion of the region, from Bandon State Park in Coos County to Port Orford Heads in Curry County and inland to the headwaters of the South Fork Coquille River, has been identified through special studies as an important conservation area for protecting and improving biodiversity. Floras Lake, Cape Blanco and Port Orford Heads are key OPRD properties within that conservation area.

Conservation issues for the area include:

- Protection and enhancement of large blocks of mature forest
- Protection and enhancement of native habitats along the ocean shore and in coastal plains, headlands and terraces
- Protection and enhancement of Port Orford Cedar forest.
- Controlling the invasion of exotic species
- Managing to enhance at risk plants and animals

Geology

(From "The Ore Bin", Vol 37, no. 4 April 1975)

Curry County lies at the western margin of the Klamath Mountains province, a region composed of some of the oldest rocks in Oregon. Tremendous forces within the Earth's crust have made mountains out of rocks that were once sedimentary and volcanic materials on the sea floor. Metamorphic recrystallization and intense folding, faulting, and shearing have altered these rocks to varying degrees. In general, the more ancient the rocks, the more severely they are disrupted and altered. Since recrystallization hardens rocks, and shearing and fracturing weakens them, the combined effects produce extremes in rock durability. This accounts for the different erosion of bedrock along the coast of Curry County and the resulting ruggedly beautiful scenery.

Most of the bedrock exposed along the County's shoreline is of Mesozoic age, ranging from late Jurassic (150-160 million years old) through Late Cretaceous (65 million years old).

The Dothan Formation crops out along the Curry County coast from the Winchuck River, just north of the state line, to Whaleshead Cove. The rock is very much deformed but is somewhat less sheared than the Otter Point formation, which is of the same age.

Otter Point Formation crops out in a belt that extends from Whaleshead Cove on the south to Sisters Rocks on the north. It is not continuous along the shore over the entire distance but is interrupted at a number of places by younger formations. To the north, it crops out in the Heads at Port Orford; most of the reefs and sea stacks from Mack Reef northward are of Otter Point rocks. The Otter Point Formation has been lightly metamorphosed. Where the rock is not sheared, it is hard and very resistant to erosion, especially the volcanic units, but where it is severely sheared, it has little strength and is easily eroded. Weathering further weakens the sheared rock, making landslides a serious problem.

Humbug Mountain conglomerate crops out along the shore over a distance of about 5 miles from Humbug Mountain southward. The rock is mostly conglomerate and is coarsest at its base, but in higher parts of the formation, beds of sandstone and mudstone are interstratified with conglomerate.

The Cape Sebastian Sandstone is exposed along the shore in the sea cliffs at Cape Sebastian. It is a massive gray sandstone that weathers to light tan.

Beds of Eocene rocks lie in the neck of Cape Blanco. The strata are thin-bedded mudstone and greywacke sandstone.

Sandstone and conglomerate beds of Miocene and Pliocene age overlie the Otter Point Formation at Cape Blanco. They are exposed in the sea cliff along Blacklock Point. Interstratified sandstone and conglomerate overlie the Hunters Cove Formation and extend northward along the shore in a spectacular sea cliff as far as Floras Lake.

Numerous light-colored rhyolite dikes and sills intrude the Dothan Formation north of Brookings. Rhyolite is well exposed in the road at the entrance to Harris Beach Visitor Center and in a number of places along the shore at Harris Beach State Park, including the rock knob at the parking lot.

Pleistocene terraces are numerous along the Curry County coast and are most extensive in the southern and northern parts. A terrace that begins in California extends northward beyond Brookings. Interesting features of the terraces south of Brookings are the rock knobs that rise abruptly above the terrace surface. These rocks were sea stacks during an interglacial stage of the Pleistocene Ice Age when the terrace surface was part of the sea floor. Quarrying destroyed McVay Rock, a large pleistocene sea stack.

Very little of the Curry County coast is favorable to dune formation because most of the shore is bordered by sea cliffs. Dunes have formed near the mouths of some streams where there is beach to supply sufficient sand and the terrain is suitable. The largest area of dunes is at the mouth of the Pistol River.

Goat Island with an area of 21 acres and a height of 184 feet is Oregon's largest coastal island. It is composed of Dothan Formation. It was established as part of the Oregon Islands Refuge in 1935 and the Oregon Islands Wilderness in 1970. The rock knob at the edge of Harris Beach parking lot is part of a rhyolite dike.

Rainbow Rock viewpoint is composed of a thin complex of folded beds of chert of the Dothan Formation.

Cape Ferrelo is an elevated flat surface 250 feet above sea level.

At Natural Bridges viewpoint, the "bowl" behind the natural bridges, probably was formed by a collapse of roof rock of intersecting sea caves. The bridges are what is left of the roofs of the caves.

Cultural History

The coast has been inhabited for hundreds of years but only since the 1930s has there been much growth in the coastal communities. Euro-American settlement involved tensions and eventual attacks between the settlers and Native American tribes in the area. Eventually, tribal members were moved out of the county to reservations in other areas. However, tribal interests and history remain important to the area today.

In the recent past, economic activities of the coast have been those of forest products, fishing and agriculture that were all natural resource-based. These activities have provided the basis for the rich history and related historic structures in the area. Tourism has now become one of the major industries along the coast with many of the visitors coming from California. The Brookings area has grown steadily in recent years creating an increased demand for access to natural places, for recreation and for interpretation of the areas natural and cultural history.

VI. RECREATION NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Recreation demand information is summarized here for the south coast of Oregon. Information is included regarding local demand as perceived through staff contacts, south coast regional demand and community-related demand from the "state Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan" (SCORP) and related surveys. Recreational opportunities are shown for each of the OPRD properties in Curry County. Conclusions regarding what portion of demand might be addressed on OPRD properties are provided at the end of this chapter. (SCORP is a federally funded, statistical and issue-related recreation analysis that conducted by OPRD on a statewide, regional and community-based scale.)

Community SCORP Demand

In 1993, a survey of Oregonians was completed to measure demand for recreational activity opportunities within and near communities. Widespread support was voiced for the following activities:

- Historic exhibits
- Outdoor concerts
- Wildlife and nature education
- Walking and jogging trails
- Picnicking
- Biking
- Beach swimming
- Boat fishing
- Driving for pleasure and sightseeing
- Overall, respondents preferred to recreate in natural to primitive settings

It can be assumed that these activities would be desired in the vicinity of Port Orford, Gold Beach and Brookings in Curry County.

South Coast SCORP Demand

The analysis for Coos and Curry Counties showed that several outdoor recreational activities would require a significant increase in facilities and sites to keep up with increasing demand. Those activities include: Beach access, nature observation, RV camping, biking, hiking and picnicking.

Statewide SCORP Demand

The following table lists the projected increase in demand for certain outdoor recreational activities on a statewide average.

SCORP Overall Statewide Demand Projections

Activity	Yearly Increase
Fishing	4.9%
Water activities	5.2%
Nature study	8.5%
Hiking, walking, climbing	8.9%
Camping	5.5%
Sightseeing, picnicking	6.8%

Other Recreation Demand Information

According to the study, "Market and Competition in Private and Public Campground Sectors of Oregon", *Implication from the 1997 Inventory and Campground* questionnaire, the most popular activities associated with the South Coast area include relaxing, sightseeing, walking, beach combing and hiking. This study also indicated that the South Coast attracts high usage by Californian visitors as compared to other parts of the state. Overall the study indicated that tent sites are somewhat more popular in public parks. Users of tent sites rank drinking water, picnic tables and fire rings as important campground amenities.

Recent important needed changes in response to emerging roles include:

- Addition of accessible sites;
- Upgrading electrical service at sites to handle modern camper demands;
- Parking areas extended to make room for larger RVs;
- Larger group day use activities;
- Public campgrounds centers;
- Credit cards to pay for sites.

OPRD Manager Information

Park managers have a good understanding for what the public wants in their parks based on observing of attendance and on conversations with visitors and volunteers. Here are a few demands taken from park managers:

- More demand for group camping than OPRD campgrounds can supply.
- Large demand for more interpretation.
- Demand for more trails and trail loops.
- Demand for more group and day use areas and shelters
- Demand for more amenities and choices in overnight accommodations within the parks.
- RV and tent camping is available at Cape Blanco, Humbug, Harris Beach and Loeb. Harris Beach tends to fill up first. Park officials usually direct overflow to Loeb. When Loeb reaches capacity, others are referred to the private campgrounds located in the Brookings area. Cape Blanco now fills on weekends in July and August. Overflow is directed to Humbug. Long term, weekend camping will outgrow Cape Blanco and Humbug combined.
- Wind surfers use Floras Lake and Pistol River and the pullout at Cape Sebastian. The annual national competition suffers from adequate staging and camping areas in the Pistol River vicinity. However, in recent years this competition has been discontinued.
- The Coast Trail will eventually traverse the entire 350 miles of the coast border to boarder. Over 200 miles are now in use, many of those miles are on the beach, while others use existing or newly built segments over the headlands. There are a few gaps in Curry County that need easements to fill.
- Over 9,000 bicyclists cycle the Oregon Coast each year. Due to the prevailing north winds, cyclists travel in a southern direction. They either begin in Seattle or Portland, or are headed towards San Francisco. Hiker-biker camps are available at Cape Blanco, Humbug and Harris Beach and are well used in the summer season.

Opportunities in the Curry County State Parks

Park	Existing Recreation Opportunities
Floras Lake State Natural Area	Hiking, bird watching, nature observation, beach access.
Cape Blanco State Park.	Camping, hiking, biking, horseback riding, picnicking, overnight - day group use, nature observation, fishing, sight seeing, beach access, cultural resource enjoyment, whale-watching
Port Orford Cedar State Scenic Corridor	Short distance hiking, nature observation.
Paradise Point State Recreation Site	Beach access, sight seeing, swimming, fishing
Port Orford Heads State Park	Picnicking, hiking, sight seeing, overnight accommodations, group overnight/day use, nature observations, cultural resource enjoyment, and whale-watching.
Humbug Mountain State Park	Camping, picnicking, overnight and day use group use, hiking, nature observation, sight seeing
Geisel Monument State Heritage Site	Picnicking, cultural resource enjoyment.
Otter Point State Recreation Site	Picnicking, sight-seeing, hiking, beach access, nature observation
Buena Vista	Sight-seeing
Cape Sebastian State Scenic Corridor	Picnicking, sightseeing, hiking, nature observation, whale- watching.
Pistol River State Scenic Viewpoint	Windsurfing, horseback riding, sightseeing, beach access, hiking.
Sam Boardman State Scenic Corridor	Sightseeing, hiking, picnicking, beach access, fishing, nature observation, and whale-watching.
Harris Beach State Recreation Area	Camping, hiking, biking, picnicking, overnight and day group use, nature observation, fishing, sightseeing, beach access.
McVay State Recreation Site	Picnicking, beach access, fishing and clamming.
Winchuck State Recreation Site	Fishing, beach access.
Crissey Field State Recreation Site	Nature observation, hiking, beach access.
Alfred A Loeb State Park	Camping, hiking, picnicking, overnight - day group use, nature observation, fishing, sight seeing, rafting, drift boat access.

Conclusions

OPRD's role in Curry County as an outdoor recreation provider is summarized below.

- High amenity recreational facilities in close proximity to high quality natural resources.
- Public access to high quality cultural resource experiences.
- Camping and day use opportunities within a larger natural setting.
- Beach accesses.
- Coastal hiking opportunities within a remote, natural setting.
- Community-related day use, hiking, beach access and nature and cultural resource interpretation.
- Opportunities for regional orientation and interpretive centers related to the highway and the coast.
- Major coastal river access.
- Highway-related views and viewpoints.

Based on the demand and needs information, OPRD's role in Curry County and the opportunities found in OPRD properties, the following facilities are found to be appropriate for OPRD to expand from current levels:

1. More remote, coastal-related trails, trail loops and trailheads for hiking, biking and horseback riding. Complete the coast trail.
2. More variety and improved facilities for overnight stays, including tent, RV, cabin accommodations and group camping opportunities. .
3. Expanded parking at those beach accesses that are suitable for expansion.
4. More hiking opportunities in community-related parks.
5. More group meeting opportunities in community-related parks.
6. Better and expanded river access for fishing.
7. Retention and creation of ocean views 8. More interpretation ranging from regional centers to site-specific interpretive signs and sign structures.
9. Provide better staging and overnight accommodations for the annual, national windsurfing competition.
10. Restore and maintain views from important viewpoints and along key sections of Highway 101, in cooperation with ODOT.
11. Some additional ocean beach accesses as affordable and practical opportunities arise.

VII. RESOURCE SUITABILITY ASSESSMENT SUMMARY

Existing and future recreational uses should coexist and complement natural, scenic and cultural resources within the Curry County state parks properties. To this end, the properties have been assessed to identify discrete areas of different levels of suitability for recreational use or development, given the natural and cultural resources found there. The result is identifying those areas of a park that could be developed intensively without harming important natural or cultural resources.

OPRD recognizes four resource suitability levels for several resources. These resources include vegetation, wildlife habitat, protected species (animal and vegetation), water features and hazards, geologic features and hazards, wetlands, and cultural resources. Each of these resources has been mapped and classified with respect to the four suitability levels. Each level is defined by the presence or absence of certain criteria such as: sensitivity, rareness, condition, and freedom from disturbance, native species occurrence and extent of existing development or other intrusions. Areas with resources that are very sensitive, rare, unique, and are in good condition, have very low tolerance for intensive, public, recreational uses and facilities development. These areas are typically assigned a low suitability level (1 or 2). Areas with resources that are very tolerant to development, are in a developed condition, or are common are typically assigned a high suitability level (3 or 4). Some areas contain a mosaic of various resource types and qualities. Those areas will need to be surveyed in great detail during the site development phase.

Once the suitability levels were assigned for each resource category, the resource categories are overlaid and the most restrictive resource suitability level within that area determined composite suitability levels. The four composite resource suitability levels are discussed below with respect to each level's criteria. More specific information on the distribution and type of suitability levels for each park as provided in the individual park chapters in this master plan.

Resource Suitability Levels

Composite Resource Suitability Level One: Areas that have very limited development suitability contain one or more of the following natural resources:

- Excellent quality plant communities or wildlife habitat. Generally undisturbed, contain native species, are vigorous and functioning well.
- All wetlands.
- An occurrence of a state or federally protected or candidate plant or animal species and their core habitat area.
- A special designation such as ACEC, RNA or Natural Heritage site.
- Perennial water courses, lakes, ponds and bays.
- Outstanding geologic or water feature on a statewide or regional basis
- Known nationally, statewide or regionally significant cultural resource, which is of high integrity.
- Areas of major hazard from landslide or rockfall or outstanding geologic formations.
- Existing development is limited to a few trails, access roads, utility lines and small trailheads appropriately designed and placed.
- The cultural resource areas in Level One may be developed as long as the new facilities are found to have no adverse effect on the cultural resource integrity.

Composite Resource Suitability Level Two: Areas that have **limited development suitability**; contain one or more of the following resources:

- Good quality plant communities or wildlife habitats. Exhibiting some disturbance but functioning well.
- Locally important geologic features.
- Sites of known cultural resources of national, statewide or regional importance, which are no longer extant, or locally significant cultural resources.
- Limited existing development, mostly trails, minor roads, trailheads and utility corridors. May include small primitive day use or campground areas.

Composite Resource Suitability Level Three: Areas that have **moderate development suitability**; contain one or more of the following resources:

- Plant communities or habitat with moderate disturbance, but may include a significant component of non-native species, or which is very common in the region.
- Forests in moderate to poor condition due to density & lack of diversity.
- Moderate existing development or modification.

Composite Resource Suitability Level Four: Areas that have **intensive development suitability**, contain mostly:

- Plant communities or habitats in poor condition, having been highly modified.
- Unvegetated areas lacking important habitat values.
- Existing development is intensive.

Endowment Lands and Areas of Concern:

In addition to Resource and Composite Suitability assessments, OPRD completes Endowment and Area of Concern assessments. Certain areas, currently owned by OPRD, may not meet OPRD needs for resource protection or recreational use and may be designated as "Endowment". (This classification allows OPRD to sell or trade the parcel or implement non-traditional uses on it.)

Certain adjacent lands that are identified as needed for recreational use or for the protection of important resources; and may be designated as "Areas of Concern". These areas may be protected by OPRD acquisition from willing sellers, by zoning, joint agreements, grant easements or other means.

The only endowment proposals for this master plan are the storage yard near Rainbow Rock, to be offered to ODOT as a potential trade for other more useful recreational ODOT right of way and the south parcel at McVay Rock.

Identified Areas of Concern for this master plan include:

- Cape Blanco Airport
- Ranch across from Hughes House
- Property adjacent to the entrance at Cape Blanco State Park
- ODOT right-of way parcels at Cape Sebastian, adjacent lands: easements/ownership for trailhead parking area.
- Property adjacent to the entrance at Port Orford Heads State Park
- Humbug trail connection needs
- Garrison Lake property, Port Orford and south access to Paradise Beach for potential trail easement from Port Orford Heads State Park.
- Borax Property potential development area
- Arizona Beach area
- Area on the east side of the highway across from Pistol River: Camping potential. OPRD should pursue or encourage private sector campground development.
- Property on the east side of the highway across from Crissey Field: Purchase needed for highway interchange for Welcome Center proposal and maybe needed for parking and buildings.
- Ophir and Eucre Creek: Accept eventual ODFW purchase to combine with ODOT Ophir lands for natural area, with beach access with the Ophir site only.
- Sister's Rock, OPRD is currently pursuing acquisition of this parcel.
- Any excess ODOT right of way adjacent to or associated with existing OPRD properties.

VIII. ISSUE SUMMARY

Issues related to park management, maintenance, public use and developed have been identified through a series of issue scoping meetings. Meetings were held with OPRD staff, the Master Planning steering committee, and the general public. Staff has summarized the problems, concerns, ideas and opportunities that were heard in the scoping meetings. Comments have been summarized under several topical categories listed below. These comments have been gathered from early Issue Scoping and later draft Master Plan meetings with staff, the Steering Committee and open to the general public meetings in Gold Beach and Portland. They also include comments received by mail, phone and e-mail. Letters are on file.

Resource Protection

Protecting the important natural and cultural resources found in the state parks in Curry County is very important to virtually all commenters. There has been a range of opinion about how much and which locations could be used more intensively without harming important resources. Many individuals and several groups have held that the more intensive proposals which include the Welcome Center at Crissey Field, the Canopy Walk projects and expansion of facilities at Cape Blanco would result in impacts on important resources; or that the state parks in Curry County should not be developed intensively as they have been in some other areas of the state.

Canopy Walk Project

Regarding the major interpretive center and vertical trail for the Canopy Walk project's "forest to the sea" theme and experience: Several individuals and groups voiced a variety of concerns. OPRD received letters of concern regarding the Canopy Walk specifically, and "commercial" development in state parks in general, from several areas outside of Curry County, as well as from a number of natural resource advocacy groups. Canopy Walk Board members, local business and city representatives and several individuals supported the project. Concerns included:

- Concern that state parks would become too "commercial" in appearance and intent.
- Caution regarding a non-public entity possibly managing such a facility on public land.
- Caution regarding the financial viability of the project, or excessive financial and visitor attendance success.
- Caution about liability for the facilities and visitor use of them.
- Concern that fees are too high.
- Concern that free beach access at the sites would be precluded.
- Concern that the project is too large to fit comfortably and within ecosystem tolerances at any of the sites.
- Concern that the design is not harmonious with the setting and would provide a "theme park" atmosphere.

Welcome Center Relocation

Regarding the Welcome Center relocation proposal for Crissey Field, there is support by most commenters for a public beach access at the site, and support by business and city representatives for the Welcome Center moving there. Several other individuals and groups have concerns about the expense of developing highway access there for a Welcome Center and the potential to harm important resources from more intensive use.

Conflicting Uses on Neighboring Properties

There was concern about events occurring at the airport adjacent to Floras Lake.

View Management and Vegetation Management

There was some support voiced by several regarding restoring many historic views of the ocean and the coast by thinning and selective tree and shrub growth removal. Many expressed support for OPRD doing more to control Scots Broom and gorse on state park lands. There was some concern about how riparian areas at Cape Blanco could be restored while retaining an historic ranchland setting for the Hughes House. Issues were raised concerning fire safety, stand health and fuel loading.

Slides and Erosion

There was concern about keeping access open in landslide areas such at Cape Blanco; and Whaleshead Cove and Lone Ranch Beach at Sam Boardman, while protecting wetlands and other resources.

Interpretation Other Than the Canopy Walk

Many participants had suggestions about themes to be interpreted in various parks, including whale watching, geology, engineering marvels, various historic events and activities and various natural resource topics.

There was concern about the proliferation of interpretive signs and brochures becoming litter.

Many favored providing more intensive interpretive opportunities at Cape Blanco and Port Orford Heads.

Orientation and Access

Many felt that several of the parks needed orientation improvements and some needed improved access roads and/or parking. Supporters of the Welcome Center at Crissey Field see that site as optimum for orienting travelers to Oregon from the south, rather than the current site in Brookings.

General Recreational Activities Comments

Some support for more scuba or snorkel sites, more beach accesses and opportunities for group gatherings and events such as Volkswalk and Boy Scouts. Some desired more picnic shelters.

Regarding Camping

Many local commenters did not want to see additional RV or camper cabin sites. Many wanted more primitive sites and tent sites. Some supported the provision of camper cabins or yurts in some campgrounds.

Land Ownership

Many commenters stressed that OPRD should retain ownership of all of the parcels currently owned by the department. Some stressed that more land should be acquired for state parks in the county. A few felt that non-essential resource or recreation parcels should be sold.

Trails

There was general support for repairing damaged trails and moderate support for trail system expansion. Many desired better trail mapping and signs.

Other General Comments

- Many did not support private business activity, including non-profits within state parks. A few felt it would be appropriate if run by a local business or volunteer group, and with supervision and control by OPRD.
- Several supported using volunteers for interpretation and vegetation management.
- Several wanted no day use fees charged in the county.
- Some wanted the department to re-examine motorized access to beaches in the county.
- A few expressed concern about controlling driftwood harvesting and ATV use.
- Several wanted to see more staff supervision of sites, especially events.
- Many felt that RV growth should only be accommodated in private parks.
- Protecting views of the night sky from excessive lighting was mentioned.

IX. GOALS

OPRD has established a series of goals for guiding the appropriate management and use of the State Parks located within Curry County for the next 10-20 years. They are based on the suitability assessment and preferred solutions to the issues discussions. The goals are described in general in this chapter and more specifically in each park chapter.

GOAL I. PROTECT AND ENHANCE OUTSTANDING NATURAL, SCENIC, AND CULTURAL RESOURCES IN THE OPRD PROPERTIES WITHIN CURRY COUNTY.

Protecting important wetlands, wildlife habitat, plant communities, views, vantage points and cultural, historic and prehistoric resources is the number one goal for the management of the parks addressed in this plan. Enhancement of selected portions of these resources is also an important goal. Proposed development and public uses will be located and designed to avoid significant impacts on important resources.

GOAL II. IMPROVE MAINTENANCE, MANAGEMENT AND REHABILITATION

This is always a priority goal, taking good care of the facilities and grounds that are already developed in the state parks in Curry County. Also, providing adequate staffing for supervision and visitor service is desired.

GOAL III. USE PARTNERSHIPS TO ACHIEVE SOME GOALS

Cooperating with volunteer and Friends groups and with other agencies can get more done with less state funding. In some cases private or non-profit investment partners may help to provide needed facilities. Seeking grants for partners is another way to achieve goals without the use of a lot of state funding.

GOAL IV. IMPROVE STATE PARK ACCESS AND ORIENTATION

Using good design to place park access roads and route them through the park is important for easy use by visitors. OPRD wants visitors to be able to find their way to the attractions they are interested in without confusion or too much congestion.

GOAL V. PROVIDE FOR CURRENT AND FUTURE RECREATIONAL NEEDS

Today, many of the state parks in Curry County are used beyond capacity at peak visitation times. In the future, growing local populations and increasing tourism will bring even more demand to the state parks. OPRD proposes certain areas and types of facility development that we feel are appropriate for our department to provide in the county as a part of the state park system. We realize that we can never provide for all of the demand that will be generated over the next 20 years, especially while protecting important resources and visitor experiences. A part of our goal to provide for future demand is to offer choices to visitors and to make visiting during the spring and fall more appealing. This will increase the use of existing and future facilities over a longer period of the year, and may reduce crowding during the summer. OPRD's proposals are carefully considered to avoid competition with other recreation providers including those in the private sector. This is done by choosing the right location, usually a destination site, and by offering a facility or setting that others do not provide, which would be appealing to a special niche of visitors. In some cases local business are engaged to provide recreational amenities in the parks. Improved and expanded facilities provided in the right locations and with the right designs can do a lot to increase tourism in Curry County and to indirectly improve the local economy. County and local park systems should complement the State Park system on the southern Oregon Coast.

See Goal V listings for each park for specific development proposals.

GOAL VI. IMPROVE DISABLED ACCESS

Any new facilities that are not specifically designed to provide a "challenging" experience should be designed to allow easy access by those with disabilities. Some existing facilities need to be remodeled to better accommodate those with disabilities. Disabilities to be accommodated should include ambulatory, visual, hearing and mental challenges. This can include the "officially" disabled as well as those with a temporary or more common challenges such as a leg in a cast, older age or parents with young children.

GOAL VII. IMPROVE INTERPRETATION AND EDUCATION

There are many interesting themes to be interpreted in the parks. Providing more pull-offs with interpretive signage will bring the visitor to the resource whether it is a forest, an ocean beach or an historic building. In some parks, small interpretive structures or indoor buildings that can provide a more in depth understanding of a theme should be provided. For regional themes, larger interpretive buildings and experiential structures should be considered. In all cases, a comprehensive interpretive plan is needed for the state parks in Curry County to determine where the best location would be for interpreting different themes and how best to do that. This master plan does not provide that kind of detail, except for locating a site for Welcome Center relocation. OPRD will cooperate with other studies that are under way to achieve a good understanding of where to place certain interpretive facilities and what they should interpret. The BLM study at the lighthouse just west of Cape Blanco, the Canopy Walk Board studies, the ODOT Scenic Byway Plan and the ODFW Oregon Rocky Shores Inventory provide guidance in this area. More studies are likely to follow. OPRD is soon to complete a statewide assessment of its interpretive priorities, which will provide a basis for determining our role in the Curry County area for interpretation. Appropriate themes for each park are suggested in the park chapters.

OPRD has participated in discussions with Curry County and the Canopy Walk Board regarding the potential placement of a canopy walk structures(s) and a Discovery Center Interpretive Facility on OPRD sites. Those discussions and related canopy walk board studies are on-going and were without resolution when this plan was completed. In order to allow the Master Plan to go forward to final approval through state rule making and local land use approval without undue delay, no development concepts for the canopy walk ideas are included in the Master Plan. At a later time, when canopy walk studies are completed, the OPRD Director can consider amending the Master Plan to include final preferred versions of the Canopy Walk proposals if any are being proposed at that time.

GOAL VIII. OUTSIDE THE PARK

OPRD looks outside the boundaries of the park to determine whether there are opportunities that we should pursue or possible threats to the parks that should be addressed. This goal addresses possible acquisitions, easements, agreements to use lands and other solutions for lands currently outside of OPRD ownership.

X. NATURAL AND SCENIC RESOURCE MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

This chapter provides guidelines for the appropriate management of the natural and scenic resources found in the parks and properties located in Curry County. It includes the OPRD Natural Resource Management objectives and actions for certain areas or resources in the park.

The Natural Resource Management Guidelines are based on a summary of the detailed vegetation, wetland and wildlife habitat designations completed for the park. A listing of these resources can be found in the Heritage Assessment Summary Chapter. Detailed resource mapping for the parks are available at the department headquarters or park district office.

OPRD Natural Resource Management Objectives

The following objectives have been established by OPRD to guide natural resource management decisions for the state parks. The objectives were considered in combination with each other, and as applied to the specific situations at each park to determine the best course of action.

1. Protect all existing high quality, healthy, native Oregon ecosystems found within OPRD properties. (Based on Oregon Natural Heritage ecosystem types and OPRD's definition of high quality.)
 - a. Generally, allow successional processes to process without intervention.
 - b. Identify and monitor existing high quality ecosystems for the presence of threats to a type or condition, based on consultation with Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, the Oregon Natural Heritage Program, the Oregon Department of Agricultural Natural Resource Conservation Program and US Fish and Wildlife Service on targeted ecosystems for the region of parks.
 - c. Manage the resource to eliminate any unacceptable threats or to attain desired ecosystem conditions and types.
 - d. Following a natural or human-caused catastrophic event, such a major fire, wind throw, landslides or flooding, etc., determine what management actions are needed, if any, to attain a desired ecosystem condition or type.
2. Generally restore/enhance existing low quality OPRD resources, to a desired ecosystem type and condition, based on consultation with ecosystem agencies as to what a desired ecosystem should be for the park, and for the region of the parks. Retain some low quality areas for future recreational use and development, as identified in the master plan.
3. Manage all OPRD properties to protect existing occurrences of state or federally listed candidate species to the approval of jurisdictional agencies:

- a. Broaden species management plans into ecosystem management plans that include the monitoring and management of indicator species.
 - b. For selected lands, determined in consultation with ecosystem type and condition.
4. Manage all OPRD lands and uses to keep erosion, sedimentation, and other impacts on important resources low.
5. Identify and acquire additional land or enter into management partnerships with landowners, to provide long-term viability for important natural resources found within OPRD properties.
6. In areas of high quality ecosystem or habitats, endeavor to provide opportunities for the public to experience: Sights, sounds, smells and feeling of representative ecosystems.
 - a. Understanding of the ecosystem structure, composition and function.
 - b. Larger views of the landscape of which the ecosystems are a part.
7. In selected areas of low quality natural resources, manage for:
 - a. Popular or attractive native plants or animals, appropriate to the local ecosystems
 - b. Desired views or settings
 - c. Desired cultural landscape restorations for interpretation.
8. Place, design, and construct facilities for public access to high quality ecosystems or habitats to avoid significant impacts on the ecosystems.
9. For those OPRD properties or sites which are historically significant and which have been identified by the departments priority sites for emphasizing cultural resource protection, management and interpretation, manage the natural resources in the cultural resource areas to support cultural resource interpretation, unless this would result in unacceptable conflicts with protected species or areas of special natural resource concern.
10. Protect OPRD natural resources from threats from adjacent or nearby properties.
11. Limit the use of non-native plants to developed facility areas or intensive use areas, and as is needed to withstand intensive use and to provide desired amenities such as shade, wind breaks etc.. Wherever possible, use native species in landscaping developed sites.

General Natural/Scenic Resource Management Objectives for State Parks in Curry County

- Manage overly dense forests by appropriate thinning and planting, to improve diversity, health and habitat.
- Manage the invasion of non-natives throughout.
- Manage the invasion of trees into important grass and shrublands
- Manage the invasion of shrubs into important grasslands
- Provide special management actions to protect and enhance the specific species at risk on OPRD lands in Curry County
- Generally enhance riparian areas and wetlands to improve Anadromous fish habitat
- Selectively remove trees to retain and/or restore important views along the Samuel Boardman State Scenic Corridor, at Cape Sebastian and along the entrance road into Harris Beach.
- In response to the past three years of extremely dry conditions, OPRD staff will monitor forest conditions within urban interface areas. These areas include Cape Sebastian State Scenic Corridor, Port Orford Cedar State Scenic Corridor, and Humbug Mountain State Park. The OPRD forester will prepare detailed management plans for these parks prior to any management activity.

XI. CULTURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

Several state parks in Curry County have outstanding historic or prehistoric resources that require good management to ensure their survival over time. Providing that management must be planned to make the most of scarce management dollars, cooperating with a variety of partners helps to get this work done in a cost effective manner. These resources need to be studied and recommendations for their management made by experts in the field of cultural resource preservation. Much of this work happens outside of this master plan, but contributes to decisions made in the master plan and vice versa.

Some of the studies and preservation actions that have been completed include:

1. A consultant inventory of important known archaeological sites and some previously unknown sites along the coast on OPRD properties.
2. University of Oregon evaluation and restoration of the Hughes House and grounds at Cape Blanco.
3. University of Oregon evaluation of the lighthouse adjacent to Cape Blanco.
4. University of Oregon evaluation of the best uses for the buildings and grounds at Port Orford Heads, given their historic value.
5. Repairs and restoration projects by the Friends of Cape Blanco for the Hughes House.
6. Repairs and restoration projects by the Point Orford Heritage Society.

More study is needed to determine the current overall condition of the Hughes House at Cape Blanco and buildings at Port Orford Heads, to provide the basis for detailed, recommended preservation actions that are needed for those buildings. It would also provide a basis for final determination of what possible modern uses of the buildings might occur without inappropriate changes to the buildings.

The grave sites and surrounding area would benefit from additional study, especially from historic archaeological research to determine the locations of the events that led up to the deaths of the Geisel family.

Certain preservation actions are also needed for the archaeological sites along the coast. These resources and related actions are confidential information and so are not repeated in this public document.

XII. INTERPRETIVE GUIDELINES

OPRD Interpretive Mission

The "Interpretive and Educational" mission for OPRD, in conjunction with its cooperative associations, is to provide Interpretive and educational services that can involve visitors in activities which connect them with the natural and cultural heritage found of OPRD's parks and properties.

OPRD's main Interpretive purpose, as a department, is to heighten and spread public understanding, appreciation and enjoyment of the natural and cultural resources of the OPRD system, and to better understand the department's role in providing these opportunities to the public.

1. Promote public understanding of our agency mission and mandates. Promote the role of OPRD as a provider and steward of the public's resources.
2. Emphasize the value of the parks and properties addressed in this plan in providing and maintaining significant natural, cultural and recreational resources and experiences for the public visiting or living along the southern Oregon Coast.
3. Provide visitors with enjoyable and inspirational experiences of OPRD resources and lands.
4. Encourage thoughtful public use of resources.
5. Promote a public awareness of park regulations and management practices which address conservation of natural and cultural resources. Educate visitors on their potential impact on park resources and provide opportunities for visitors to participate in conservation measures and programs. Steer heavy use patterns away from sensitive resources or provide specially designed accesses that do not harm resources.
6. Enhance the OPRD image as a cultural and natural resource manager
7. Allow the parks interpretive programs to serve as a networking tool for interacting with neighbors, local jurisdictions and area agencies, who have vested interest in the resources under park custody, or which contribute to the quality of life or economy of the local area.
8. Generate broad-based public and jurisdictional agency support.
9. Pursue opportunities to connect the park Interpretive program with other private, local, state and national Interpretive programs and granting entities or related natural or cultural resource managing agencies and groups.

A comprehensive interpretive plan should be completed for the OPRD properties in Curry County following the completion of the statewide priorities assessment and the BLM interpretive plan for the lighthouse at Cape Blanco. The plan should identify regional and park theme priorities, appropriate locations for interpretive facilities that provide the three following aspects of a good interpretive network: introduction, in-depth focus and site specific experience of real places and resources. An emphasis should be on getting visitors involved, not just passive observation. Seeking and sustaining partnerships for implementing the interpretive network and for operating it will be crucial to the success of the program.

OPRD has participated in discussions with Curry County and the Canopy Walk Board regarding the potential placement of a Canopy Walk structures(s) and a Discovery Center Interpretive Facility on OPRD sites. Those discussions and related canopy walk board studies are on-going and were without resolution when this plan was completed. In order to allow the Master Plan to go forward to final approval through state rule making and local land use approval without undue delay, no development concepts for the Canopy Walk ideas are included in the Master Plan. At a later time, when Canopy Walk studies are completed, the OPRD Director can consider amending the Master Plan to include final preferred versions of the Canopy Walk proposals if any are being proposed at that time.

A small interpretive center could be considered at Otter Point or Sam Boardman, or in conjunction with the Cape Blanco center. Also, other OPRD sites would provide a variety of satellite opportunities to see both cultural and natural resource features, or for orientation to the opportunities found in the county.

Some additional studies are being completed concurrently with this master plan, regarding interpretation at State Parks in Curry County.

- "Feasibility Study for the Canopy Walk Project", 1999. The Portico Group and Dean Runyan et al.
- "Interpretive Master Plan for Cape Blanco", 1999, Bucy Associates.
- "Interpretive Services Plan for OPRD", 1999, Bucy Associates.

These studies have aided in the determination of what sites, facilities and themes should be targeted for interpretive development in this master plan.

The plan recommends placement of a Welcome Center at Crissey Field. A design refinement and feasibility study needs to be completed prior to implementation. OPRD will continue to participate in funding strategies and interpretive programming development with project's potential partners.

The overall picture includes a natural resource and cultural resource focus is proposed for Cape Blanco, including ranching and mining, the lighthouse and navigation, prehistoric and pre-settlement Native American life themes. Other OPRD sites would provide a variety of satellite opportunities to see both cultural and natural resource themes, as well as providing strategically located orienting support.

*CURRY COUNTY STATE PARKS
INDIVIDUAL PARK MASTER PLANS*

FLORAS LAKE STATE NATURAL AREA

FLORAS LAKE STATE NATURAL AREA

Existing Conditions – Floras Lake State Natural Area

Location: Floras Lake Natural Area is located five miles west of the Community of Langlois, approximately 6 miles north of Port Orford. The trailhead is located at the Cape Blanco Airport. Trail access by way of the Boice-Cope County Park is also feasible.

Size: 1,371.45 Acres

Classification: Floras Lake is classified as a State Natural Area (SNA) with extensive scenery, forest, sandstone bluffs and ocean frontage with sea terraces and steep beaches. A portion of this property is a State Natural Heritage Area to protect important ecosystem components and provide for public interpretation and education.

Description: Situated along the south Oregon coast with frontage on both Floras Lake and the Pacific Ocean, Floras Lake State Natural Area is a forested, rolling, ocean-front tract with steep rocky bluffs above the ocean culminating at Blacklock Point. The northeast corner borders the west side of Floras Lake and the area contains unusual vegetation due to the unique sensitive soil and moisture conditions.

Along the ocean shore in the park are steep beaches, sea terraces and high sandstone bluffs eroded by the ocean and wind. At Blacklock Point, the Blacklock Sandstone Co. quarried sandstone starting in the 1880s. The rock was shipped by sea to San Francisco but after some years the business proved not economical.

Floras Lake State Natural Area includes one of the wildest stretches of coastlines in southern Oregon. It is accessible only from the Boice-Cope County Park to the north or via an overland walk from an 1.5 mile maintained trail head starting at the Cape Blanco Airport. The park offers visitors solitude, and an unmatched natural environment of open beach and the rocky headlands of Blacklock Point.

Recreational activities associated with Floras Lake State Natural Area include

- sight seeing
- hiking
- beach combing
- tide pooling
- bird watching
- whale watching
- clamming
- angling
- small-scale personal harvest of edible sea weeds and commercial urchin harvest

Facilities: Floras Lake State Natural Area is primarily undeveloped. A maintained trail is the only access into the interior of the park. Trailhead parking is located at the airport and is not located on state park property. Blacklock Point receives little use because of its relative isolation, although a recent extension of the Coast Trail may increase visitation.

Neighborhood: The park is surrounded by a variety of uses including: Curry County Airport; rural uses including cranberry bogs and ranch development; and to the north, Boice-Cope Park (Curry County). The Boice-Cope Park includes a day-use area and campground facility and serves as the main public access to the Floras Lake portion of the BLM's New River Area of critical Environmental Concern. This park is an increasingly popular destination for sail boarding. The wind and lake environment present ideal conditions for beginning sail boarding.

BLM manages 111 acres of land west of the county park and north of the state natural area under its 1995 New River ACEC Management Plan. The purpose of the management plan is to manage recreation use while maintaining and protecting resource values. Beach access from the state natural area to those on public land s is closed from March 15th to September 15th every year for protection of critical breeding and rearing habitat for the Western Snowy Plover.

New River was formed during the great flood of 1890. Floodwaters washed through Floras Creek and overflow waters filled and carved a new channel north of the creek, parallel to the Pacific Ocean. The ditched lands began feeding water directly into New River that in fact was just an offshoot of Floras Creek. The planting of European Beach grass during the 1930's and 40's caused the accumulation of sand on the foredune located between the ocean and the river, increasing its height. Now stabilized the foredune continues to grow upward, reducing New Rivers contact with the ocean.

Privately owned ranchland abuts the 1/2 mile stretch of sand between the Sixes River and Floras Lake State Natural Area. Cape Blanco State Park is located on the opposite side of the Sixes River.

The Blacklock Cranberry Farm district is located adjacent to the natural area. Blacklock soils are found in flats and, depressions of the marine terrace extend between Port Orford. Blacklock soils have low fertility. Cranberries, shore pine or spruce which can be grown for Christmas trees are the few crops that can be grown in this soil type.

Zoning: This site is zoned Public Facilities (PF) and is located within unincorporated Curry County. The park also is subject to three overlay districts, the coast shoreland overlay (SO), the Dunes and Beach overlay (CON) and the Natural Hazards overlay (NH). There is a clear zone easement associated with the Port Orford Airport. This clear zone requires maintenance of vegetation below a certain level.

Acquisition and Ownership: Sam Boardman started negotiating for the property in 1936, calling the areas Newburgh Park after the secretary of the Blacklock Sandstone Co. After seven years the company property, with tidelands, was acquired for the back taxes in 1943. This was during World War II, and the United States Navy needed an airstrip in Curry County at this location. The strip of land in the southeastern portion of the park was leased to Curry County for the Naval airport. The Navy built the airport and the access road from the Coast Highway. In 1962, the name was changed from Newburgh Park to Floras Lake State Park, and in 1971 land for the airport (102 acres) was transferred to the State Board of Aeronautics for the Curry County Airport. In 1996 the name changed to Floras Lake State Natural Area.

Other Classifications: Blacklock Point is a registered State Natural Area. The site shows little evidence of disturbance and is in very good condition. However, the grassland headland at Blacklock point has been grazed for a number of years prior to OPRD ownership.

Two archaeological sites have been entered in the National Register of Historic Places. These site are lithic sites.

Heritage Assessment - Floras Lake State Natural Area

Feature	Map Name	Description
Flood Plain	<i>Water Features/ Hazards & Geologic Features/ Hazards</i>	FEMA has not mapped the floodplain within this park. It can be assumed that the only flood hazard may be located along the banks of Floras Lake.
Active Dune Areas	<i>Water Features/ Hazards & Geologic Features/ Hazards</i>	No active dunes are mapped. There may be small active dunes located near the confluence of the Sixes River.
Beach	<i>Water Feature/ Hazard & Geologic Features/ Hazards</i>	A narrow, linear section of the park is designated as beach. This area is located south of Blacklock Point to the mouth of the Sixes River.
Slump Topography	<i>Water Features/ Hazards & Geologic Features/ Hazards</i>	No slump topography is mapped by DOGAMI on this property.
Tsunami	<i>Water Features/ Hazards & Geologic Features/Hazards</i>	The tsunami inundation boundary generally follows the top of the cliffs.
Water Features	<i>Water Features/ Hazards & Geologic Features/ Hazards</i>	Floras Lake shore along the boundary of the park.
Wetlands	<i>Wetlands</i>	Forested and scrub-shrub wetland communities in the central portion of the park and extending to the airport's west boundary.
Wildlife	<i>Wildlife</i>	Wetland, shrubland and coniferous forest habitat, with some headland. Seabird colonies are on Blacklock Point and off shore islands there and just south. Sea Lions and seals are present of off-shore islands.
Protected Species	<i>Protected Species</i>	Coastal headland and bog land protected plant species occurrences. No known protected animals. Potential for Snowy Plover restoration.
Plant Communities	<i>Vegetative Cover</i>	Unique stunted Sitka spruce and shorepine forest, some old growth Sitka spruce, Port Orford cedar and Sitka spruce, native grass and shrub headlands, native herb dunes; and salal, baccharis, huckleberry and blueberry shrublands.
Geology and Topography	<i>DOGAMI Info and USGS Quad</i>	Ancient marine terrace that varies from 40 to 200 feet above sea level. Series of fossilized sand dune ridges with swales between them. Drains slowly to the north, maintaining a very wet environment in the swales most of the year.
Cultural Resources	<i>Historic and Archaeological Features</i>	Two known lithic sites.



Recreation Needs - Floras Lake State Natural Area

One of the most highly desired and growing recreational opportunities statewide and along the southern coast is remote, natural areas with relatively low usage and few facilities. This park provides that setting and should continue to do so. Limited trails and trail accesses should continue as are appropriate in regard to adjacent Snowy Plover beach closures. Motorized vehicle access should be precluded. Walk in camping here would be difficult to manage and supervise, and is officially not allow

Resource Suitability - Floras Lake State Natural Area

The entire park is designated as Composite Suitability level 1 or 2. This allows only low intensity uses and development. Trails and small trailheads are allowed.

Legend

-  Resource Suitability Class 1
-  Resource Suitability Class 2
-  Resource Suitability Class 3
-  Resource Suitability Class 4
-  Historic Setting
-  Special Cultural Area
-  Linear Feature
Resource Suitability Level 1
-  Park Boundary
-  Coastline
-  Highways
-  Rivers



1 in. = 1900 ft.



State Service Center for
Geographic Information Systems
Salem, Oregon

April 25, 1999

Floras Lake State Natural Area

Floras Lake

Castle Rock

Gull Rocks

Cape Blanco State Park

Needle Rock

Floras Lake State Natural Area and Cape Blanco State Park
Composite Suitability Map

Issues - Floras Lake State Natural Area

- Repair existing trails
- Keep new signs off the highway.
- Keep the trailhead low key and primitive.
- Locate the trailhead on airport property. Some thought it a good idea to move the trailhead onto OPRD property.
- Keep ATV's out.
- Keep the beach open unless snowy plovers are actually nesting there.
- Consider prohibiting mountain bikes at Blacklock Point.
- Provide better trail info. Use brochures instead of a lot of signs. But brochures could cause a lot of litter.
- Develop parking and trail access from north bank of Sixes River if possible.
- Interpret natural and cultural heritage of site; shore and estuarine ecosystems; settlement, mining and Native American history.
- Trailhead signage would include information on the distance and difficulty of the access trail and the natural and cultural history of the Blacklock Point area.
- Acquire county park potentially, Boice-Cope Park
- Don't put roads or improved trails through wild areas
- Work with BLM as they acquire New River lands to coordinate visitor supervision and enforcement rules.
- Look at bed and breakfast near Boice-Cope County Park for OPRD ownership and public use.
- Mark airport as an Area of Concern.
- Provide interpretation at Blacklock Point.

Goals - Floras Lake State Natural Area

Goal I- Protect and Enhance Important Natural, Cultural and Scenic Resources

- A. Retain the pristine, remote setting and high quality, unique natural resources by limiting use and development to low intensity, non-overnight uses within the current OPRD property.

Goal II - Improve Maintenance, Management and Rehabilitation

- A. Repair storm damage to existing trails and bridges.

Goal III - Use Partnerships to Implement Goals

- A. Encourage help from volunteers for trail maintenance and supervision.
- B. Work with the BLM and County Park system to collectively manage and supervise public access and resource protection.

Goal IV - Improve Access and Orientation

- A. Provide a new trailhead on OPRD property, outside of the airport boundary.
- B. Provide better trail signage at trailhead. Offer a trail map brochure.
- C. Provide no additional signage on Highway 101 than is currently used.

Goal V - Provide for Recreation Needs

- A. Trail use should continue with access at new trailhead location. Keep trailhead small and primitive but provide basic toilet facilities.
- B. Provide no overnight accommodations within the current OPRD boundary.

Goal VI - Improve Disabled Access

- A. Trails accessed from Airport Road should continue to be "challenging" access.
- B. Disabled accessible trails might be constructed at Boice-Cope County Park in cooperation with the county and BLM to viewpoints near the lake.

Goal VII - Improve Interpretive and Educational Opportunities

- A. Provide some selective interpretive signs at the trailhead and at Blacklock Point and in regard to the stunted forests, historic mining and snowy plover. Provide interpretive brochures as well.

Goal VIII - Outside the Park

- A. Consider management or ownership of Boice-Cope County Park if the county so desires.
- B. The area between Floras Lake and Cape Blanco should be considered an Area of Concern regarding future development. Monitor any proposed changes and offer alternatives. Consider opportunities to work with landowners on connecting the Coast Trail.

Development Concepts - Floras Lake State Natural Area

- 1. Develop a Trailhead On OPRD Property To Be Accessed Via Airport Road
 - Gravel surfacing
 - o up to 20 car and 2 RV spaces allowed
 - Chemical or vault toilet using the best management practices and the most "up-to-date" appropriate technology to reduce odors.
 - Orientation/interpretive sign or small kiosk and brochure holder
- 2. Repair Existing Trails And Complete New Segments To Create A Few Trail Loops
 - Unpaved trails
 - No motorized access

Natural, Scenic and Cultural Resource Management Guidelines-Floras Lake State Natural Area

- Control gorse and Scot's broom intrusions.
- Cooperate with USFW, ODFW and BLM on Snowy Plover nesting season, beach access closures to the area north of OPRD's boundary. Consider future Snowy Plover nesting enhancement on beaches adjacent to OPRD's Floras Lake property.
- Manage to retain the remote, pristine setting by prohibiting ATVs and working with neighbors to the sounds of them away.
- Monitor the condition of the Archaeological site. Document changes.

- No current access controls required related to seabird colonies at Blacklock Point. Low intensity use level is OK.
- Monitor for mountain bike impacts and take special measures to prevent (such as trail maintenance or close to mountain bike use).

Interpretive Guidelines- Floras Lake State Natural Area

Important themes include Natural Heritage site at Blacklock Point, offshore sea birds, snowy plover habitat, historical mining, and the unique pygmy forest.

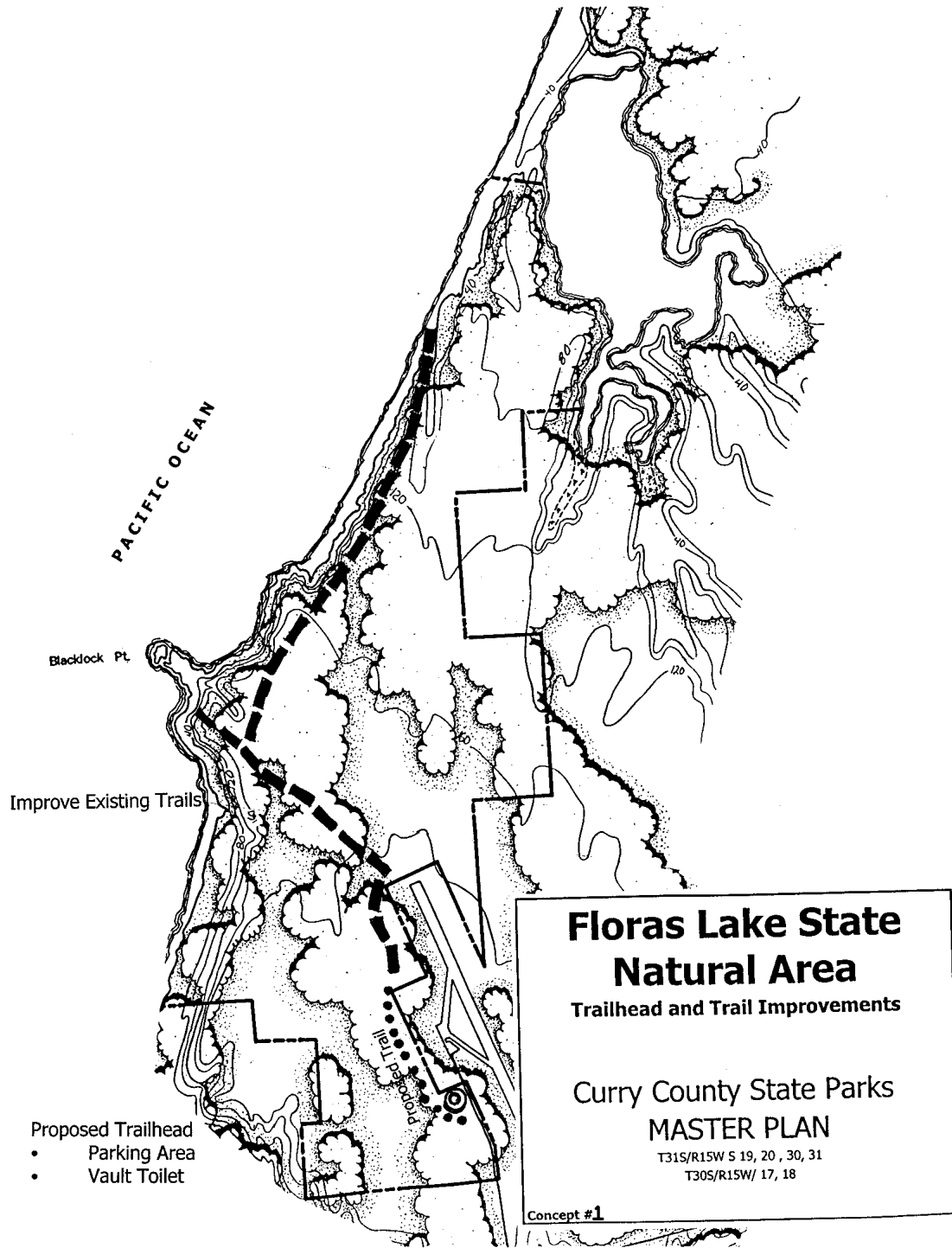


Figure 3: Concept 1-Floras Lake State Natural Area Trailhead Improvements

CAPE BLANCO STATE PARK

CAPE BLANCO STATE PARK

Existing Conditions – Cape Blanco State Park

Location: Cape Blanco State Park is located off the Oregon Coast Highway 101, nine miles east of the City of Port Orford. Cape Blanco Road is the only access to the park.

Size: 1,895 acres

Classification: Cape Blanco is classified as a State Park with beach access both north and south of the Cape Blanco promontory and contains the historic Hughes House and ranch. Both day-use and overnight camping facilities are provided within the park. This park provides general, outdoor recreation in an extensive setting which is consistent with the state park designation.

Description: Cape Blanco is a grassy headland extending into the Pacific Ocean. The cape is the westernmost point in Oregon. The Sixes River borders the property to the north.

Cape Blanco was named in 1603 by the Spanish explorer Martin D'Aquilar because of the chalky appearance at the headland.

Cape Blanco lighthouse is the highest and longest operating lighthouse on the Oregon Coast. The headland is 245 feet above sea and the light is visible for 22 miles at sea. During the mid-1860s, a lighthouse was needed to guide shipping around the headland. In 1867, the federal government purchased 47.7 acres that comprised the entire headland. At this time the headland, supported a forest. This forest was logged prior to lighthouse construction. Initial site construction was completed in 1870 and included a keeper's residence as well as the lighthouse.

Besides being used for navigation the headland served as a defense post during WWII for the anticipated Japanese invasion of the West Coast.

Patrick Hughes, a native of Ireland, settled the parkland. Patrick Hughes came to Cape Blanco in 1860 and developed an extensive dairy farm, which spread into bottomland along the Sixes River. The historic house Hughes built for his large family exists today. This historic house is open to the public during the summer months. The house is being restored by the Friends of Cape Blanco. This group was established in 1988 as a park cooperative association in 1988.

The streaks of black sand in the beach at Cape Blanco give evidence of the presence of gold. From the mid-1800s through the 1940s mining operations were conducted on the south beach. The small pond located at the south beach parking lot, provided water for the sluices.

Historically, the headland was grazed, but is currently ungrazed and dominated by native plant species. Cape Blanco is considered the best condition grassland remaining along the south coast; in spite some weedy pasture grasses. Beaver Marsh, a large old channel marsh, is located in the southern portion of the park property.

Large areas of the park have been formed by erosion from the Sixes River, which created a large oxbow river channel that is now marsh, and pasture land along the river. The Sixes estuary meanders

through a valley of mud and salt flats creating an important natural area. The south side of the estuary is located within the park. The north bank of the estuary is owned and operated by the neighboring ranch. This area is leased to a local rancher who uses it for grazing. Most recently, ODFW and the local high school have provided stream bank restoration measures to aid in salmon recovery.

Large portions of the park retain the historic ranch setting. Large pastures line the entrance drive into the park. Today the remnant pastures are used as open riding range area for horseback riders visiting the park. Other historic features of the park include a cemetery and sheep barn. The cemetery contains the graves of the Hughes Family and others who worked on the ranch. Many of the names reflect the Irish heritage of the ranch's early inhabitants.

Facilities: Special features include tours of the historic Hughes House, Cape Blanco Lighthouse; 7-mile equestrian trail, 150 acres of open riding range; fishing access to Sixes River; black sands beach.

- **Historic Hughes House** - The historic Hughes House, constructed in 1898 by PJ Lindberg, was the celebration of 38 years of hard living on the river bottom. The house is open to the public in the summer. There is a small parking lot. A caretaker's house and maintenance buildings are located to the north of the historic structure.
- **Day Use Area** - A small parking lot, boat ramp and portable toilet area is located near the banks of the Sixes River. This site provides access for fishermen, a picnic area, and trail access to the mouth of the Sixes River. The areas may be reserved for group use.
- **Campground** - Year-round amenities include 54 electrical sites with water (paved parking picnic table, fire ring at all sites), one campsite is ADA accessible to campers with disabilities, 4 camper cabins, hiker/biker camp, reservable group camp, reservable horse camp with 8 primitive sites and 5 corrals and a R.V. dump station.
- **Trails** - Many miles of hiking trails leading to the beach and to several viewpoints. The day use area has a trail that follows the Sixes River.
- The horse camp provides the trailhead for a series of horse trail loops winding through the headland forest and leading to the beach. There is also a 150-acre open riding range.
- **Sewer, water, and electric** is available at developed sites and is self-contained in the park.
- **Cemetery** - Remnants of a cemetery is all that remains of the site of the "Mary, Star of the Sea" church. This historic site is located halfway between the overnight camp and the day use area. The cemetery no longer has any Hughes family descendants buried there.
- **Lighthouse** - This feature is administered and maintained by the BLM. It is operated in accordance with the 1996 "Cape Blanco Final Interim Management Plan",

which was develop jointly by BLM, OPRD, and the US Coast guard, and local tribes. Public tours began in 1994, when US Coast Guard granted an interagency permit to the BLM to operate and maintain the lighthouse. This permit is effective until March 31, 2004. The lighthouse site is 32 acres and the lighthouse remains as one of the five operating lighthouses in Oregon. The headland commands spectacular views to the both the north and south coastlines. The Oregon Parks and Recreation Department is responsible for recruiting and training volunteers to serves as staff and visitor guides for the lighthouse.

Neighborhood: Cape Blanco is located on a coastal headland. The park has the Pacific Ocean to the west, ranchland neighbors to the north and east and large lot, residential neighbors to the south.

Zoning: The park is zoned Public Facilities (PF) and is located within the jurisdiction of Curry County. Several overlays effect the park including the coastal shoreland overlay (SO); beach and dune overlay and the estuary overlay. The entire park property is subject to coastal shoreland overlay.

Acquisition and Ownership: The parkland was purchased from the Joseph N. Hughes estate in 1971. The westernmost tip of the Cape is a US Coast Guard Reserve. This area contains the historic 1870 lighthouse.

Other Classifications: The Hughes House and the Cape Blanco Lighthouse are listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

The park is an official gray whale counting station and an Oregon State Parks whale-watching site.

Two archaeological sites are located within the park that is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The sites include a lithic site and shell midden.

There are two Natural Heritage Sites. The Cape Blanco Headland and wetland is a dedicated site. This site is an excellent example of a coastal pitcher-plant wetland as well as one of the best examples of coastal headland grasslands remaining along the south coast of Oregon. It is the only place along the south coast with a large headland primarily dominated by native grass species. The Beaver Marsh site contains nearly all of a large old channel marsh, with an island of spruce on higher ground in the center. Wildlife including beaver, muskrat, otter, mink, ringtail cats, raccoon, skunks, and numerous small rodents are plentiful as well as a wide variety of waterfowl and shore birds that migrate through and nest in the marsh.

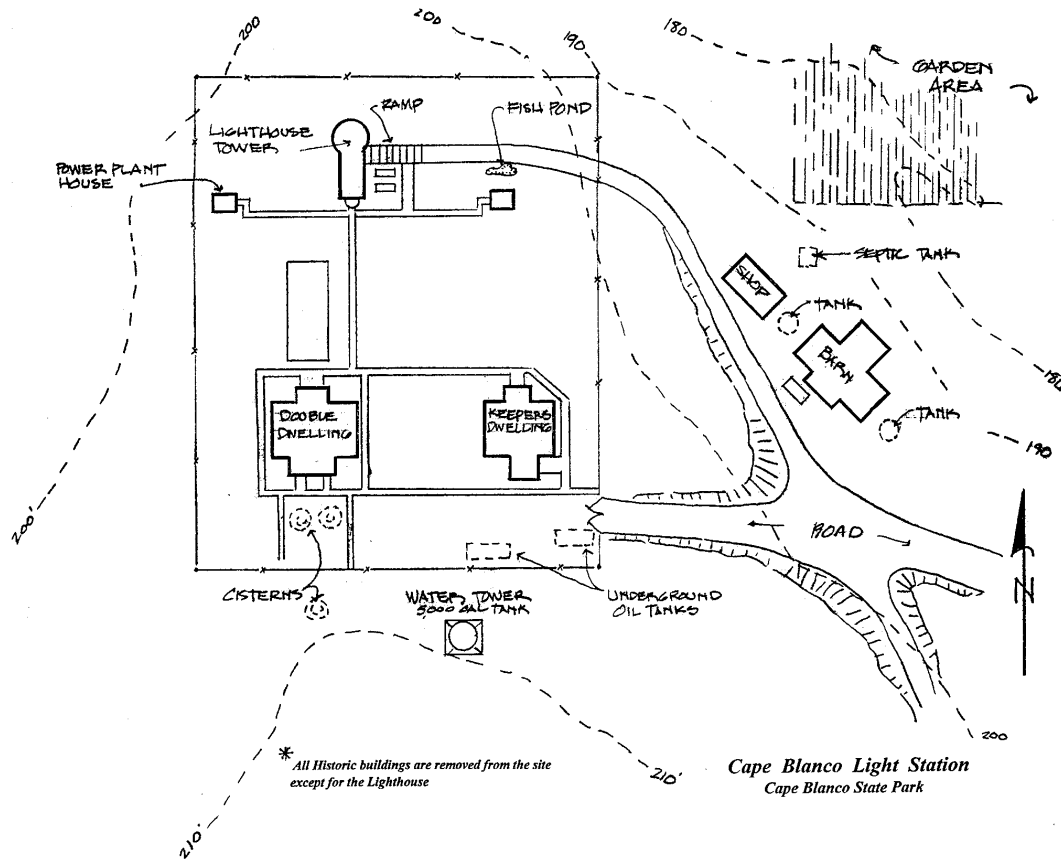
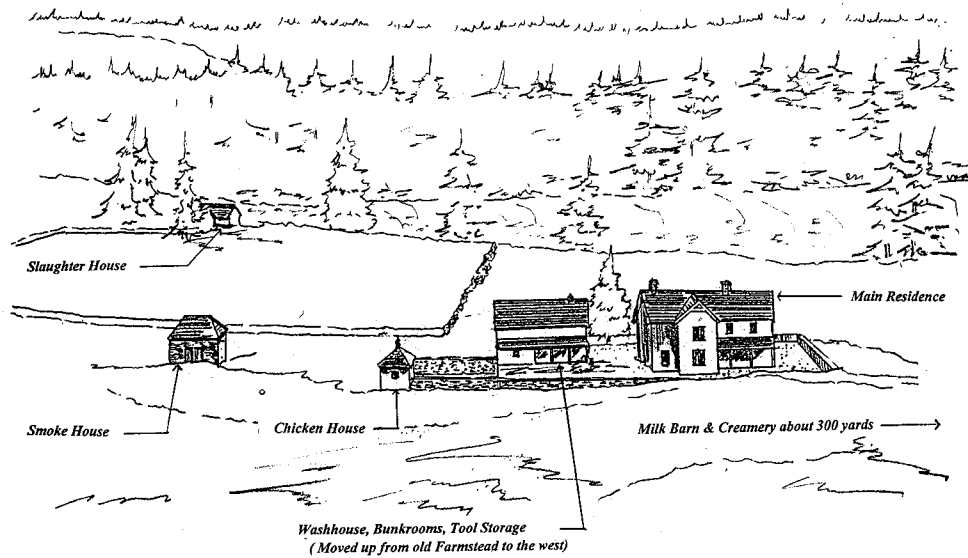


Figure 4: Cape Blanco State Park – The Historic Cape Blanco Light Station



Cape Blanco State Park
Patrick Hughes House

Figure 5: Cape Blanco State Park – The Historic Patrick Hughes and Farm

Heritage Assessment - Cape Blanco State Park

Feature	Map Name	Description
<i>Flood Plain</i>	<i>Water Features/ Hazards & Geologic Features/ Hazards</i>	The 100-year flood plain of the Sixes follows the lower elevation topography. The flood plain is primarily contained in areas historically used as pastures and riparian areas near the mouth of the Sixes River.
<i>Active Dunes</i>	<i>Water Features/ Hazards & Geologic Features/ Hazards</i>	No active dunes are mapped.
<i>Beach</i>	<i>Water Features/ Hazards & Geologic Features/ Hazards</i>	Beaches are shown to the north and south of the Cape.
<i>Slump Topography</i>	<i>Water Features/ Hazards & Geologic Features/ Hazards</i>	A serpentine ridge running from the north part of the Cape, generally following Cape Blanco Road, to the intersection of the park road with Beaver Marsh.
<i>Tsunami</i>	<i>Water Features/ Hazards & Geologic Features/ Hazards</i>	Inundation boundary generally follows the top of the cliffs for the coastal portions of the park, and extends inland along Beaver Marsh. The Cape would almost completely become an island.
<i>Water Features</i>	<i>Water Features/ Hazards & Geologic Features/ Hazards</i>	Sixes River
<i>Wetlands</i>	<i>Wetlands</i>	Wetlands extend throughout the flood plain of the Sixes River and south through Beaver Marsh to the southern park boundary, except for the riverside dayuse area. Two small wetlands are on the upper pasture.
<i>Wildlife</i>	<i>Wildlife</i>	Wetland and coniferous forest habitat. Anadromous fishery in Sixes River. Harbor seals on rocks at the mouth of the Sixes. Seabird colonies on Cape cliffs and off shore rocks.
<i>Protected Species</i>	<i>Protected Species</i>	Protected headland and beach plant species. No known animal species other than anadromous fish in the Sixes River.
<i>Plant Communities</i>	<i>Vegetative Cover</i>	The Cape and connecting shoulder host high quality headland shrublands and grasslands. Upland forested areas of the park include Sitka spruce and shore pine forests. Wetter areas host alder forest. Beaver Marsh is mostly native shrubland surrounding a native reed fen. There are three large areas of old pasture with poor resource values.
<i>Geology/ Topography</i>	<i>Dogami Info & USGS Quad</i>	Cape Blanco is a prominent rocky headland on a marine terrace with numerous off shore reefs and rocks. The park interior consists of high terrace areas and lower Sixes River flood plain. Two large knolls extend out of the floodplain.
<i>Cultural Resources</i>	<i>Historic and Archaeological Features</i>	Two archaeological sites near the ocean shore. The Hughes House is a National Register property. Its associated historic ranch setting and cemetery are also important. Off of OPRD property is the historic 1870 Cape Blanco lighthouse.

The parkland has a long history of logging and grazing which has altered the mature forests, wetlands and headlands. The removal of grazing throughout most of the open areas has allowed these areas to revert rapidly to native shrublands and young Sitka spruce forests. Two exotic species dominate large areas: (1) European beach grass on the large dune at the mouth of the Sixes River and on smaller dunes and open bluffs along the ocean throughout the site; and (2) gorse, found on some of the coastal headlands and inland pastures.

Note: The Composite Suitability Map for this park is found on page 57.

Recreation Needs - Cape Blanco State Park

Cape Blanco offers mostly remote and undeveloped settings with a variety of scenes including ocean shore, riverbank, marsh and forest. The campground fills on peak weekends and is expected to grow in use over the next 20 years. Fishing in the Sixes River is seasonally very popular. Beach access is popular but inconvenient and somewhat little known outside the local area. The same is true of the Hughes House. The best-known attraction at the park is the historic lighthouse. The park is large enough to allow additional camping, group use, trails, beach and river access and better access to and interpretation of the historic buildings without compromising opportunities to enjoy remote settings in the park. This park has the potential to host a retreat with group cabins similar to Silver Falls while remaining hidden from view from the road or use areas.

Resource Suitability - Cape Blanco State Park

About 3/4 of the park is designated as unsuitable for intensive development (Level 1 or 2). This includes wetlands, headlands, most of the river plain and much of the forested areas. Young, overly dense forests and old pastures, as well as existing developed areas are suitable for more intensive development. The Hughes House and its setting could be developed if done while protecting the historic setting in the vicinity of the Hughes House and the cemetery. (See Floras Lake/Cape Blanco map in Floras Lake chapter.)

Issues - Cape Blanco State Park

- Stabilize and maintain the historic lighthouse.
- Protect archaeological and other resources.
- Define visitor circulation and use areas to protect sensitive areas.
- Prepare site interpretive plan.
- Develop an interpretive center for the lighthouse and the other natural and cultural features at Cape Blanco. Improve visitor access and parking to support the center.
- Cape Blanco Lighthouse Day Use improvements - General improvements for day visitors are needed including parking improvements, interpretive signage locations and improved internal parking. Elements of the project could include improved surface of the day use parking area at the lighthouse while maintaining the opportunity to watch the ocean from parked cars, signage indicating the locations of restrooms and beach access for day users.
- Provide interpretive signs for whale watching and other natural and cultural features of Cape Blanco including ranch life, pre-settlement and gold mining.
- Develop a pullout near the intersection of 101 and the Cape Blanco access road with a kiosk describing the scenic, recreational and interpretive opportunities at Cape Blanco. Opportunity to describe access to the Grassy Knob wilderness also.
- Historic landscape work vs. salmon habitat improvements need to be resolved.
- Cattle plan needs to work well with riparian enhancement. Could maintain meadows without cows.
- Maintain road access to Hughes House and Sixes River, but concern about impacts on wetlands and slide near residence.
- Provide public toilets, interpretive shelter, yard restoration, RV host site and house restoration at Hughes House.
- Move the maintenance shop away from the Hughes House.

- Provide camper and group cabins. There was both support and non-support for this issue.
- Preserve some grazing or open meadows to maintain ranch setting.
- Let the forest grow up despite the historic landscape elements.
- Provide more trails, carefully placed to avoid impacts.
- Provide interpretation of ranch life, the lighthouse, mining, pre-settlement life and natural resources.
- Some felt that a new office is not needed.
- Provide additional Sixes River access, at old orchard site.
- Improve the group camp.
- Some supported the new group cabin camp. Others felt it was not needed or appropriate.
- Some supported putting seasonal staff in buildings for lodging, instead of in trailers, using it for visitors on the off-season.
- Some were concerned about vehicles driving in the Sixes River.
- Some thought the knoll viewpoint should be accessible to vehicles. Others did not.
- Support for wildlife viewing opportunities.
- More trail connections are desired. Place to avoid impacts on important resources.
- Better signs needed at the intersection of Cape Blanco Road and Highway 101 to orient visitors to the area's attractions such as the Hughes House, Lighthouse and Port Orford Heads
- Concern for yurts in state parks. Parks should bring people closer to nature. Yurts seem to separate or isolate people from their surroundings.
- Like camping in cabins and yurts. Tent camping with small children can be difficult. The yurts and cabins provide a good alternative.
- Some felt that too many yurts and cabins are proposed for Cape Blanco.
- Support for the idea of separating tent campsites from RV sites
- The winds and fog at Cape Blanco may keep people from camping there. Concern that if new camping facilities were constructed they would not be used.
- Road to the beach at Cape Blanco is terrible and needs to be improved or gated.

Goals - Cape Blanco State Park

Goal I - Protect and Enhance Important Natural, Cultural and Scenic Resources

- A. Participate in management partnerships regarding Natural Heritage sites, archaeological and historic sites, and anadromous fish enhancement.
- B. Generally retain the pristine, remote setting and high quality, unique natural resources throughout most of the park by limiting intensive development from these areas.

Goal II - Improve Maintenance, Management and Rehabilitation

- A. Fund needed deferred maintenance and rehab.
- B. Fund additional staff for supervision and repairs.
- C. As the park grows, provide a new maintenance shop and yard and office.
- D. Provide seasonal staff lodging.
- E. Continue to provide a caretaker residence at the Hughes House.

- F. Provide a caretaker residence at the new maintenance shop area
- G. OPRD will review and resolve property boundary signage and fencing issues to reduce trespass conflicts with neighboring properties on a case-by-case basis as the issues arise.

Goal III - Use Partnerships to Implement Goals

- A. Cooperate with the Friends of Cape Blanco, ODFW, BLM, Coast Guard, ODOT and the local tribes to achieve some of the goals mentioned in this plan.

Goal IV - Improve Access and Orientation

- A. Provide an orientation pull-off or visitor contact station near the park entrance.
- B. Find long-term solutions to the road slide problems on the highway into the park and for access to the Hughes House and Sixes River.
- C. Provide a beach access road that does not pass through the campground.
- D. Arrange campground expansion to use a single registration booth, except for horse camping and group cabins.
- E. Provide parking outside the gate for lighthouse access or viewing.
- F. Provide directional signs throughout the park.
- G. In 2002 OPRD contracted with H. Lee Associates to complete a Traffic Impact Study for this park. This report determined that this site could be expanded as proposed without any transportation mitigation measures. The existing 101/Cape Blanco Highway intersection will be adequate to provide access for future development.

Goal V - Provide for Recreation Needs

- A. Gradually expand the campground(not to exceed 40 additional sites). Improve amenities for the campground including more cabins.
- B. Also provide a short distance, walk-in tent camp.
- C. Provide a cabin loop.
- D. Improve the beach access parking area.
- E. Provide a group loop with shelter
- F. Provide parking for access to the Sixes River swimming hole and fishing spot upstream from the knoll.
- G. Provide a group cabin area with meeting and dining facilities. This facility may start small and primitive, but could eventually grow to be the south coast version of the Silver Falls retreat.
- H. Expand the trail system.
- I. Consider interpretive and convenience sales in the campground or at the visitor contact station sites (limited to 600 sf for sale of items, but may include an additional 400 sf for interpretive purposes).

Goal VI - Improve Disabled Access

- A. Provide opportunities for access for the disabled to each recreational use area, except for certain trails on difficult terrain.
- B. Provide gravel vehicular access to the knoll. Sign to prohibit RVs and limit parking area to six cars.

Goal VII - Improve Interpretive and Educational Opportunities

- A. Complete a park wide interpretive plan for the park that builds on the statewide priorities study and cooperates with the BLM consultant study.
- B. Provide pull offs with interpretive signs and brochures at key points and features in the park.
- C. Enhance the interpretive opportunities at the Hughes House over time.

Goals VIII - Outside the Park

- A. Identify the area between Cape Blanco and Floras Lake as an “Area of Concern”. Monitor for proposed development there and offer alternatives.
- B. Identify another “Area of Concern” just south of the park boundary at its entrance. Monitor and offer alternatives to development and gorse invasion.
- C. Work with the BLM and others on the cooperative management of the lighthouse, access to it and interpretation related to it.

Development Concepts - Cape Blanco State Park

1. Campground Expansion
 - Construct a registration booth on camp access road beyond dump station with parking for up to 4 RV's and 4 cars.
 - Plant trees to north of group camp access road to allow time to mature prior to campground expansion below.
 - Relocate the existing access road to the current group use and horse camps far enough to the north, into the open field to bypass proposed camp expansion and extend to new horse camp, similar to concept drawing. Remove the existing access road. Provide new internal campground access through the registration booth.
 - Relocate and improve Group Camp Loop: 12 sites.
 - Relocate horse camp to area shown on concept drawing.
 - Construct a new cabin loop: 13 cabins or yurts and 2 parking stalls for each cabin/yurt.
 - Construct a short distance, walk-in tent camp area for up to 15 designated tent sites, each containing a fire ring and picnic table. Provide clustered car parking along access road for up to 15 cars.
 - Construct Camp Loop, 40 sites maximum (tent sites only, no sewer or electrical hook-ups or individual water hook ups).
 - Construct Meeting Hall: For use by group RV camp, walk-in tent camp or cabin loop. Construct 4 courtesy service car parking sites adjacent.
 - Construct new restroom facility: For use by group RV, walk-in tent and camper cabin loop. Construct 4 courtesy car parking spaces adjacent.
 - Construct Camp Talk area: Approximate maximum size shown on concept drawing.
 - Install up to 20 cabins in existing campsites.
 - Potentially move dump station to west: To provide more queuing area at registration building.
 - Construct any needed additional septic tanks and drain fields, and other utilities.

- Construct an interpretive and/or convenience store not to exceed 1000 sq. ft. (maximum 600 ft for sale of items, 400 feet for interpretation). Upgrade utilities at existing campsites as needed.
2. Construct New Maintenance Area/Staff Housing
 - Construct new maintenance buildings: 1-4 bay, enclosed maintenance shop, and 1-4 bay covered storage building. Create a maintenance yard with gravel paving and enclosed by fence. Locate north of the existing camp loop.
 - Construct seasonal housing/off-season retreat: 2 quad structures to be used as seasonal staff housing and off-season as a retreat facility. Each quad unit will contain 4 bedrooms and baths and a shared kitchen and living area. Up to 16 car parking spaces. (Maximum 2,000 sf. each)
 - Construct one year-round caretaker's residence (1800 sf max. with 2 car parking spaces).
 3. Construct New Road To Hughes House And Sixes River Access
 - Project completed prior to adoption of Master Plan.
 4. Install Drainage Control Or Construct New Park Access Road above the Hughes House and caretaker house to permanently repair, or avoid the extensive slide-prone area. A study of the alternative route's long-term feasibility should be completed. The study should address the slope from the Beaver Marsh area and along the approximate route of a service road to the southwest up the slope. If feasible, construct a new 2 land paved road in this alignment to avoid the current slide area. Achieving a permanent solution for the slide and access will require either the approval of ODOT or OPRD taking over management of the road. OPRD should solicit funding support for other agencies and groups who need this road for access to the Cape, i.e. BLM, Coast Guard, local tribes. (Portion of project completed prior to adoption of master plan.)
 5. Construct New Beach Access Road And Day-Use Area Parking
 - Continue the new maintenance shop access road to the southwest and east of the existing camp loop and connect with the access to the beach.
 - Remove the host campsites and connecting road from the east side into the campground, or gate and retain as a service and trail access only. Current road connection separates the day use visitors from overnight camp.
 - Improve existing beach access road:
 - o Provide a couple of turnouts for passing.
 - Construct new beach access parking at top of bank:
 - o For up to 12 car and 7 RV spaces.
 - Provide a chemical or vault toilet using the best management practices and the most "up-to-date" appropriate technology to reduce odors.
 - Provide a walking path and bridge from the new parking lot to the beach to avoid the existing beach access road.

- Maintain existing open field for dayuse:
 - o Grassy field near proposed beach access parking.
6. Lighthouse Access Improvements: Work with the BLM and other partners to determine the placement of parking related to lighthouse access and viewing, to be located on OPRD property. Parking or building placement should avoid the protected plant species and Natural Heritage areas along the saddle out to the Cape.
- Define Parking area at saddle:
 - o Pave and construct walls allowing adequate space for turning around.
 - Design walls to allow visitors to view from the car.
 - Include interpretation at this site.
 - Potentially place a visitor contact station near saddle:
 - o If this building is to be placed on OPRD property, it should not exceed 2000 sf and should avoid protected resources.
 - o It should also be designed to work well with the lighthouse architecture and unique site.
7. Historic Hughes House And Sixes Day-Use Area Improvements
- Maintain existing caretaker's residence: Access to residence will be by new access road. Residence presence is important as security near the Hughes House. Consider architectural detailing to help this structure blend more with the historic structures. Vegetation screening should be considered.
 - Construct New Parking Area
 - o Construct a new lot for up to 6 cars and 3 RVs in the area of the existing maintenance yard. Use existing maintenance building as Visitor Center with interpretive displays and public restrooms. Overflow parking could occur at the Sixes River access below the Hughes House.
 - Restore Existing Hughes House Parking to Historic Yard:
 - o Rebuild the remainder of the fence in this area and restore grade as indicated in historic photos.
 - Restore Hughes House:
 - o Exterior as well as interior.
 - Construct small parking area at Day Use Area:
 - o Drift boaters and fishers primarily use this area.
 - o Up to 15 parking spaces for trucks with boat trailers.
 - o The existing grassy field should be maintained to absorb overflow parking from both the day-use area and the Hughes House.
 - o Plant riparian forest around parking lot to hide it from Hughes House views.
8. Construct Orientation Pull-offs
- Construct a pull-off near the park entrance:
 - o Include up to 5 long parking spaces and a signboard or kiosk with park map and labeled attractions.

- Construct knoll pull-off:
 - o Construct a short gravel two-lane access road from the park road onto the top of the knoll just north of Beaver Marsh.
 - o Provide a gravel parking lot on top of knoll for viewing Sixes River Valley and Hughes House, for a maximum of 6 parking spaces..
 - o Sign to prohibit access to RVs and ATVs.
 - o Install fencing to keep cattle out of the viewpoint area or work with the grazing lessee to remove cattle out of this area.
 - o Study geologic stability for road to the top of the knoll.
 - o At the knoll base construct a parking lot for up to 20 long parking spaces with turning radius for RV's. This lot will provide access to fishing and swimming at the Orchard Hole area.
 - o Provide some interpretation at the top of the knoll. Themes can include the following:
 - Historic Landscape - Hughes House, ranching, settlement, Native American history
 - Beaver Marsh - Wildlife and efforts related to the Salmon Initiative
9. Construct cemetery pulloff:
 - o Construct up to 3 long parking spaces and 5 car spaces.
 - o Provide trail map on signboard.
 - o Provide interpretive sign on cemetery and former church.
 10. Construct A Group Use Retreat: Build a group retreat or environmental education camp near the old quarry and out of sight from the park road. The facility could begin small and primitive, but should include some overnight cabins, a dining hall and a meeting hall. Eventually the retreat could be improved to accommodate up to 8 group cabins, each 1200 square feet, and a 2500 sf. dining hall/meeting hall with kitchen and 1000 sf. meeting hall. Parking for up to 60 cars could be provided. A well and drain field needs to be constructed in this area and electricity provided. An early version of the retreat could use solar power, cisterns and composting toilets.
 11. Construct Park Office - Visitor Contact Station Or Small Interpretive Center: As the new park facilities are completed and visitation grows, construct a visitor contact station near the entrance of the park which in also the park administrative office (not to exceed 4000 sf to include the following: park administrative office, visitor contact and orientation, interpretative). Provide up to 40 cars and 5 RV parking spaces. Consider area for staff housing alternative as well. See Concept 2 for details.
 12. Expand The Trail System: Construct new trail loop systems throughout the park. Trails could interpret various elements throughout the park. Refer to interpretation plan developed by BLM to avoid any conflicts. Provide some paved loops for bike use.

13. The existing access at Cape Blanco Highway and US 101 would serve the future park expansion of Cape Blanco State Park. Based on the traffic study and ODOT's review, it appears that this intersection would operate at an acceptable v/c ratio in 2017 with the additional traffic generated by the expansion of Cape Blanco State Park. Existing crash records show no apparent safety issues in the project vicinity. Since no congestion or safety problems exist, the traffic study does not propose any mitigation at the US 101/Cape Blanco Highway intersection. ODOT agrees with this conclusion. However, since the actual construction of the Cape Blanco State Park expansion may be many years in the future, traffic conditions may change in ways not estimated by the traffic study. Therefore, prior to site plan finalization, ODOT requests that the conclusions of the November 2002 traffic study be verified by OPRD with ODOT review. If conditions are significantly different at the time of the updated analysis, then ODOT reserves the right to modify its conclusions to recommend additional conditions for the expansion of the park.

Natural, Scenic and Cultural Resource Management Guidelines - Cape Blanco State Park

Natural Heritage Areas: Cape Blanco has some very significant natural values. Two important parts of the park (Beaver Marsh and the Headland) have been dedicated as Natural Heritage Conservation Areas, under the Natural Heritage Act. These areas are currently being managed for their natural values, and are in exceptional condition. Indeed, the dedicated areas have shown significant improvement in native species composition and diversity since they have been designated – and management of these areas should not be changed with one minor exception. Extensive disturbance continues along the roadway to the Cape Blanco lighthouse. This disturbance is occurring in a high priority native habitat, largely as a result of vehicle damage. Since vehicles will continue to pull over to allow visitors to view the spectacular scenery, it is recommended that some types of control along the road (in areas where pull-outs are occurring) are developed. A split rail or low fence, or other non-intrusive vehicle barrier, would localize and limit vehicle disturbance of this habitat. The development of a paved parking area with more developed and clearly marked trails might limit impacts to some of these areas.

Recently, cattle and sheep have been removed from large areas of the park. Fencing has excluded cattle from some of the wetlands along the Sixes River, and native graminoids and willows are rapidly dominating the fenced areas. Indeed, the exclusion of livestock from the area south of the road between the Sixes River and Beaver Marsh has led to an expansion of the large native wetland. If cattle are removed from the bottomland area north of the road, Cape Blanco will support the largest remaining coastal wetland in southern Oregon. The area to the south of the road has changed from introduced pasture grasses to native rushes in a period of only three years. The native rush habitat is beginning to support some native willows, sedges and wetland channels are also appearing. It is strongly recommended that all grazing, developed channels, fences, dikes and diversions be removed from the bottomland areas between the Sixes River and Beaver Marsh, so that the natural wetland can expand to its full extent. If this were to occur, ONHP would recommend that the restored wetlands be added to the established Natural Heritage Conservation Area at Cape Blanco.

Grazing: There are a number of areas in the park in which livestock grazing would have much less impact on the natural values than the grazed site along the Sixes River. The abandoned pastures to the east and to the west of the wetlands are both rapidly becoming forest and shrublands. If grazing must continue at the park, it would be much better to have it occur at either the pasture to the east (which is now being invaded by gorse), or at the large pasture located at the center of the park, east of the Horse Camp (now being invaded by young spruce seedlings).

Gorse Control: The presence of gorse throughout the park is a very serious management threat. It is most significant on the bluffs overlooking the southern beaches, because it has the greatest potential to spread at this site, and because there is a population of silvery phacelia (*Phacelia argentea*) there. Controlling the gorse on these steep bluffs will be difficult due to the slopes, but there are few enough plants that control is possible if started right away. Cutting and the local use of herbicides will probably not impact the rare plant populations, but aerial or widespread use of herbicides is not recommended here. Controlling the much larger stand of gorse at the pasture on the eastern edge of the park is less serious, since there is already good reproduction of Sitka spruce, Port Orford cedar and Douglas-fir present in most of the area. Gorse control and the thinning and planting of conifers would speed up the process of succession if conifer forest were the desired condition. If the area is to be maintained as a pasture, mechanical control of the gorse and conifers should not be delayed. The natural values present at this gorse-pasture are fairly limited, and if cattle grazing needs to occur at Cape Blanco, this is the area we would recommend it occur.

Protect Rocky Intertidal Areas: Public access to the intertidal areas off of the mouth of the Sixes River and to the north and south of the Cape should be discouraged through interpretive signs and programs.

Riparian Area Expansion: The shores of the Sixes River would benefit greatly from the planting of a wide riparian area of native vegetation, to improve fish habitat.

View from the Park Access Road: Young trees have grown up where the entrance road begins to drop down to the valley of the Sixes River, blocking former views of the valley. Trees along the road here should be selectively removed on a routine basis to provide a filtered view of the valley, and a hint of what is to come.

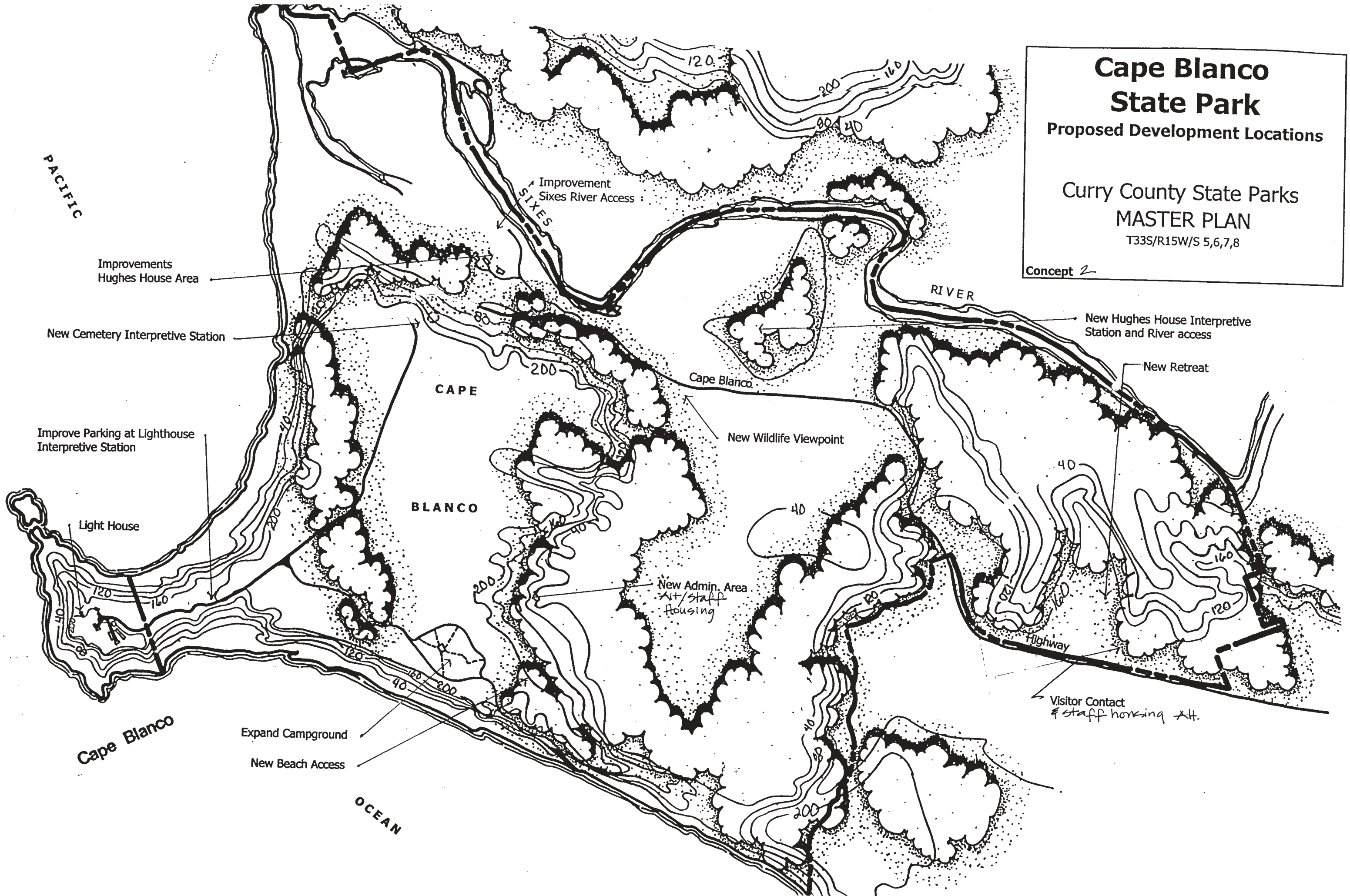
Hughes House Restoration: This work was briefly mentioned in the Development Concepts section. A comprehensive study of the restoration needs for the house is needed before work should begin.

Cooperating the Lighthouse Restoration: Although the lighthouse is not on OPRD property, the department has an interest in participating in the study and implementation of needed restoration of the lighthouse and its grounds.

Cape Blanco State Park
State Park
 Proposed Development Locations

Curry County State Parks
MASTER PLAN
 T33S/R15W/S 5,6,7,8

Concept 2



PACIFIC

Improvements
Hughes House Area

New Cemetery Interpretive Station

Improve Parking at Lighthouse
Interpretive Station

Light House

Cape Blanco

Expand Campground

New Beach Access

OCEAN

Improvement
Sixes River Access

SIXES

CAPE

BLANCO

Cape Blanco

New Wildlife Viewpoint

New Admin. Area
At/Staff
Housing

RIVER

New Hughes House Interpretive
Station and River access

New Retreat

Highway

Visitor Contact
& staff housing Alt.

120

200

160

80

40

200

40

40

160

120

200

40

120

160

200

40

80

Cape Blanco

PACIFIC OCEAN

Light House
(BLM Property)

Redesign Light House
Parking Lot

Cape Blanco State Park

Campground Expansion and Day Use Improvements

Curry County State Parks MASTER PLAN

T32S/R15W/ 6, 31
T32S/R16W/S 1,2,12, 36

Concept # 3

CAPE BLANCO

Proposed Campground Expansion
40 sites maximum
(No sewer or electrical hook-ups, no individual water hook-ups)

Proposed Group Camp

Access Road
(Alternative)

Proposed Walk-In
Tent Camp

Relocated Horse Camp

Proposed
Shower
Building

Proposed Yurt/
Cabin Loop
(13 sites)

Proposed Group Meeting Hall

Proposed
Registration
Booth

Proposed Maintenance Yard
(Alternative)

Proposed Camp Talk Area

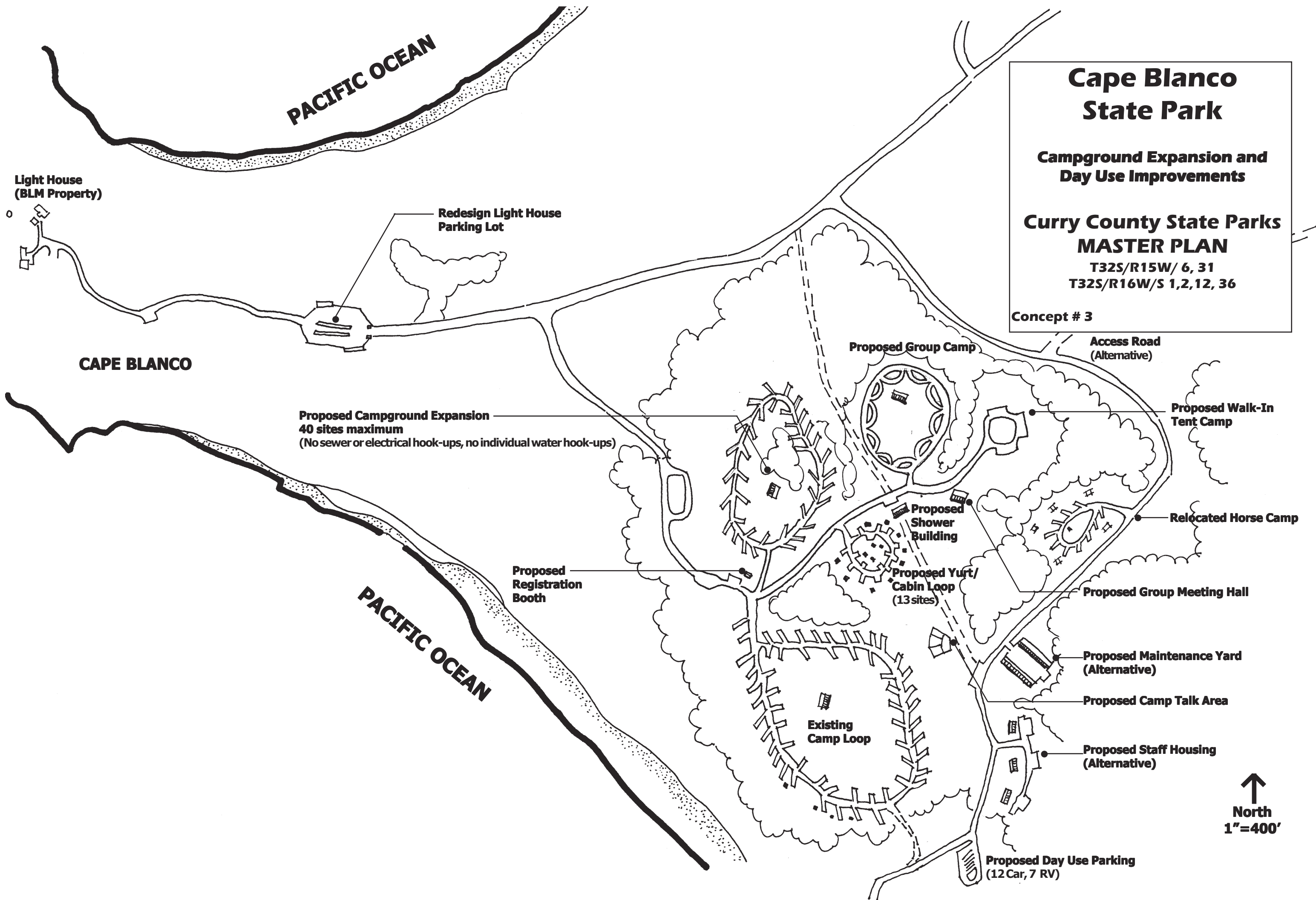
PACIFIC OCEAN

Existing
Camp Loop

Proposed Staff Housing
(Alternative)

North
1"=400'

Proposed Day Use Parking
(12 Car, 7 RV)



Cape Blanco State Park Entrance Improvements

Curry County State Parks MASTER PLAN

T32S/R15W/S 6,31
T32S/R16W/S 1,2,12,36

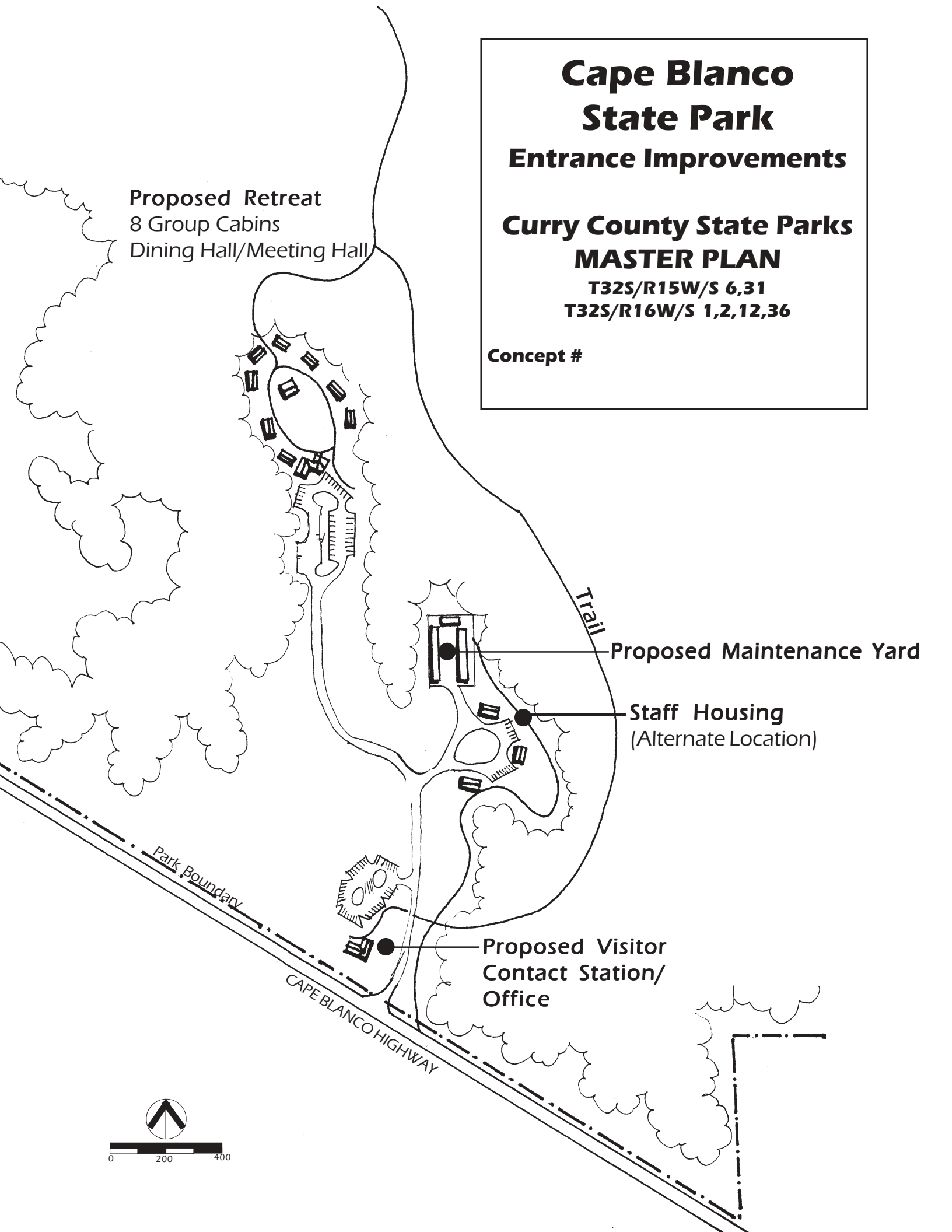
Concept #

Proposed Retreat
8 Group Cabins
Dining Hall/Meeting Hall

Proposed Maintenance Yard

Staff Housing
(Alternate Location)

**Proposed Visitor
Contact Station/
Office**



Cape Blanco State Park

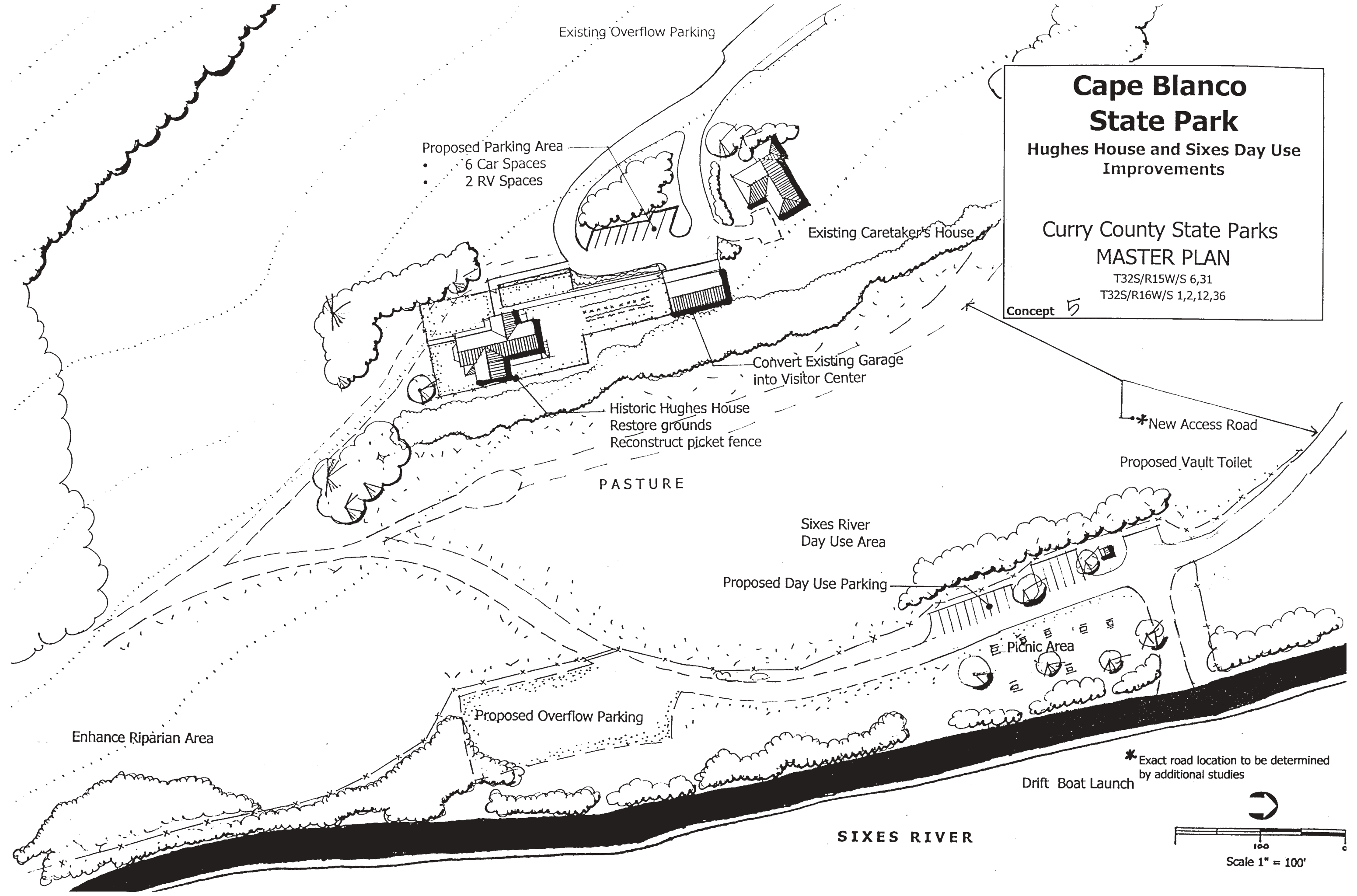
State Park

Hughes House and Sixes Day Use Improvements

Curry County State Parks MASTER PLAN

T32S/R15W/S 6,31
T32S/R16W/S 1,2,12,36

Concept 5



Existing Overflow Parking

- Proposed Parking Area
- 6 Car Spaces
- 2 RV Spaces

Existing Caretaker's House

Convert Existing Garage into Visitor Center

Historic Hughes House
Restore grounds
Reconstruct picket fence

PASTURE

Sixes River
Day Use Area

Proposed Day Use Parking

Picnic Area

New Access Road

Proposed Vault Toilet

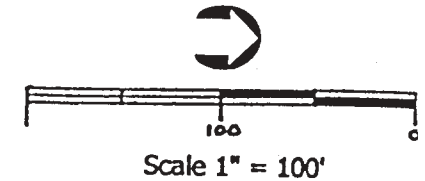
Enhance Riparian Area

Proposed Overflow Parking

Drift Boat Launch

* Exact road location to be determined by additional studies

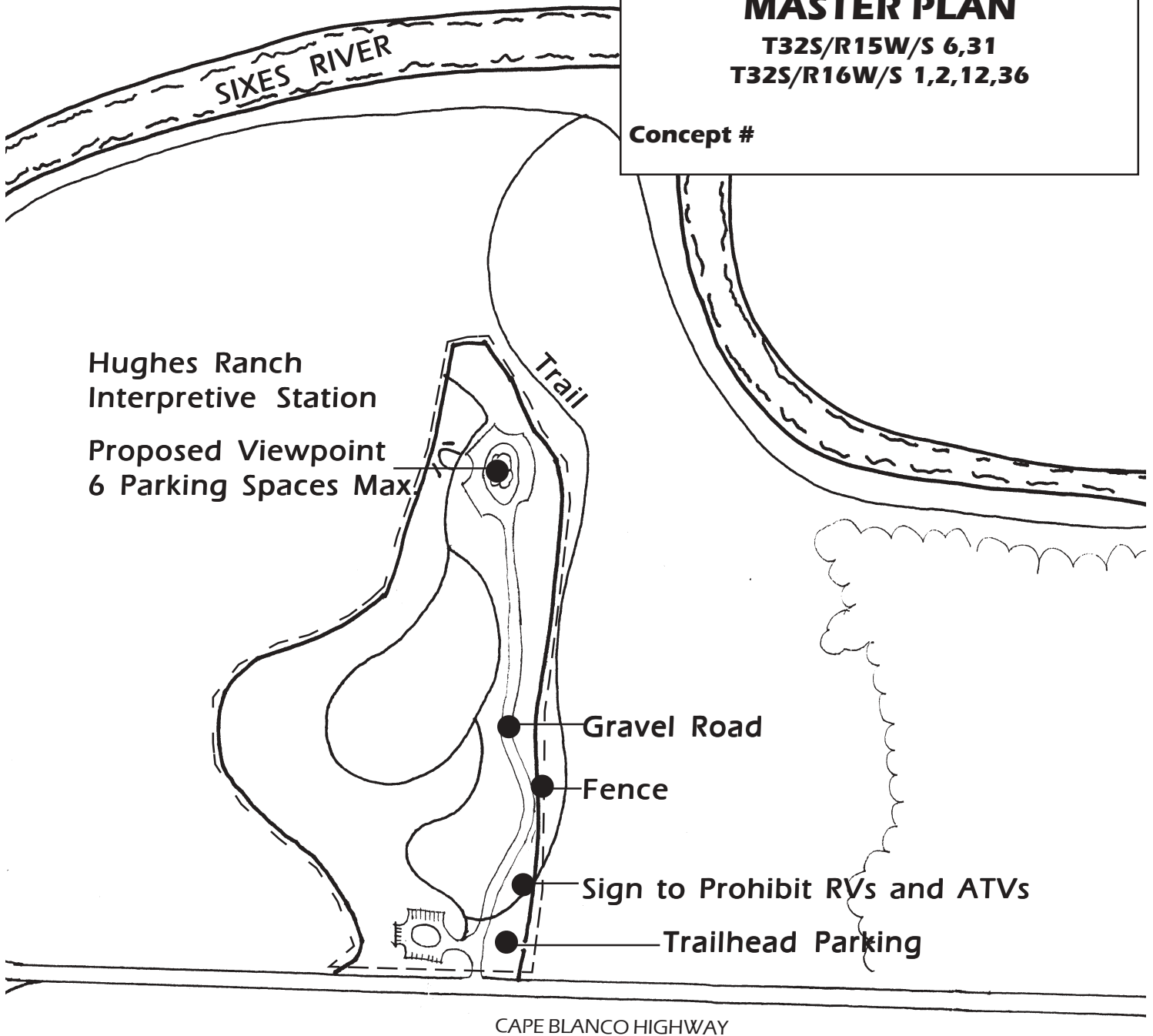
SIXES RIVER



**Cape Blanco
State Park
Hughes Ranch
Interpretive Station
Curry County State Parks
MASTER PLAN**

T32S/R15W/S 6,31
T32S/R16W/S 1,2,12,36

Concept #



PORT ORFORD CEDAR STATE SCENIC CORRIDOR

PORT ORFORD CEDAR STATE SCENIC CORRIDOR

Existing Conditions – Port Orford Cedar State Scenic Corridor

Location: This site is located at the intersection of Airport Road and Highway 101. The site is directly west of Pacific High School.

Size: 32.6 acres

Classification: Port Orford Cedar is classified as a State Scenic Corridor to protect the natural setting along the state highway.

Description: This property includes a diversity of forested habitats including Douglas-fir, grand fir, Port Orford Cedar, shore pine, Sitka Spruce, western hemlock, cascara and red alder occupy the site. Most of the site was clear cut at one time and now is second growth. However, parts of the site were only high grades and still contain large trees. Due to the forested nature of the site non-native species are only a minor problem. The site received little visitation although it is used for ad hoc parties.

Facilities: No facilities are associated with this site.

Neighborhood: The site is located directly across from Pacific High School in a largely undeveloped rural residential area within the city of Port Orford. This undeveloped site is located inland from the Pacific Ocean. Highway 101 is the eastern boundary of the site and private land ownership represents the other three boundaries. Airport Road cuts through the site.

Zoning: Port Orford Cedar State Wayside is located within the jurisdiction of Curry County. The site is zoned Public Facilities. No zoning overlays affect this property.

Acquisition and Ownership: The deed for this property limits the use of the site to recreational uses.

Other Classifications: None

Heritage Assessment - Port Orford Cedar State Scenic Corridor

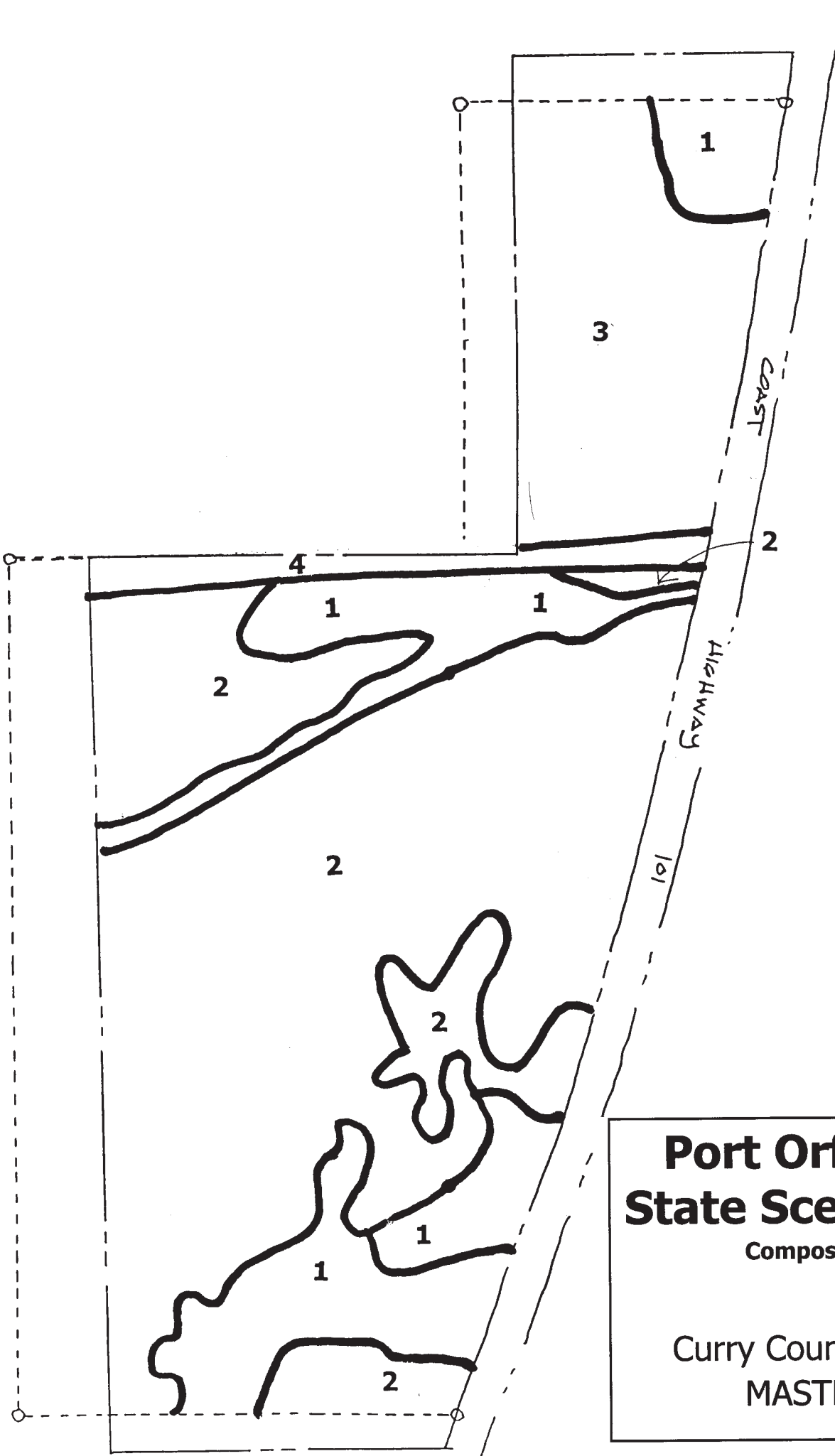
Feature	Map Name	Description
<i>Flood Plain</i>	<i>Water Features/ Hazards & Geologic Features/ Hazards</i>	NA
<i>Active Dunes</i>	<i>Water Features/ Hazards & Geologic Features/ Hazards</i>	NA
<i>Beach</i>	<i>Water Features/ Hazards & Geologic Features/ Hazards</i>	NA
<i>Slump Topography</i>	<i>Water Features/ Hazards & Geologic Features/ Hazards</i>	NA
<i>Tsunami</i>	<i>Water Features/ Hazards & Geologic Features/ Hazards</i>	NA
<i>Water Features</i>	<i>Water Features/ Hazards & Geologic Features/ Hazards</i>	NA
<i>Wetlands</i>	<i>Wetlands</i>	There is little wetland acreage at Port Orford Cedar. However, the wetlands there are high quality forested wetlands and worth preserving.
<i>Wildlife</i>	<i>Wildlife</i>	Small patch of forest habitat with a mix of old growth, wetlands and second growth.
<i>Protected Species</i>	<i>Protected Species</i>	No threatened and endangered plants or animals were found in Port Orford State Wayside.
<i>Plant Communities</i>	<i>Vegetative Cover</i>	The site includes successional forests dominated by Port Orford Cedar, shore pine and red alder. These forests include both mid-seral forests. Forest riparian zones and logged over successional areas are largely dominated by cascara and red alder. Small clearings dominated by cascara occur throughout the site.
<i>Geology/ Topography</i>	<i>Dogami Info & USGS Quad</i>	The site is relatively flat.
<i>Cultural Resources</i>	<i>Historic and Archaeological Features</i>	NA

Recreation Needs - Port Orford Cedar State Scenic Corridor

The site is currently wooded and used by the students of Pacific High school for environmental education.

Resource Suitability - Port Orford Cedar State Scenic Corridor

Approximately one half of this site is designated as Composite Suitability level 1. This allows for only low intensity uses and development. Trails and small trailheads are allowed. The other half of the property is designated Composite Suitability level 3 or 4. These areas are located predominately along the edges of the property or along the road that bisects the property. More intensive development may occur in these areas.



**Port Orford Cedar
State Scenic Corridor**
Composite Suitability

Curry County State Parks
MASTER PLAN

Issues - Port Orford Cedar State Scenic Corridor

- ODOT site for an informational pull-off is a better site. This site was once a wayside but was vandalized a lot and closed. Some felt it could become a successful informational pull-off again.
- Working with the high school to allow the development of an educational trail was supported.

Goals - Port Orford Cedar State Scenic Corridor

Goal I - Protect and Enhance Important Natural, Cultural and Scenic Resources

- A. Retain and protect mature stands of trees and significant natural resources of the site.

Goal II - Improve Maintenance, Management and Rehabilitation

- A. N/A as there are no facilities at this site now.

Goal III - Use Partnerships to Implement Goals

- A. Cooperate with the Pacific High School by encouraging use of the site for environmental education

Goal IV - Improve Access and Orientation

- A. Provide an orientation pull-off for highway travelers.

Goal V - Provide for Recreation Needs

- A. There is a need for an orientation pull off somewhere in the vicinity to help orient visitors as they travel the coast. An orientation pull off could be associated with the Scenic Byways program. The Scenic Byways plan does not specifically recommend a way finding station here, but shows one nearby.

Goal VI - Improve Disabled Access

- A. If a way-finding or orientation pull-off is developed here it should be accessible to the disabled.

Goal VII - Improve Interpretive and Educational Opportunities

- A. A partnership with Pacific High School will help foster resource protection and knowledge of this site.
- B. Encourage help from volunteers for trail maintenance and supervision.

Goals VIII - Outside the Park

- A. OPRD would need to cooperate with the high school administration and students to ensure that vandalism and misbehavior is contained at the site before and after construction there.

Development Concepts - Port Orford Cedar State Scenic Corridor

1) Develop An Orientation Pull-off

- On the portion of the site on north side of Airport Road construct a pull off with a 20 car and 5 RV parking spaces. Passing motorists to orient them of various attractions along the coast could use information on local attractions and a map. Access to the site would need to be off of Airport Road

according to ODOT. The county road master will need to ok the location and an access permit onto the county road.

Develop Trail And An Outdoor Classroom

- Continue to coordinate with Pacific High School in the development of environmental education opportunities associated with this site.

Management Recommendations - Port Orford Cedar State Scenic Corridor

1. Forest Management: This site contains an abundance of second growth forest habitat that is undergoing succession. Maintaining this forest in its present state and allowing it to undergo natural succession processes should be a management goal. Hazard tree management will be needed if additional public access is encouraged.

PARADISE POINT STATE RECREATION SITE

PARADISE POINT STATE RECREATION SITE

Existing Conditions- Paradise Point State Recreation Site

Location: This site is located off of the Oregon Coast Highway 101, at the north limits of the City of Port Orford and north of Garrison Lake.

Size: 12 acres

Classification: Paradise Point is classified as a State Recreation Site to provide access to adjacent recreation resources, which in this case is the ocean beach.

Description: A large parking area occupies the western part of the site above the beach and a power line and residential access road passes through the center of the parcel.

The site includes a diversity of habitats, including beach, non-native grassland and forest. Shore pine and mixed conifer forests occupy most of the site.

The beach portion of the site receives heavy visitor use. Visitors enjoy watching the ocean from their cars during rainy or stormy weather. The forested portion of the site receives less use, although it is used for parties. This site provides easy beach access and great sunset viewing from the cars using the parking lots. Many local residents use this park.

Formerly this site was called Garrison Lake Wayside.

The parking lot and access have been experiencing erosion by wave action.

Facilities: Parking lot.

Zoning: The site is adjacent to the City of Port Orford. The site is zoned Public Facilities (PF).

Acquisition and Ownership: The property was purchased by OPRD in 1969.

Other Classifications: N/A

Heritage Assessment - Paradise Point State Recreation Site

Feature	Map Name	Description
Flood Plain	<i>Water Features/ Hazards & Geologic Features/ Hazards</i>	NA
Active Dunes	<i>Water Features/ Hazards & Geologic Features/ Hazards</i>	Possibly at base of terrace.
Beach	<i>Water Features/ Hazards & Geologic Features/ Hazards</i>	Yes
Slump Topography	<i>Water Features/ Hazards & Geologic Features/ Hazards</i>	Terrace erosion.
Tsunami	<i>Water Features/ Hazards & Geologic Features/ Hazards</i>	Likely above the tsunami line.
Water Features	<i>Water Features/ Hazards & Geologic Features/ Hazards</i>	None other than the adjacent ocean and nearby Garrison Lake.
Wetlands	<i>Wetlands</i>	None known.
Wildlife	<i>Wildlife</i>	Insignificant for habitat due to small size and surrounding residential use.
Protected Species	<i>Protected Species</i>	Two protected plant species are known to occur on the site. Location is confidential information.
Plant Communities	<i>Vegetative Cover</i>	The site includes coniferous forests dominated by shore pine. The beach is dominated by European Beach grass.
Geology/ Topography	<i>Dogami Info & USGS Quad</i>	The site is relatively flat.
Cultural Resources	<i>Historic and Archaeological Features</i>	NA

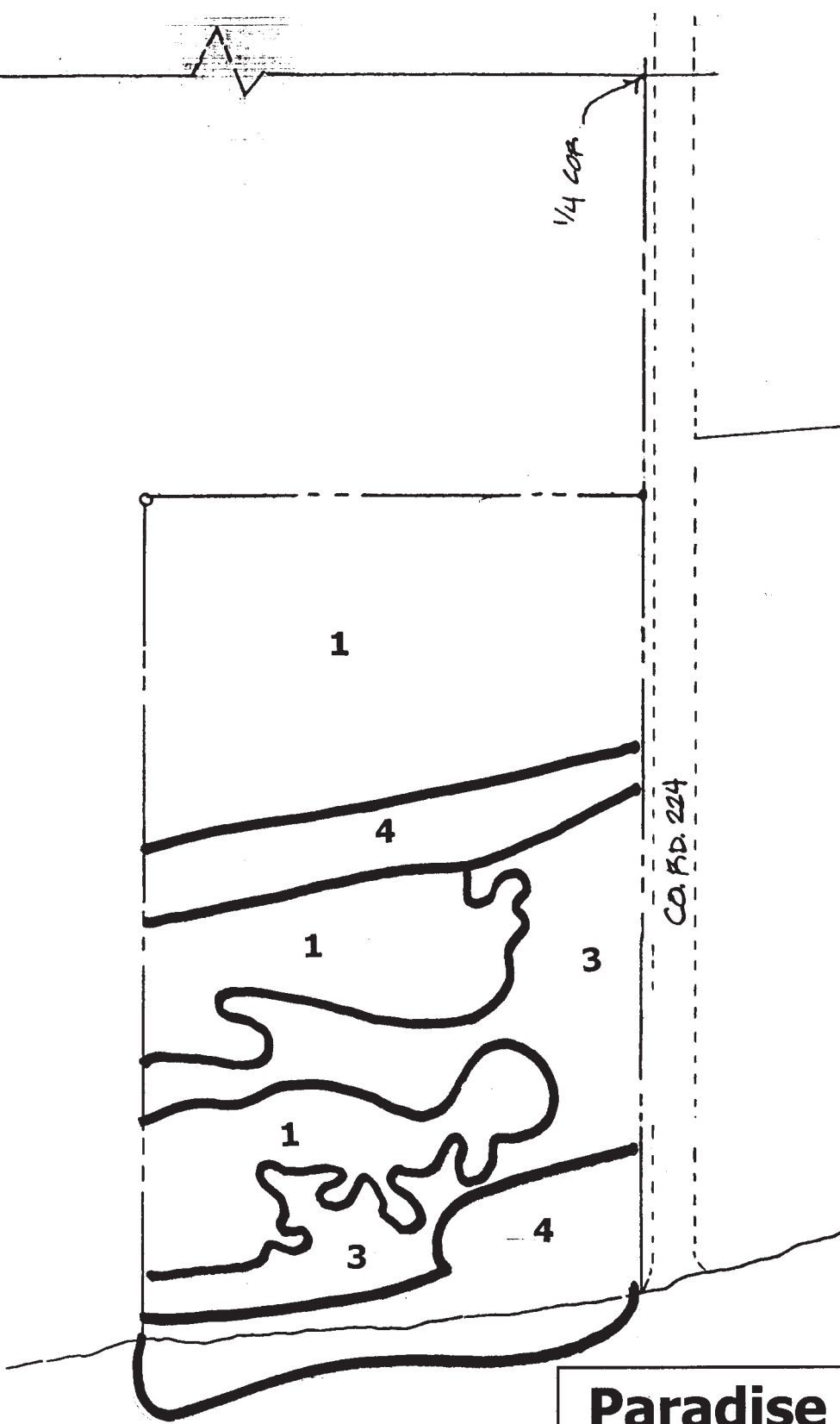
Recreation Needs - Paradise Point State Recreation Site

The site is currently used mostly by locals for beach access and ocean viewing.

Resource Suitability - Paradise Point State Recreation Site

Approximately one half of this site is designated as Composite Suitability level 1. This allows for only low intensity uses and development. Trails and small trailheads are allowed. The other half of the property is designated Composite Suitability level 3 or 4. These areas are located predominately along the edges of the property or along the road which bisects the property and at the parking lot.. More intensive development may occur in these areas.

30 29
31 32



Paradise Point State Recreation Site

Composite Suitability

Curry County State Parks
MASTER PLAN

Scale 1" = 200'

Issues – Paradise Point State Recreation Site

- Need to relocate parking to the east eventually, to escape terrace erosion.
- Keep as a free beach access. Primarily for local use. Don't encourage RV's.
- No cabins.

Goals - Paradise Point State Recreation Site

Goal I - Protect and Enhance Important Natural, Cultural and Scenic Resources

- A. Retain and protect mature stands of trees and significant natural resources of the site.
- B. Protect sensitive plant species from development and foot traffic.

Goal II - Improve Maintenance, Management and Rehabilitation

- A. Reconstruct parking lot away from eroding bank.

Goal III - Use Partnerships to Implement Goals

- A. Assistance with trail maintenance and plant protection would be helpful.

Goal IV - Improve Access and Orientation

- A. The rebuilt parking lot might be done to better accommodate occasional larger vehicles.
- B. This site should not be emphasized on highway signage for general public access as the site is too small to accommodate more than local access.

Goal V - Provide for Recreation Needs

- A. Continues to be an important local beach access.

Goal VI - Improve Disabled Access

- A. The rebuilt parking lot should provide a disabled parking space and gentle grades.

Goal VII - Improve Interpretive and Educational Opportunities

- A. Interpret old road and trail used by settlers along the beach to Cape Blanco as part of the Coast Trail.

Goals VIII - Outside the Park

- A. No concerns or opportunities for this site.

Development Concepts - Paradise Point State Recreation Site

- 1) Relocate and redesign parking lot
 - a) Move the parking lot to the east to avoid terrace erosion. Configure the lot to allow for large vehicle turning. Install barrier to keep vehicles back from the terrace edge. Barriers should be low enough to not obscure ocean views as viewed from the parked cars.

- 2) Rehabilitate the beach access trail
 - a) Periodic erosion makes the beach access trail difficult to use. Consider installing stairs or other structures to improve safety.

Natural, Scenic and Cultural Management Guidelines - Paradise Point - Paradise Point State Recreation Site

1. **Protect Sensitive Plants:** Locate sensitive plant species in public access areas and install fencing to keep foot traffic away. Relocate trail and beach access if it threatens the plants.

PORT ORFORD HEADS STATE PARK

PORT ORFORD HEADS STATE PARK

Existing Conditions - Port Orford Heads State Park

Location: Port Orford Heads State Park is located on a forested headland surrounded by coves. Port Orford Heads State Park is located off of the Oregon Coast Highway 101 directly west of the city of Port Orford.

Size: 101.71 acres

Classification: Port Orford Heads is classified as a State Park. It has panoramic ocean views and is the setting of an historic Coast Guard Lifesaving Station. This park provides general outdoor recreation in an extensive setting that is consistent with the state park designation.

Description: The park includes steep and rocky headlands with commanding views and dominated by shrubs, grasses and forbs. However, there are interesting Sitka spruce, Douglas fir, and Shore pine forests in the central and northern parts of the park. The forest has few very big trees, but also show no evidence of recent logging. Historic storms have led to major blow down events, which shape this very exposed headland park. The shrublands and steep sloped forbs or grass-dominated cliffs are generally in exceptional condition, and have important natural values.

Port Orford Heads is the location of the historic Coast Guard Lifesaving Station. The Station was constructed in 1934 by the Coast Guard to provide life saving service to the southern portion of the Oregon coast. This was Oregon's southernmost historic rescue station, and is one of nine remaining historic life-saving facilities on the Oregon coast that were identified in the Oregon Statewide Historic Properties in 1988.

The boathouse, lookout tower, signal tower, water tower and tank, and the radio tower are no longer standing, but five buildings and many remnant features remain from the historic period. The complex is sited on a knoll which was relatively unobstructed by vegetation when the station was established. Today the knoll and surrounding area is forested.

A steep staircase of concrete and wood provided access to a boathouse, located at sea level on Nelly's Cove 280 feet below the station buildings. This staircase is currently closed to use by the general public.

The property has one access by way of a residential street. The street is owned and maintained by ODOT. A subdivision, "Little America", takes access through the park.

Recreation pursuits include picnicking, hiking, fishing and wildlife viewing.

Facilities:

- **Coast Guard Buildings:** The Commanding Officer's house is currently used as a park manager's residence. The barracks building houses a museum operated by the Point Orford Heritage Society under a five-year cooperative association agreement with the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department. . A

garage and maintenance building are located near the parking area. All are important as historic resources.

- **Day Use Area:** The grounds surrounding the historic buildings provide a day use area. The site has picnic tables and restroom facilities. The site has limited parking. RV parking and maneuvering is difficult.
- **Trails and Viewpoints:** Several trails lead to viewpoints and along the coastal bluffs. Some of the concrete trails date back to the historic Coast Guard era. Additional trails associated with the park have recently been constructed.

Neighborhood: Developed residential areas neighbor the park. The entrance road to the park winds through a residential neighborhood. Increased park traffic may conflict with the residential nature of this road. Local residents currently use the park extensively. The Port Orford heritage Society helps manage and interpret the park.

The park is surrounded by ocean to the north, west and south. Views into the subdivision, "Little America", are becoming more prominent as new houses are built on the bluff.

Zoning: Port Orford Heads State Park is located adjacent to the City of Port Orford. The park is zoned Public Facilities (PF).

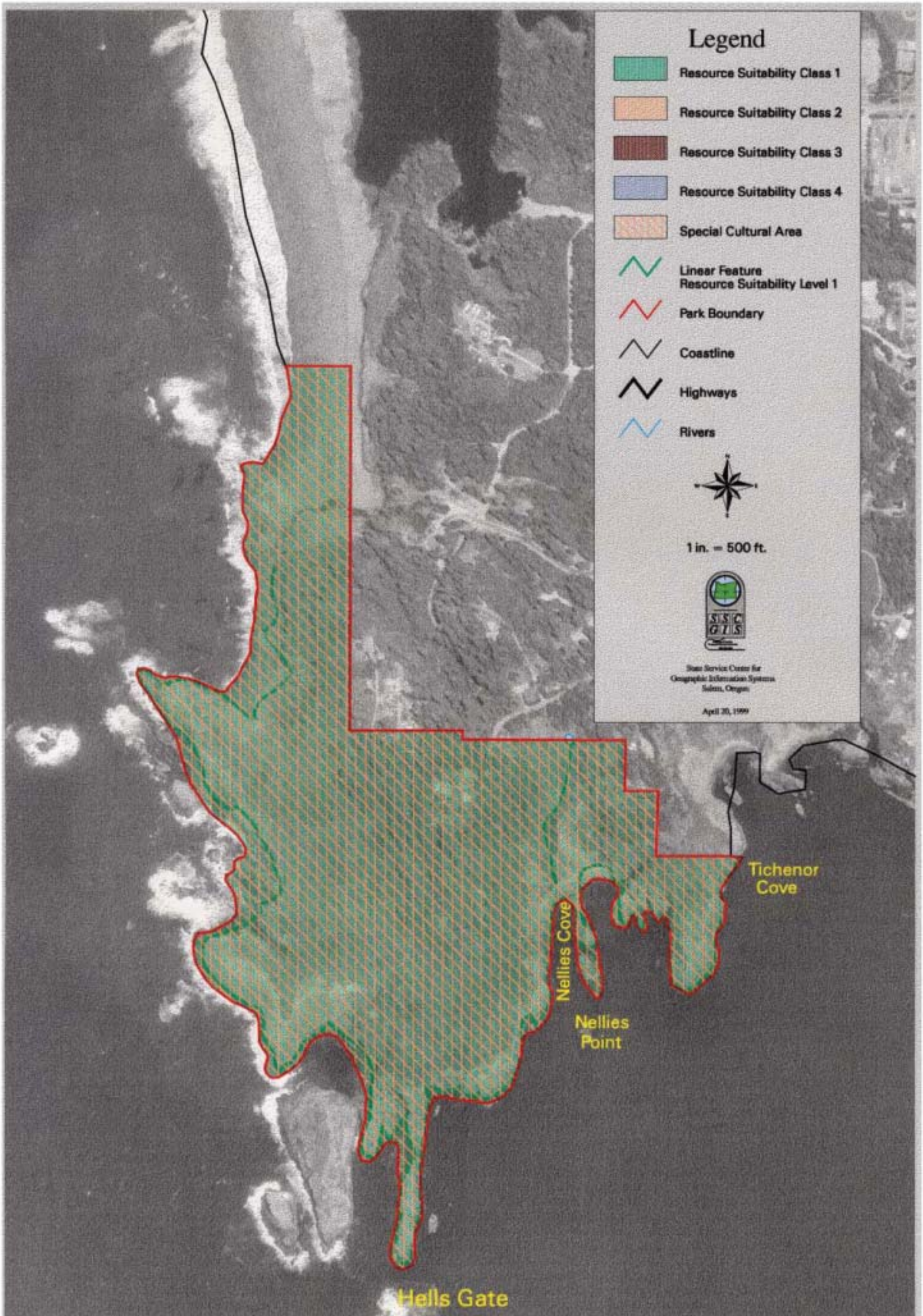
Other Classifications: The rocky shores surrounding the park are zoned a marine garden. A National Register Historic District encompasses the entire park property.

An identified archaeological site is located on the property, and was listed in the National Register of Historic Places as part of the Native American Archaeological Sites of the Oregon Coast Multiple Property Submission in 1997.








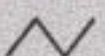
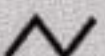

Acquisition and Ownership: This park was acquired between 1972 and 1985 by purchase and exchange from private owners and deeds of federal surplus property to the State of Oregon for park purposes.

Heritage Assessment - Port Orford Heads State Park

Feature	Map Name	Description
Flood Plain	<i>Water Features/ Hazards & Geologic Features/ Hazards</i>	No floodplain is mapped within this park.
Active Dunes	<i>Water Features/ Hazards & Geologic Features/ Hazards</i>	No active dunes are mapped.
Beach	<i>Water Features/ Hazards & Geologic Features/ Hazards</i>	Beach is mapped along the northwest section of the park, at the base of the cliffs.
Slump Topography	<i>Water Features/ Hazards & Geologic Features/ Hazards</i>	No slump topography is mapped by DOGAMI on this property.
Tsunami	<i>Water Features/ Hazards & Geologic Features/ Hazards</i>	The tsunami inundation line generally follows the tops of the cliffs. A section of the park that is located at beach level is subjected to flooding in a tsunami event.
Water Features	<i>Water Features/ Hazards & Geologic Features/ Hazards</i>	The surrounding ocean coves are important off shore water features. A small spring is located above Nelly's Cove.
Wetlands	<i>Wetlands</i>	Due to the very steep slopes, and the shallow soils, wetlands are extremely limited at the park. Those wetlands are located along seasonal streams and are not significant, nor are they particularly threatened.
Wildlife	<i>Wildlife</i>	Ocean, inter-tidal, cliffs and off shore rocks are very important marine habitats for fish, crustaceans and seabirds.
Protected Species	<i>Protected Species</i>	One protected plant species is currently found within the park. There are no current occurrences of protected animals.
Plant Communities	<i>Vegetative Cover</i>	At least half of the park hosts high quality and important, native headland shrublands and grasslands. The remainder of the site includes coniferous forests dominated by shore pine with a few mature trees. The beach is dominated by European Beach grass.
Geology/ Topography	<i>Dogami Info & USGS Quad</i>	Exposed rock strata in the Port Orford area consist of hard sandstones of the Otter Point formation. Much of the site drops steeply away into the ocean.
Cultural Resources	<i>Historic and Archaeological Features</i>	<p>The park is designated as a National Register Historic District comprising of buildings, structures, landscape features, and other remnant sites within an exceptional natural setting. The Port Orford Station is significant due to its association with maritime history and as one of Oregon's best-preserved historic maritime sites.</p> <p>The park also contains two prehistoric National Register listed sites.</p>



Legend

-  Resource Suitability Class 1
-  Resource Suitability Class 2
-  Resource Suitability Class 3
-  Resource Suitability Class 4
-  Special Cultural Area
-  Linear Feature
Resource Suitability Level 1
-  Park Boundary
-  Coastline
-  Highways
-  Rivers



1 in. = 500 ft.



State Service Center for
Geographic Information Systems
Salem, Oregon
April 20, 1999

Port Orford Heads State Park
Composite Suitability Map

Recreation Needs - Port Orford Heads State Park

- Need for group use and educational uses in relation to the setting, history and natural history.
- Interpretation of Maritime History and Prehistoric Native American use.
- Parking Improvement is needed.
- More trails would be desirable.
- Picnic area improvements are desirable.
- The site could be used for local events.
- The site has been suggested as a "Dive Park", but steep, long hiking access to the ocean makes this infeasible and might constitute a conflict with other uses.

Resource Suitability - Port Orford Heads State Park

The entire park is designated Composite Suitability level 1. This designation has a special cultural overlay associated with its listing as a National Historic District. This listing does not necessarily preclude development, however any new development must be appropriate within an historic district. Consultation with the National Park Service is required for development activities located on the historic Coast Guard property. Much of the park is also precluded from intensive development due to sensitive plant communities and inter-tidal areas. Detailed resource assessments are available and were consulted in the siting of proposed developments

Issues - Port Orford Heads State Park

- Need a bypass to Little America
 - Separate park and residential uses
 - Create better public access to the site that doesn't intrude into the historic area.
- Public access to historic buildings -- Appropriate uses?
 - Interpretation
 - Group Activities
 - Overnight accommodations
 - Volunteer and staff offices
- Orientation and signs from Highway/Consider impacts on local access
- Property near park entrance - Area of Concern?
- Acknowledge and protect unique natural features of heads including wild flowers, dark sky for star gazing, whale watching opportunities and use by seals and sea lions
- Coordinate improvements to protect natural qualities from impacts by increased visitor use
- Improve visitor facilities in coordination with development of interpretive center at the Coast Guard facilities
- Some supported a "by pass" access road to public parking and connecting to the road to Little America. Others thought is an unnecessary expense.
- Many supported site restoration including the walkway to Nelly's Cove and the landing there.
- Many supported no RV's at this site.
- Some wanted no overnight use of the buildings by visitors.
- All wanted to continue some type of caretaker residence on site or adjacent.
- Many supported converting the outbuildings to public toilets and information.

(Issues gathered at a series of public meetings held during the Summer 2001 are listed below.)

Buildings, Facilities and Cultural Resource Issues

- ADA modifications are needed.

- Barracks building is in need of maintenance, especially new paint and roof
- Reconstruct the bell tower
- Construct a cradle for the boat and then restore the boat
- Host site needed
- Install telephone lines
- Is reconstruction of the boathouse still an option?
- Like the idea of using the barracks for overnight stays especially a bike-in hostel
- Maintain barracks as a museum.
- Maintenance of the buildings should be a priority
- Overnight use of the barracks is not appropriate, consider museum and community meeting space use only
- The officer in charge residence would make excellent overnight accommodations and could also be used as a host site.
- Overnight rooms in the barracks building are inappropriate
- The Master Plan conflicts with the goals outlined in the 1999 plan. It does not address rehabilitation and maintenance of the structures or resource protection of the cultural resources associated with the site.
- Reduce impacts to the night sky by installing appropriate outdoor lighting.
- Reference the joint POHS and State Parks interpretive plan that addresses in detail the use of each room of the barracks building and other site features.
- Restore staircase down to a point at which an observation deck can be built and interpretive signboards installed.
- Signage, repair and maintenance should be the number one priority for the site.
- Staff office may be better placed in the garage.
- Use garages for museum space or a public summer arts program similar to the one at the Sitka Center in Lincoln County

Parking Lot Issues

- Traffic circle removes buffer between neighborhood and the park, diminishes privacy
- Park staff clear-cut important vegetation to construct the parking lot
- Privacy has been denied. The new layout encourages traffic onto private roads
- Disappointed that there was no public meeting prior to construction
- OPRD should encourage RV's to use their tow vehicles to visit areas with limited space such as Port Orford Heads rather than construct parking lots that accommodates them.
- No one in the neighborhood received the earlier plan or was involved in the process.
- Not in favor of the bypass road, not needed. Detracts from the historic setting.
- Parking lot and road proposed 14 years ago. However, at that time the design and/or layout was not discussed
- Parking lot design does not make sense. No order to the parking.
- The concept changed too much from what was proposed in the master plan.
- The north side is very windy in the summer now.
- The traffic circle makes the street and private homes too visible from the park.
- There was no parking problem at Port Orford Heads or need for a new parking lot.
- Traditional road provides access to an important historic setting.
- Construction was a waste of taxpayers' money.
- Do not design parking lot for RVs

Issues related to signing at Port Orford Heads

- Would like to see Port Orford Heads designated as NO RVs and day use only
- Better signs at the highway for Port Orford Heads

Trails issues at Port Orford Heads

- The trails improve the quality of life in Port Orford.
- Access to the beach is not appropriate, too steep
- Develop stairs to Nelly's Cove
- Do not develop or promote use of stairs to Nelly's Cove but allow people to use it
- Poison oak is a problem along the stairs to Nelly's Cove
- Trail signs need to reassure the visitors, identify viewpoints.
- Stairs at Nelly's Cove provide an interesting experience important to the historic setting.
- Rock formation is unsafe. People could get trapped at the beach during high tide. Discourage use by not constructing trail.
- Support for trail to the beach.
- Trail to beach would encourage impacts to sensitive tide pools
- Trail to beach would trespass onto private property
- Trails at Port Orford Heads are great.
- Explore the possibility of constructing a new trail east of the existing "renegade" trail to beach on the north end that would bypass the concerns of the neighborhood

Goals - Port Orford Heads State Park

Goal I - Protect and Enhance Important Natural, Cultural and Scenic Resources

- A. Complete a long-term maintenance; rehabilitation and restoration plan for the historic buildings and sites.

Goal II - Improve Maintenance, Management and Rehabilitation

- A. Make long-term maintenance funding a priority for the buildings and infrastructure.
- B. OPRD will review and resolve property boundary signage and fencing issues to reduce trespass conflicts with neighboring properties on a case-by-case basis as the issues arise.

Goal III - Use Partnerships to Implement Goals

- A. Work with research groups interested in working in the inter-tidal areas.
- B. Work with Point Orford Heritage Society regarding public use of the historic buildings.

Goal IV - Improve Access and Orientation

- A. Provide a bypass road to the subdivision and new public access to the park (Complete)
- B. Provide a separate public parking area, outside of the historic building cluster(Complete).

Goal V - Provide for Recreation Needs

- A. Improve the day use area, better restrooms and more tables.
- B. Improve trail access to Nelly's Cove.
- C. Consider trail access to the beach.
- D. Offer a variety of public uses of the historic buildings including interpretation, administrative, group and educational use and overnight stays.

Goal VI - Improve Disabled Access

- A. Design the parking to provide disabled spot and walkway access to the day use area and historic buildings. Design alternative access to the first floor of the historic buildings.

Goal VII - Improve Interpretive and Educational Opportunities

- A. Develop an interpretive plan for the park.
- B. Provide interpretive signage on site in regard to the historic features and at viewpoint and along trail in regard to historic uses and natural history.
- C. Make the historic buildings available as an interpretive center, in part, and to provide space for classes, lectures and other group uses.

Goal VIII - Outside the Park

- A. Identify an "Area of Concern" on private land between the access road and views of Nelly's Cove.

Development Concepts - Port Orford Heads State Park

- 3) Construct Bypass Road
 - a) Along north edge of OPRD ownership, to route neighborhood traffic outside of historic area. Consider road placement to protect existing large trees. Provide public access to the park, to the west of the historic building cluster, into the new parking area. Retain the existing access road for historic purposes, but provide an attractive gate (Completed prior adoption of Master Plan).
- 4) Construct Parking Lot
 - a) Project completed prior to adoption of Master Plan.
- 5) Convert Garages Into Restrooms And Meeting/Interpretation Spaces
- 6) Restore Staircase
 - a) Reconstruct landings and staircases throughout, both concrete and wooden, as per the original composition. Provide benches on or adjacent to the landings of a style in keeping with the historic materials and appearance.
- 7) Restore Pump House and Boat House
 - a) This work could be completed in phases. The first phase could include enclosing the weather envelope on the pump house, then constructing the boathouse floor or landing, and later possibly completing the rest of the boathouse. Use historic photos and plans as a guide. Consider the use of some modern materials that may be more durable and still mimic the historic appearance.
- 8) Place benches at strategic points along the trails

- 9) Rehabilitate Barracks And Officers-InCharge Residence
 - a) Complete a detailed assessment of the potential for converting the buildings to some combination of the following uses, in a manner, which will not threaten the historic integrity of the buildings.
 - b) Meeting spaces, display space, Friends shop and office, staff office, overnight rooms that are either private or semi-private and accompanying showers or restrooms.
 - c) Restore site surrounding barracks and officer's house. Use historic photos and plans as a guide.
 - d) Reconstruct flagpole, drill tower and bell tower.
 - e) Remove floor and related contaminated soils for no-longer extant garage.
 - f) Provide boat display area in a location that would not detract from the integrity of the historic area.

- 10) Relocate Caretaker Residence Use
 - a) OPRD should consider purchasing a home just outside the park for use as a caretaker's residence, if the Officer in Charge's residence is converted to another use. As an alternative, a new caretaker residence may be constructed on the north or west edges of the historic area.

- 11) Reconstruct Viewing Tower At Viewpoint

- 12) Construct Trail From Headland Trail North To Beach As Part Of The Coast Trail System on OPRD Property. Work with neighbors to determine alignment with the least amount of conflicts.

Natural, Scenic and Cultural Resource Management Guidelines - Port Orford Heads - Port Orford Heads State Park

1. **Monitor for Invasive Plant Species:** If blackberries, Scot's broom, gorse or other invasive species become established in the park, take appropriate measures for controlling them while protecting important and protected plants and animals.

2. **Monitor Invasion of Trees into Shrublands, Grasslands and Views:** Over time trees will grow up in the headland shrubs and grasslands on top of the Heads. They should be removed to preserve the current ratio of forest to shrub and grassland, and to protect important views.

3. **Complete a Detailed Rehabilitation Plan for Historic Features:** Complete a detailed maintenance and rehabilitation plan for the historic buildings and sites and implement.

Existing Viewpoint

"Little America" Subdivision

See Inset (Concept #7)
Historic Coast Guard Facilities

Headland Trail

Cove Trail

Nelly's Cove

Restore Staircase to Nelly's Cove

Existing Breakwater Structures

Proposed Picnic Area

Reconstruct Lookout Tower

PACIFIC OCEAN

Port Orford Heads State Park

CONCEPTUAL DESIGN

Curry County State Parks
MASTER PLAN

T33S/R15W/S 5,6,7,8

Concept # 7

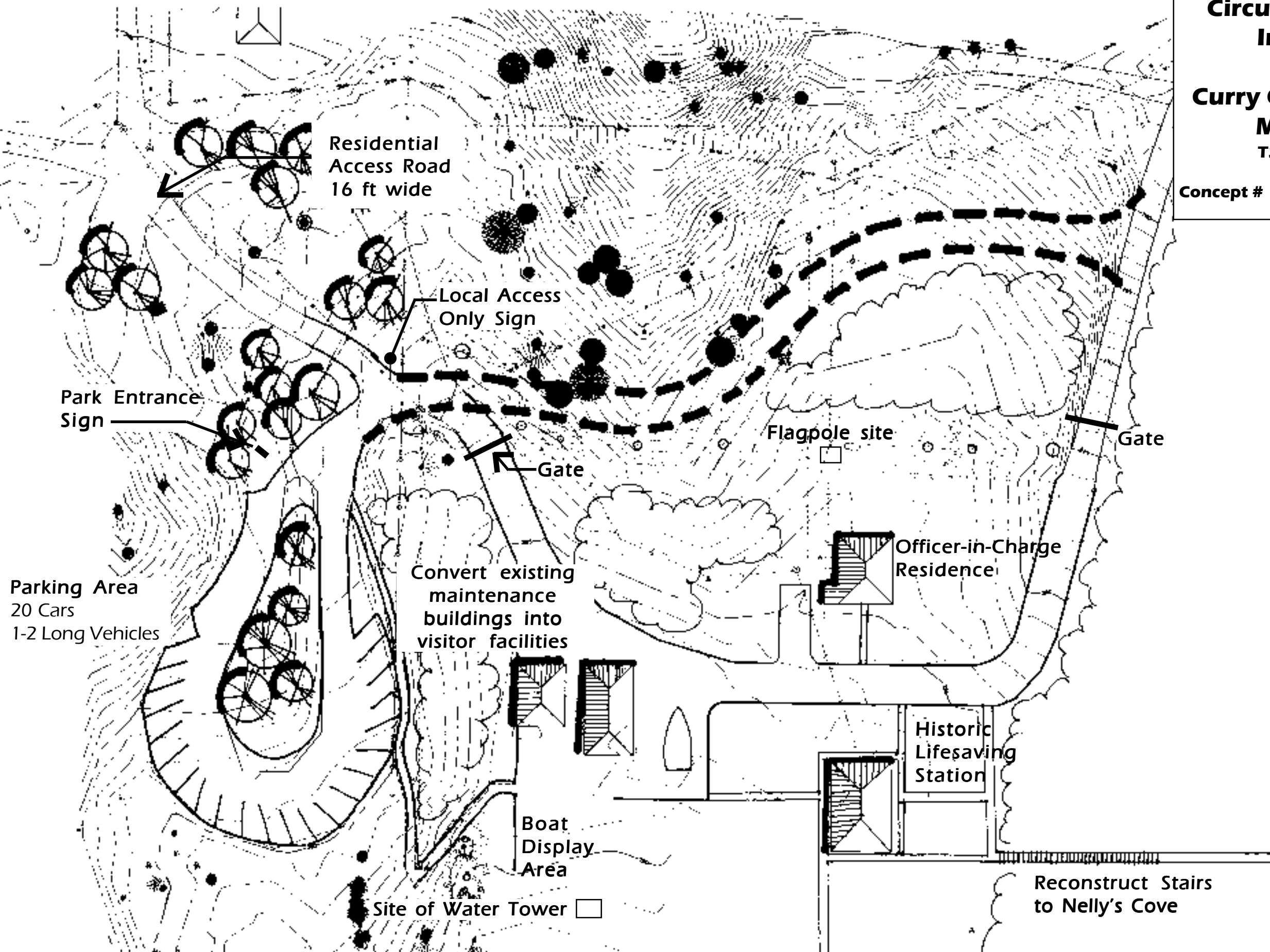


Scale 1" = 400'

**Port Orford Heads
State Park
Circulation and Access
Improvements**

**Curry County State Parks
MASTER PLAN
T33S/R15W/S 5,6,7,8**

Concept #



HUMBUG MOUNTAIN STATE PARK

HUMBUG MOUNTAIN STATE PARK

Existing Conditions - Humbug Mountain State Park

Location: Humbug Mountain State Park is located off of the Oregon Coast Highway 101, six miles south of the City of Port Orford.

Size: 1,842.16 acres

Classification: Humbug Mountain was classified a State Park and is the second state park established in Curry County. This site provides general, outdoor recreation within an extensive setting which is consistent with the state park designation.

Description: Humbug Mountain dominates the coastline as the largest mountain directly located on the Oregon coast. The mountain rises 1,750 feet above the ocean and supports a mature coastal forest. It contains 5.4 miles of intertidal habitat located at the westerly tip of Humbug Mountain. The park contains an excellent representation of several south coast ecosystems and diverse marine animals and plants. Humbug mountain has nearly four miles of shoreline, approximately one half of which is not accessible because of the high steep bluffs.

Original development of Humbug Mountain commenced in 1934 using CCC forces. The approach to the park via the old highway was particularly spectacular as it wound its way up the hill north of Brush Creek and descended on a steep, twisting grade to the mouth of the canyon. This entry was altered when the current highway alignment was constructed along Brush Creek. Today this old roadbed serves as the Oregon Coast Trail within the park boundary. In 1952 overnight camping was developed.

There are three discontinuous parcels associated with this park. The park facilities are located in the largest of the three parcels. The other two parcels are located between the highway and the ocean.

The park includes a variety of recreational activities including day use picnicking, hiking and beach access.

Facilities:

- **Campground:** Overnight camping is provided in the park on the east side of Highway 101. The campground contains 30 electrical campsites, 78 tent sites, and a hiker/biker camp.
- **Trails and Beach Access:** Special features of the park include a 5.5 mile hiking loop trail to Humbug Mountain summit, and other trails for hiking and beach access.
- **Day Use Area/Optional Group Camp:** Brush Creek bisects the day use area, separating parking from the picnic areas. This area is located on the west side of the highway. It has no beach access. It does have bathrooms and picnic facilities. The site can accommodate a group tent area.

Neighborhood: privately owned timberland and the ocean primarily surround the site. There are a few adjacent residences along the highway to the south, as well as a nearby hotel.

Zoning: Humbug Mountain State Park is located in the jurisdiction of Curry County. The site is zoned Public Facilities (PF). Several overlay zones effect the property including the beach and dune overlay and the coastal shoreland overlay.

Acquisition and Ownership : The original land purchase from Carl White in 1926 was 30.6 acres near the mouth of Brush Creek. Sixteen other tracts were purchased between 1930 and 1975 to bring the park to its present size and to include Humbug Mountain. The properties are owned by ORPD.

Other Classifications: Two archaeological sites have been located within the park property and have been listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The park has a Natural Heritage site as well.

Heritage Assessment - Humbug Mountain State Park

Feature	Map Name	Description
Flood Plain	Water Features/ Hazards & Geologic Features/ Hazards	FEMA has not mapped the floodplain within this park. Brush Creek does run through the developed areas of the park and has a tendency to flood.
Active Dunes	Water Features/ Hazards & Geologic Features/ Hazards	No active dunes are mapped.
Beach	Water Features/ Hazards & Geologic Features/ Hazards	Two sections of beach exist at the mouth and to the north of Brush Creek.
Slump Topography	Water Features/ Hazards & Geologic Features/ Hazards	A section of slump topography is located between the old coast highway and Hwy. 101 north of the campground.
Tsunami	Water Features/ Hazards & Geologic Features/ Hazards	The tsunami inundation line generally follows the tops of the cliffs. A section of the park that is located at beach level is subjected to flooding in a tsunami event.
Water Features	Water Features/ Hazards & Geologic Features/ Hazards	Brush and Retz Creeks flow through the property.
Wetlands	Wetlands	There is little wetland acreage in the park. The majority of the wetlands are high quality, diverse and forested. These are critical amphibian habitat and are important to other wildlife species as well. The alder and myrtle wetlands are of conservation importance, particularly the alder wetland located in the north end of the southern section of the park. Only the wetlands along Brush Creek adjacent to Highway 101 are not high quality, natural features. However, Brush creek does provide important fish and amphibian habitat.
Wildlife	Wildlife	The large size and diverse topography of the park yield a wide variety of animal life from creek, rocky intertidal, wetlands, and forested uplands.
Protected Species	Protected Species	Two protected plant species are known to occur in the park. Sensitive animal species have been observed in the park as well.

Feature	Map Name	Description
Plant Communities	Vegetative Cover	The site includes coniferous forests dominated by Sitka Spruce and shore pine near the coast. A forest composed of Douglas Fir, grand fir and tanoak is the most common forest type. Nearly pure stands of tanoak are common. These forests include both high quality old growth forests and areas that were high grades. Forested riparian zones are dominated by red alder, myrtle, western hemlock and Sitka willow. Historically logged areas are dominated by red alder, young Douglas fir or grand fir or sitka Spruce. Native or non-native exposed shrubland, grassland and forbland associations occur on headlands and on the beach.
Geology/ Topography	Dogami Info & USGS Quad	Humbug Mountain rises 1,756 feet above sea level with bedrock cliffs over 200 feet high, and is southern Oregon's most prominent headland. Much of the shoreline consists of large boulders/cobble intertidal area, backed by seaward sloping bedrock and vegetated cliffs.
Cultural Resources	Historic and Archaeological Features	The park also contains three National Register listed sites.

Recreation Needs - Humbug Mountain State Park

- One of the highly desired and growing recreational opportunities statewide and along the southern coast is remote, natural areas with relatively low usage and few facilities. This park provides that setting and should continue to do so. The trail to the summit is particularly popular. Within the campground there is need for additional trails for biking. The old highway is paved through a portion of the park and would provide a great bike path for campers.
- Need for overnight group use facilities
- Cabins or yurts due to weather conditions at the park.

Resource Suitability - Humbug Mountain State Park

Large areas of the park are designated as Composite Suitability level 1. These areas include most of the mountain itself and the forested areas to the east of Highway 101. Areas designated Composite Suitability level 3 are located at the edges of the park and primarily represent areas that were more recently logged. The developed areas along the highway, campground and day use area are designated as Composite Suitability levels 3 or 4, and are the suitable areas in the park for intensive use and development.

Issues - Humbug Mountain State Park

- Retain pull-offs at Rocky Point and Hubbard Creek.
- Continue Coast Trail to the south by easement off of OPRD property.
- Using day use area for group camping - some did not support.
- Yurts, camper cabins or RV's here- both support and non-support voiced.
- Toilet and information signs at the trailhead. Others thought it needed to improvements.
- Reopen views along the mountain trail.
- Maintain as day use only, disallow overnight group use in the day use area.
- Language in master plan needs to address easements onto private property. OPRD should limit, control or mandate an appropriate scale of proposed easements.
- Like the amphitheater at Humbug
- Why is Humbug day use area underused? The front part of the day use at Humbug is sunny the back area is not as visible.
- New access road onto private property could be used as a new trail connection that would loop through the eastern portion of Humbug Mountain and rejoining the trail near the bridge over Dry Run Creek.

Goals - Humbug Mountain State Park

Goal I - Protect and Enhance Important Natural, Cultural and Scenic Resources

- A. Manage second growth forest to enhance structure and health.
- B. Selectively remove trees and shrubs to restore some trail related views.

Goal II - Improve Maintenance, Management and Rehabilitation

- A. Fund needed maintenance and rehab as a priority.
- B. OPRD will review and resolve property boundary signage and fencing issues to reduce trespass conflicts with neighboring properties on a case-by-case basis as the issues arise.

Goal III - Use Partnerships to Implement Goals

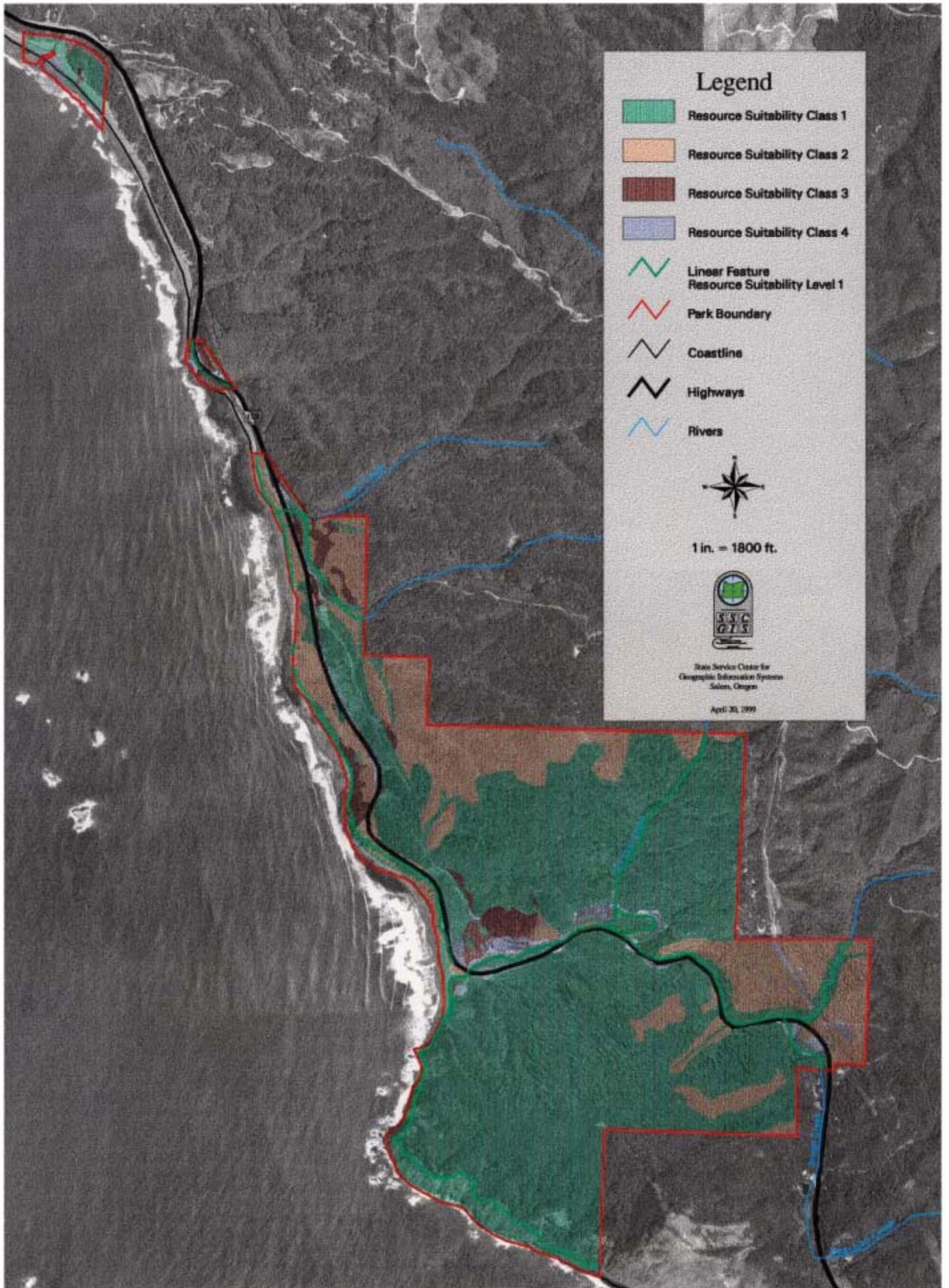
- A. Work with volunteers to maintain trails and views from trails.

Goal IV - Improve Access and Orientation

- A. Provide better trailhead and trail orientation information at the trailhead.
- B. Provide a registration booth for the campground.
- C. Provide the park office near entrance eastside facilities.

Goal V - Provide for Recreation Needs

- A. Improve existing trails and expand loops in east side. Include paved paths on each side for bicycling.
- B. Provide a Yurt/cabin loop in campground.
- C. Provide some pull-through campsites in campground.
- D. Continue and enhance use of portion of existing day use to group overnight.



Humbug Mountain State Park
Composite Suitability Map

Goal VI - Improve Disabled Access

- A. Provide disabled access to facility buildings and some campsites and day use tables.

Goal VII - Improve Interpretive and Educational Opportunities

- A. Provide interpretive signs regarding old highway, CCC work and natural history.

Goal VIII. - Outside the Park

- A. Identify an Area of Concern to the south for continuation of the Coast trail.
- B. Consider acquiring adjacent residential property for staff housing.

Development Concepts - Humbug Mountain State Park

1. Redesign Campground
 - Redesign B & C camp Loops
 - Establish pull-throughs where appropriate; retain sites with rockwork for tent camping.
 - Install Registration Booth
 - Convert A Loop to Cabin/Yurt Loop (17 sites) with group shelter facility
 - Construct meeting hall in A Loop to be associated with the yurt/cabin loop (800 SF)
 - Install playground equipment in open area at Overnight Campground in B-loop
2. Improve Trailhead
 - Develop parking area to reduce conflicts with highway. Develop signage that interprets Humbug Mountain. Provides information of trail difficulty and length. Provide benches and viewpoints along the trail.
3. Enhance Bicycling Opportunities
 - Using the old highway construct a loop path in the park.
4. Upgrade Existing Restroom Building At Day Use Area To Include Showers
5. Replace Foot Bridge In Overnight Campground - B Loop To Humbug Mountain Trailhead
6. Erect New Vehicle Storage Area In Maintenance Yard
7. Develop New Water Source For Campground
8. Relocate Residence Off Site Or Convert To Office
 - If residence is moved off site, construct an office at current residence site, up to 1500 sf.
9. Construct Trail From Day-Use Area To Summit Trail
 - Construct new loop trail on the eastside of 101

Natural, Scenic and Cultural Resource Management Guidelines - Humbug Mountain State Park

Forest Management: Identify specific areas for tree removal to restore trailside views and for hazard tree management. Complete tailored tree thinning in second growth areas.

Humbug Mountain State Park

Campground and Maintenance Yard Improvements

Curry County State Parks MASTER PLAN

T33S/R14W/S 25 & 26

Concept #

Beach Access

Create Pull Through Spaces where feasible

Improve Trail Head
Improve Trail Info.

Existing Hiker/Biker Loop

Convert A Loop into
Yurt/Cabin Loop

Trail to Summit

Existing Camp Talk Area

Old Coast Highway

Proposed Group Shelter

Coast Trail

HUMBUG MOUNTAIN
CREEK

Construct Office (1200 sf)
Relocate Residence

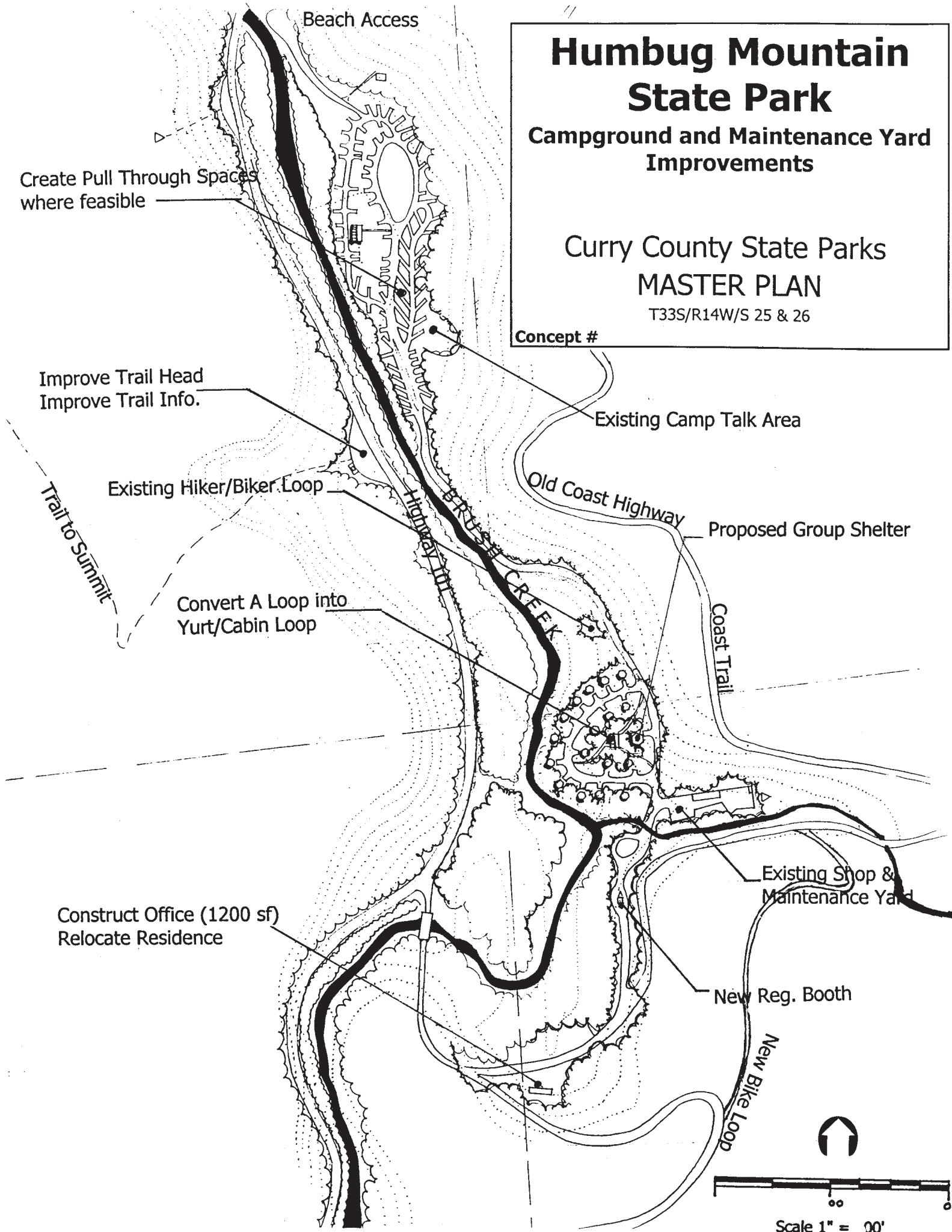
Existing Shop &
Maintenance Yard

New Reg. Booth

New Bike Loop



Scale 1" = 100'



GEISEL MONUMENT STATE HISTORIC SITE

GEISEL MONUMENT STATE HISTORIC SITE

Existing Conditions – Geisel Monument State Historic Site

Location: This historic site is located on the Oregon Coast Highway 101, seven miles north of the city of Gold Beach. The site is forested. Three single family residences share the access to the monument.

Size: 2.9 acres

Classification: Geisel Monument is classified as a State Heritage Site to protect cultural/ historic/ prehistoric resources and provide public interpretation and access.

Description: This site commemorates a family of early settlers killed in conflict with local Native Americans, and includes their graves set into the woods beside Hwy 101. Geisel's widow, who died years later, is also buried at this location. The site is a level forested area.

Facilities: Parking lot.

Zoning: The Geisel Monument State Heritage Site is located within the jurisdiction of Curry County. The site is considered part of the ODOT right of way and therefore is not included in a zoning district.

Other Classifications: None.

Neighborhood: The Nature Conservancy owns approximately 35 acres near Geisel Monument that they purchased to protect one of the only stands of "old growth" Sitka spruce/grand fir in the south coast area. The Nature Conservancy has recently purchased and resold the property containing the three houses adjacent to the OPRD property. Geisel Monument State Heritage Site is located about 800 ft. east of the Pacific Ocean. The boundaries include Highway 101 corridor on the eastern boundary and private land on the other boundaries. The western boundary of the Site is a power line clearing and route of the old coast highway.

Ownership: The site was acquired in 1930 and 1931 through gifts from the Macleay Estate Company and F.B. and Martha Postel.

Heritage Assessment - Geisel Monument State Historic Site

Feature	Map Name	Description
Flood Plain	Water Features/ Hazards & Geologic Features/ Hazards	NA
Active Dunes	Water Features/ Hazards & Geologic Features/ Hazards	NA
Beach	Water Features/ Hazards & Geologic Features/ Hazards	NA
Slump Topography	Water Features/ Hazards & Geologic Features/ Hazards	None
Tsunami	Water Features/ Hazards & Geologic Features/ Hazards	NA
Water Features	Water Features/ Hazards & Geologic Features/ Hazards	NA
Wetlands	Wetlands	There is little wetland acreage in the park.
<u>Wildlife</u>	Wildlife	No significant wildlife values.
Protected Species	Protected Species	No threatened or endangered plants or animals were found.
Plant Communities	Vegetative Cover	This small site includes coniferous forests dominated by Sitka Spruce, grand fir, Port Orford Cedar, Douglas fir and western hemlock, and successional forest dominated by red alder and cascara. The coniferous forests are highly disturbed but do include some large trees.
Geology/ Topography	Dogami Info & USGS Quad	The site is relatively flat.
Cultural Resources	Historic and Cultural Resources	The historic gravesites are important regional, cultural elements.

Recreation Needs - Geisel Monument State Historic Site

None associated with this site alone.

Resource Suitability - Geisel Monument State Historic Site

Approximately 50% of the OPRD site is designated as Composite Suitability level 1, and approximately 25% of the site is designated Composite Suitability level 2. The remaining 25% of the site is designated Composite Suitability level 4.

Issues - Geisel Monument State Historic Site

- Protect and interpret gravesite.
- Need to consider relationship to Nature Conservancy property for potential public access.
- A few thought this would be a good hiker/biker campsite.
- Many did not want to see a Canopy Walk Discovery Center here. Part of the site was sold and precludes a center here.

Goals - Geisel Monument State Historic Site

Goal I - Protect and Enhance Important Natural, Cultural and Scenic Resources

- A. Protect the gravesite.

Goal II - Improve Maintenance, Management and Rehabilitation

- A. This site is not a maintenance priority for current uses.

Goal III - Use Partnerships to Implement Goals

- A. Use neighbors for gate closure and access control.
- B. For interpretation of gravesite and related history consult tribal representatives, as well as non-tribal.

Goal IV - Improve Access and Orientation

- A. Work with ODOT to assess the need to relocate access to Nesika Beach Road thus separating residential trips from park users.

Goal V - Provide for Recreation Needs

- A. No recreation opportunities in current site.

Goal VI - Improve Disabled Access

- A. No change for current use.

Goal VII - Improve Interpretive and Educational Opportunities

- A. Provide interpretive sign on settler and Native American conflicts. Display should have local tribes approval. Integrate this site into the interpretive network of the sites.

Goal VIII. - Outside the Park

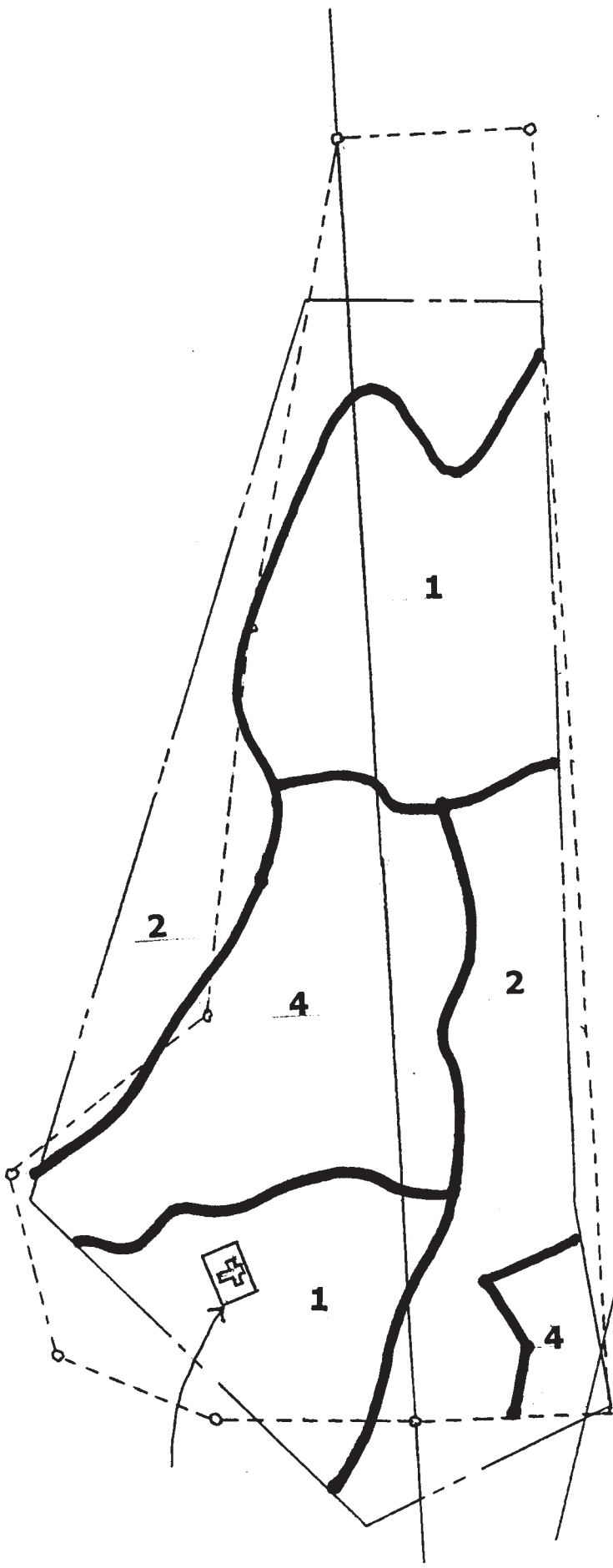
Development Concepts - Geisel Monument State Historic Site

Move entrance to Nesika Beach Road and discontinue access from parking to the existing entrance. Convey the existing entrance to the private landowner. Entrance road should follow existing power line. Work with ODOT on new intersection design to fit in the Nesika Beach entrance. Construct a

turnaround area, open up vegetation to deter vandalism and add an interpretive sign structure and picnic tables.

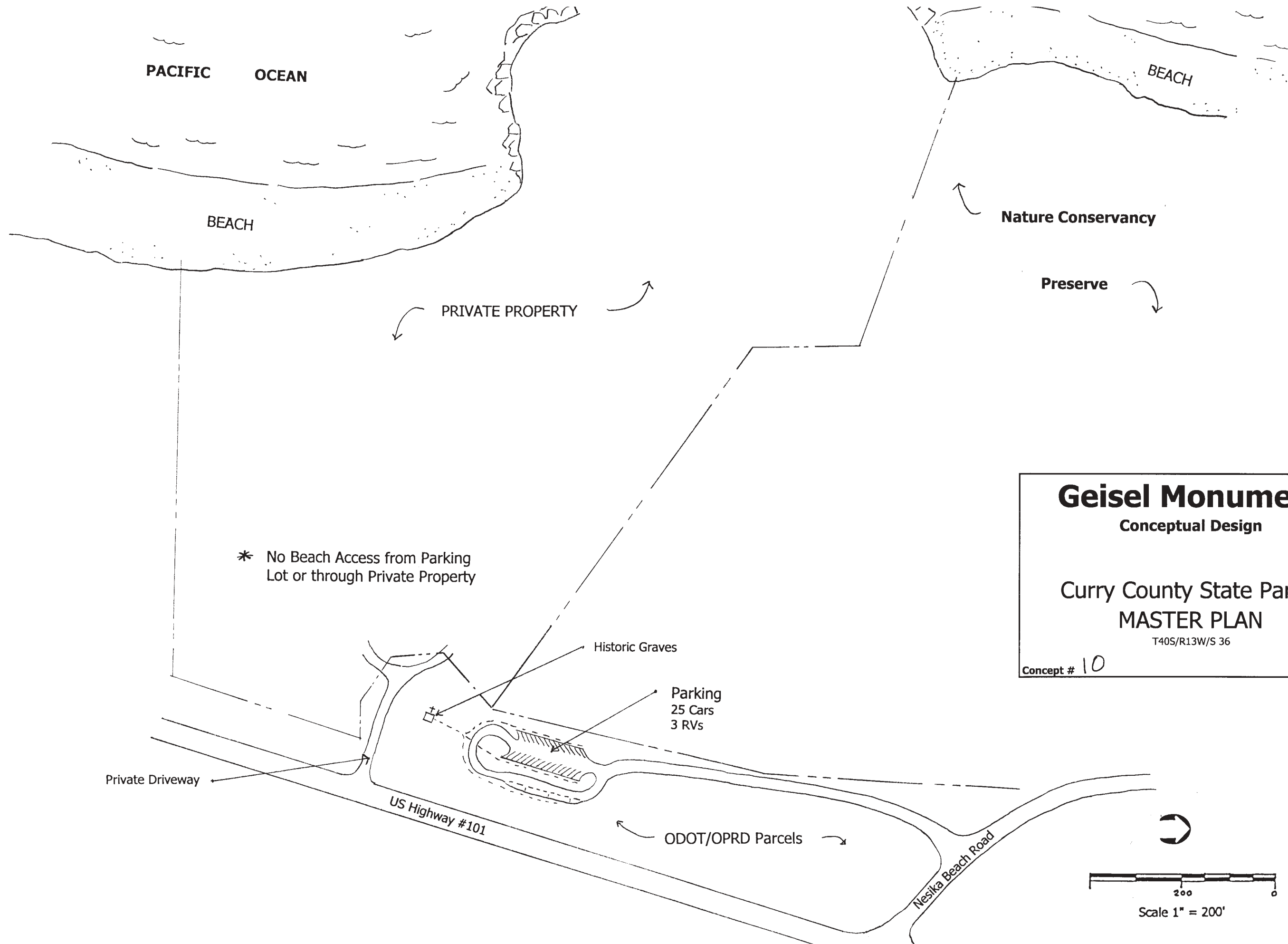
Natural, Scenic and Cultural Resource Management Guidelines - Geisel Monument State Historic Site

The gravesite and should be protected from development.



**Geisel Monument
State Historic Site**
Composite Suitability

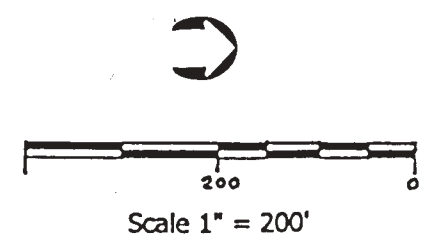
Curry County State Parks
MASTER PLAN



Geisel Monument
 Conceptual Design

Curry County State Parks
MASTER PLAN
 T40S/R13W/S 36

Concept # 10



OTTER POINT STATE RECREATION SITE

OTTER POINT STATE RECREATION SITE

EXISTING CONDITIONS - Otter Point State Recreation Site

Location: Otter Point State Recreation Site is located off of the Oregon Coast Highway 101, four miles north of Gold Beach.

Size: 85.50 Acres

Classification: Otter Point is classified as a State Recreation Site, although this property includes a large natural area.

Description: This site includes a small, rocky point overlooking the ocean, which is covered with headland grasses and shrublands in pristine condition and including several occurrences of protected plant species. The east side of the site is edged with young, scattered coniferous trees. The site offers beach access and hiking opportunities.

Facilities: Small, undesignated parking, short access road and trails.

Zoning: Otter Point State Recreation Site is located with the jurisdiction of Curry County. The property designated within the Public Facilities (PF) zoning district. A coastal shoreland overlay zone is placed on this parcel.

Neighborhood: Otter Point State Recreation Site is an isolated, coastal headland located between Nesika Beach and Gold Beach. It is two parcels, within the main parcel located at Otter Point and a smaller, southerly unit located about one mile south. ODOT owns the in-holding between the properties, as well as the land between the old highway and the current highway. The county owns and maintains the road. Private property is to the north and south.

Other Classifications: The site has a Natural Heritage designation.

Ownership: Otter Point was obtained between 1960 and 1976 through litigation and purchase to protect the ocean frontage and provide public beach access and viewpoints.

Heritage Assessment - Otter Point State Recreation Site

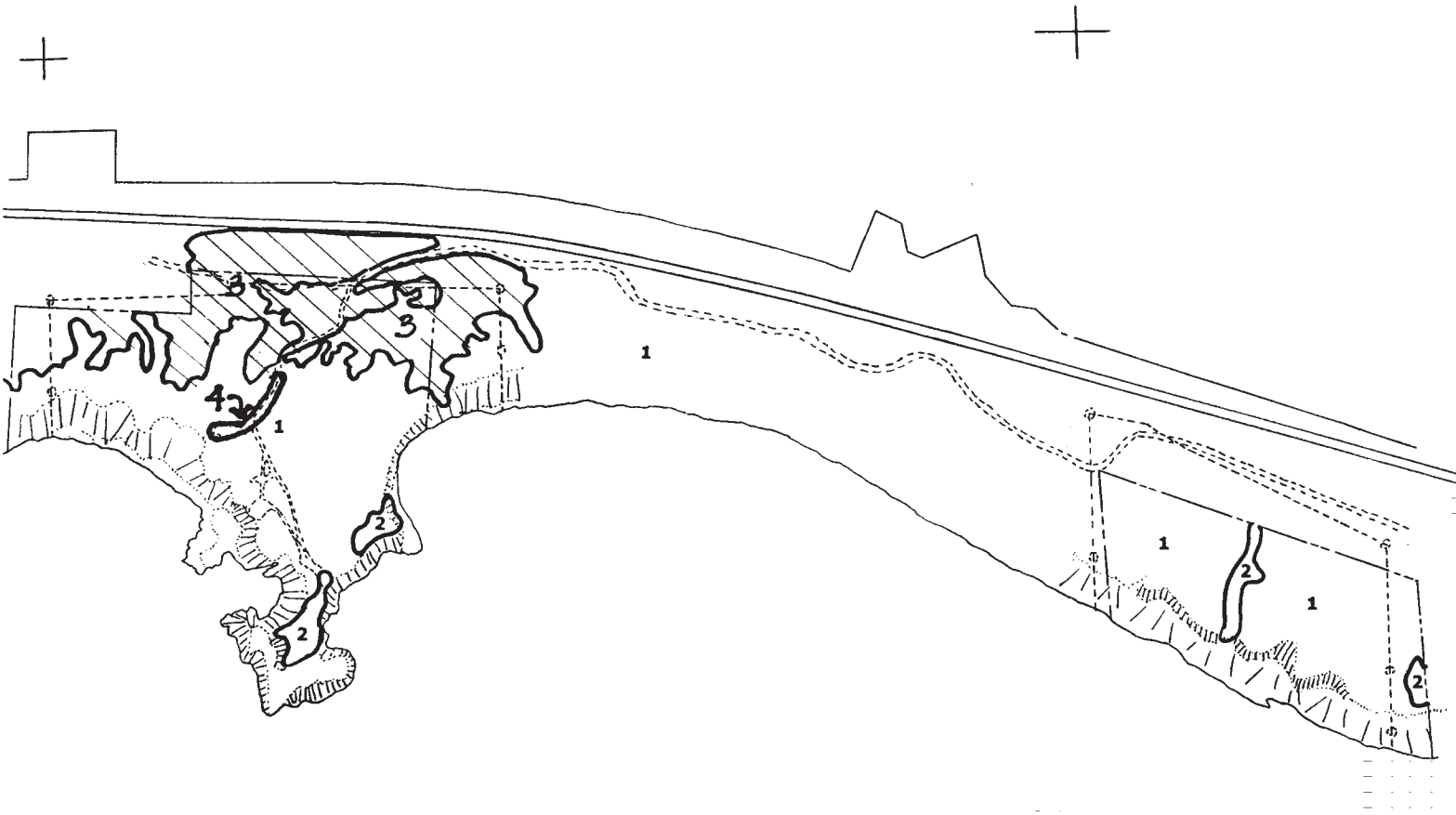
Feature	Map Name	Description
<i>Flood Plain</i>	<i>Water Features/ Hazards & Geologic Features/ Hazards</i>	NA
<i>Active Dunes</i>	<i>Water Features/ Hazards & Geologic Features/ Hazards</i>	Possibly, below terrace.
<i>Beach</i>	<i>Water Features/ Hazards & Geologic Features/ Hazards</i>	Yes
<i>Slump Topography</i>	<i>Water Features/ Hazards & Geologic Features/ Hazards</i>	None. Potential terrace erosion.
<i>Tsunami</i>	<i>Water Features/ Hazards & Geologic Features/ Hazards</i>	Generally follows the top of the cliff.
<i>Water Features</i>	<i>Water Features/ Hazards & Geologic Features/ Hazards</i>	A small seasonal drainage bisects the northern parcel.
<i>Wetlands</i>	<i>Wetlands</i>	There are few wetlands at the site. On the northern unit, wetlands are found only along the small stream drainage at the northern end of the park. A similar riparian wetland occurs along a seasonal stream in the southern unit. Wetlands along these seasonal streams are not significant, nor are they threatened. However, the southern unit has some nice deflation plain wetlands, including areas dominated by Hooker Willow, Sitka willow, Pacific willow, bearberry, honeysuckle, slough sedge, salt rush and potentilla. These deflation plain wetlands on the southern unit are somewhat limited, but are part of a complex, which extends north to the northern unit and south for about two miles.
<i>Wildlife</i>	<i>Wildlife</i>	Important cliff, seabird nesting.
<i>Protected Species</i>	<i>Protected Species</i>	Otter Point State Recreation Site is known historically to have provided habitat for a number of rare and protected species. Only two protected plant species were found on the park in the park during the 1998 inventory. No protected wildlife species have been found at the site to date. Two protected species are known from the area: the sea lion, and the brown pelican.
<i>Plant Communities</i>	<i>Vegetative Cover</i>	This site contains an unusual matrix of an exceptionally diverse shrubland and a young, mixed conifer forest. The vegetation, outside of the European beach grass dominated dunes at the southern unit, is generally dominated by native species, and is in exceptional condition. The shrublands and steep sloped forb or grass dominated cliffs are generally in exceptional condition, and provide habitat for protected plant species. The young coniferous trees are rapidly growing into the shrubland. Where this occurs and where roads dissect the area, the quality and resource value is dramatically reduced.
<i>Geology/ Topography</i>	<i>Dogami Info & USGS Quad</i>	The site is composed of a relatively flat coastal headland, which is an old marine terrace with sandstone and sedimentary substrates.
<i>Cultural Resources</i>	<i>Historic and Cultural Resources</i>	None

Recreation Needs - Otter Point State Recreation Site

Beach access needs to continue at this site. Interpretation would enhance the public understanding of the value and rarity of the shrubland here.

Resource Suitability - Otter Point State Recreation Site

Most of the two parcels have a Composite Suitability level 1 designation. However, the area of young trees along the old highway has a level 3 designations. This area could be considered for intensive development.



Note: The hatched area represents young common forest which is bisected by easements and public roads to the extent that it is considered a level suitability 3 for development.

Otter Point
Composite Suitability

Curry County State Parks
MASTER PLAN



1" = 1600'

Issues - Otter Point State Recreation Site

- Fix beach access trails and keep open to the public without fees.
- Some wanted to beach access parking to remain in current location. Others were ok with it moving closer to the old highway.
- See the concerns about the Canopy Walk in Chapter VIII. Issues.
- Support for moving the parking lot off the bluff.

Goals - Otter Point State Recreation Site

Goal I - Protect and Enhance Important Natural, Cultural and Scenic Resources

- A. The grassland and shrubland on this site should be protected from intensive use.

Goal II - Improve Maintenance, Management and Rehabilitation

- A. Trail repairs are a priority.
- B. Beach access may be relocated to abate erosion.

Goal III - Use Partnerships to Implement Goals

- A. Work with volunteers to improve trails.

Goal IV - Improve Access and Orientation

- A. For current uses, parking should be moved back toward the old highway, and trail access only continued into the site and to the beach.

Goal V - Provide for Recreation Needs

- A. For current use: Hiking, beach access and nature observation need to be continued here.

Goal VI - Improve Disabled Access

- A. For current use, access will continue to be challenging due to topography and shrub cover.

Goal VII - Improve Interpretive and Educational Opportunities

- A. For current use - provide interpretation signs regarding Natural Heritage site.

Goal VIII. - Outside the Park

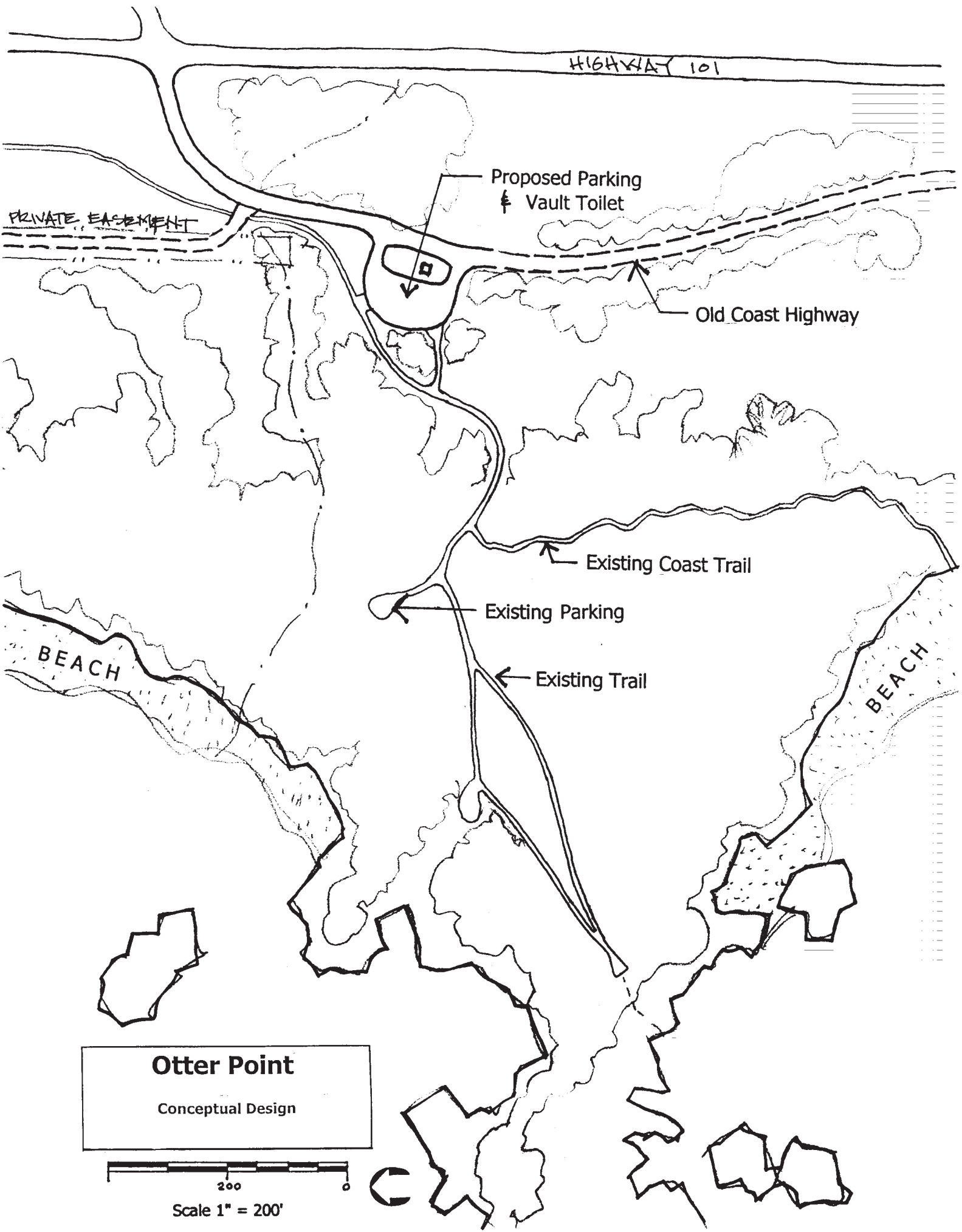
- A. The ODOT inholding includes important natural plant communities and should be consolidated

Development Concepts - Otter Point State Recreation Site

Rehab access, parking and trails: Relocate parking to near the old highway and convert access road to current parking to trail use only. Discontinue beach access via the creek bed. Continue and upgrade beach access from the viewpoint. Install fencing along the terrace edge to keep visitors away from bird nesting colonies. Install a vault toilet, if needed in the new parking area using the best management practices and the most “up-to-date” appropriate technology to reduce odors..

Natural, Scenic and Cultural Resource Management Guidelines - Otter Point State Recreation Site

- To protect nesting seabirds, keep visitors back from terrace edge.
- Control further intrusion of trees into the shrubland.



HIGHWAY 101

PRIVATE EASEMENT

Proposed Parking
⬇ Vault Toilet

Old Coast Highway

Existing Coast Trail

Existing Parking

Existing Trail

BEACH

BEACH

Otter Point

Conceptual Design



Scale 1" = 200'



BUENA VISTA OCEAN STATE WAYSIDE

BUENA VISTA OCEAN STATE WAYSIDE

Existing Conditions - Buena Vista Ocean State Wayside

Location: Buena Vista Ocean is located 2.5 miles south of Gold Beach on the west side of Highway 101.

Size: 33.7 acres

Classification: In process.

Description: Buena Vista Ocean is a small, isolated portion of beach, located between Highway 101 and the Pacific Ocean just north of Cape Sebastian. The site receives very little use. Originally this site was forested and offered interesting views of the Hunter Creek Basin and the Pacific Ocean. Parking area facilities were originally constructed by the Civilian Conservation Corps between 1933 and 1935 at a point on the old highway. Relocation of the Coast Highway bypassed the principle overlook and visitor attraction.

Facilities: None

Zoning: Buena Vista Ocean is zoned Public Facilities according to the Curry County Zoning and Development Ordinance.

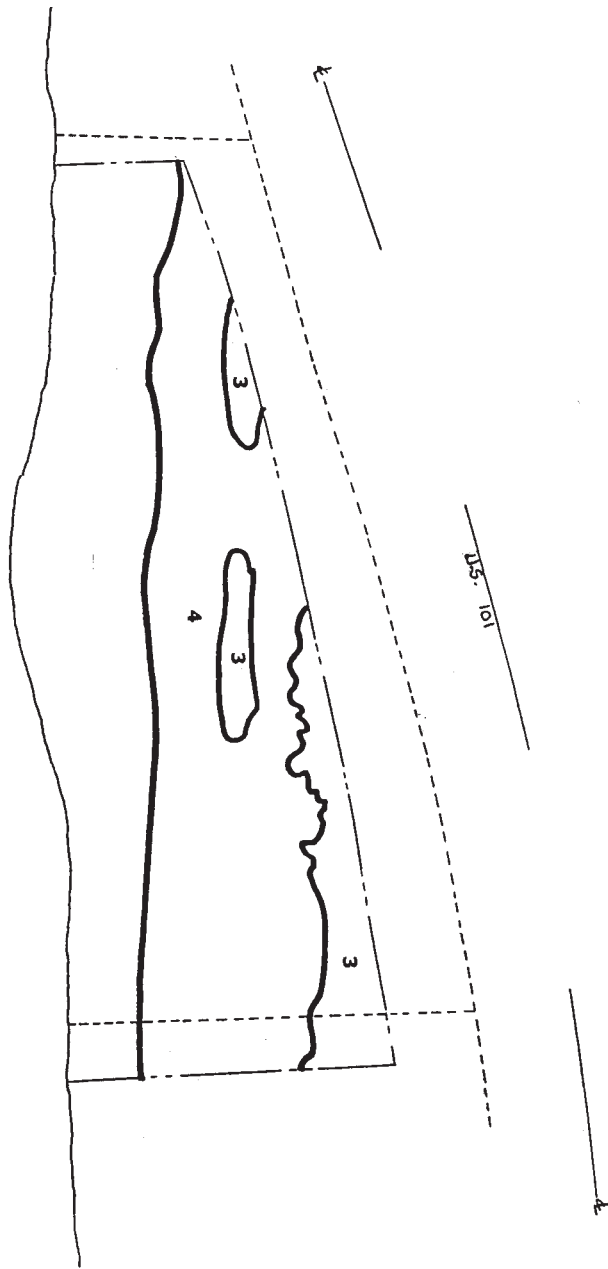
Neighborhood: Highway 101 and the Pacific Ocean bound the property.

Acquisition and Ownership: The property was purchased between 1930 and 1958 from various owners.

Other Classifications: None

Heritage Assessment - Buena Vista Ocean State Wayside

Feature	Map Name	Description
<i>Flood Plain</i>	<i>Water Features/ Hazards & Geologic Features/ Hazards</i>	NA
<i>Active Dunes</i>	<i>Water Features/ Hazards & Geologic Features/ Hazards</i>	Possibly below terrace.
<i>Beach</i>	<i>Water Features/ Hazards & Geologic Features/ Hazards</i>	Yes
<i>Slump Topography</i>	<i>Water Features/ Hazards & Geologic Features/ Hazards</i>	None
<i>Tsunami</i>	<i>Water Features/ Hazards & Geologic Features/ Hazards</i>	Generally follows the top of the cliff
<i>Water Features</i>	<i>Water Features/ Hazards & Geologic Features/ Hazards</i>	None
<i>Wetlands</i>	<i>Wetlands</i>	No wetlands were found at this small wayside.
<i>Wildlife</i>	<i>Wildlife</i>	No significant wildlife values.
<i>Protected Species</i>	<i>Protected Species</i>	None
<i>Plant Communities</i>	<i>Vegetative Cover</i>	There is a small strip of mixed shrubland at the southeastern edge of the site, and there are a few patches of dune shrubland with the European beachgrass.
<i>Geology/ Topography</i>	<i>Dogami Info & USGS Quad</i>	The site is composed almost entirely of low dunes dominated by European beach grass and a wide beach.
<i>Cultural Resources</i>	<i>Historic and Cultural Resources</i>	None



Scale 1" = 400'

Buena Vista Ocean
Composite Suitability

Curry County State Parks
MASTER PLAN

Recreation Needs - Buena Vista Ocean State Wayside

Potential view site.

Resource Suitability - Buena Vista Ocean State Wayside

The majority of the park is designated with Composite Suitability Level 1.

Issues - Buena Vista Ocean State Wayside

- Retain as a view pull-off

Goals - Buena Vista Ocean State Wayside

Goal I - Protect and Enhance Important Natural, Cultural and Scenic Resources

- A. Allow natural processes and succession to proceed.

Goal II - Improve Maintenance, Management and Rehabilitation

- A. NA

Goal III - Use Partnerships to Implement Goals

- A. NA

Goal IV - Improve Access and Orientation

- A. None planned.

Goal V - Provide for Recreation Needs

- A. None planned.

Goal VI - Improve Disabled Access

- A. NA

Goal VII - Improve Interpretive and Educational Opportunities

- A. None planned.

Goal VIII. - Outside the Park

- A. NA

Development Concepts - Buena Vista Ocean State Wayside

None planned.

Natural, Scenic and Cultural Resource Management - Buena Vista Ocean State Wayside

None planned.

CAPE SEBASTIAN STATE SCENIC CORRIDOR

CAPE SEBASTIAN STATE SCENIC CORRIDOR

Existing Conditions – Cape Sebastian State Scenic Corridor

Location: Cape Sebastian Scenic Corridor is located on the Oregon Coast Highway 101, seven miles south of Gold Beach.

Size: 1,400 acres

Classification: Cape Sebastian is classified as a State Scenic Corridor to protect corridors and viewpoints along state highways.

Description: Cape Sebastian Scenic Corridor was the first state park in Curry County. Special features include 1.5-mile trail to the tip of the cape and expansive coastal views. The corridor is contained within two discontinuous parcels.

This property is a long, narrow tract of land extending several miles along the Oregon coast with a large, open promontory, known as Cape Sebastian rising above the ocean at its mid-point. The park includes a diversity of habitats, including forests, riparian zones, headlands and cliffs, and sand dune habitats. Forested habitats with Sitka spruce, shore pine, Douglas-fir, grand fir, tanoak and red alder occupy most of the site.

The Cape and the southernmost beach portions of the Scenic Corridor receive heavy tourist use. The rest of the Scenic Corridor receives much less use. The forest supports successional red alder or young Sitka spruce forests. However, high quality old growth areas remain in the Scenic Corridor. The presence of European beach grass on the beach and non-native grasses and forbs on the headlands has had major impacts on these shoreline plant associations.

Cape Sebastian is named for a Spanish explorer. This headland has been a prominent navigation landmark for centuries. This corridor yields impressive views and acts as a land buffer long beaches of North Curry County and the rocky Headlands and sea stacks to the south. The Oregon Coast Trail traverses the properties. The landward portions of the cape are forested with Douglas fir, grand fir, and shore pine, many old growth forest are of great size.

The old coast highway used to wind along the hillside at the eastern side of the park with an access road to the cape for visitors to view the ocean and coast. In the 1960, the highway was relocated through the heart of the area, bisecting what was formerly rolling sheep pasture.

In 1942 a caretaker discovered a Japanese submarine on the surface below a bluff recharging its batteries.

The exposed cape promontory can be very windy. On a clear day, visitors can see north to Cape Blanco (43 miles) and south to Point St. George, California (50 miles).

Facilities: The only developed area of the park is a viewpoint and parking lot. This area serves as a trailhead and provides access to a beautiful beach.

Zoning: Cape Sebastian Scenic Corridor is located within the jurisdiction of Curry County. The site is zoned Public Facilities (PF). Several zoning overlay effect this site including the beach and dune overlay and coastal shoreland overlay (SO). The entire park is subject to the coast shoreland overlay and large portions of the property are subject to the Natural Hazards overlay. In 2001, OPRD acquired the inholding. This parcel is zoned FG with a NH overlay.

Other Classifications: Two archaeological sites nominated to the National Register of Historic Places are located within the property boundaries. There is a Natural Heritage site as well.

Neighborhood: The properties are located between the Oregon Coast Highway and the ocean. Neighboring properties are mostly forested interspersed with low density residential. Cape Sebastian State Scenic Corridor is located just north of Pistol River on the Pacific Ocean. The borders include the Pacific Ocean for parts of the western Scenic Corridor boundary and Highway 101 for the eastern boundary of the northern Scenic Corridor unit. However, much of the park occurs east of Highway 101.

Ownership: Cape Sebastian Scenic Corridor was acquired between 1925 and 1963 by purchase from several owners. Cape Sebastian was named in 1603 by the Spanish navigator Viscaino for the patron saint of the day of discovery. Trail and road improvements were started by the Civilian Conservation Corps in the 1930s. OPRD purchased the inholding in 2000.

Heritage Assessment - Cape Sebastian State Scenic Corridor

Feature	Map Name	Description
Flood Plain	<i>Water Features/ Hazards & Geologic Features/ Hazards</i>	No FEMA mapping is available for this site.
Active Dunes	<i>Water Features/ Hazards & Geologic Features/ Hazards</i>	No active dune areas are present.
Beach	<i>Water Features/ Hazards & Geologic Features/ Hazards</i>	A large sandy beach is located in Hunter's Cove, south of Cape Sebastian.
Slump Topography	<i>Water Features/ Hazards & Geologic Features/ Hazards</i>	A large portion of the land in the northern unit is effected by slump topography.
Tsunami	<i>Water Features/ Hazards & Geologic Features/ Hazards</i>	The tsunami inundation boundary generally follows the top of the cliff.
Water Features	<i>Water Features/ Hazards & Geologic Features/ Hazards</i>	Daniels Creek runs through the southern parcel.

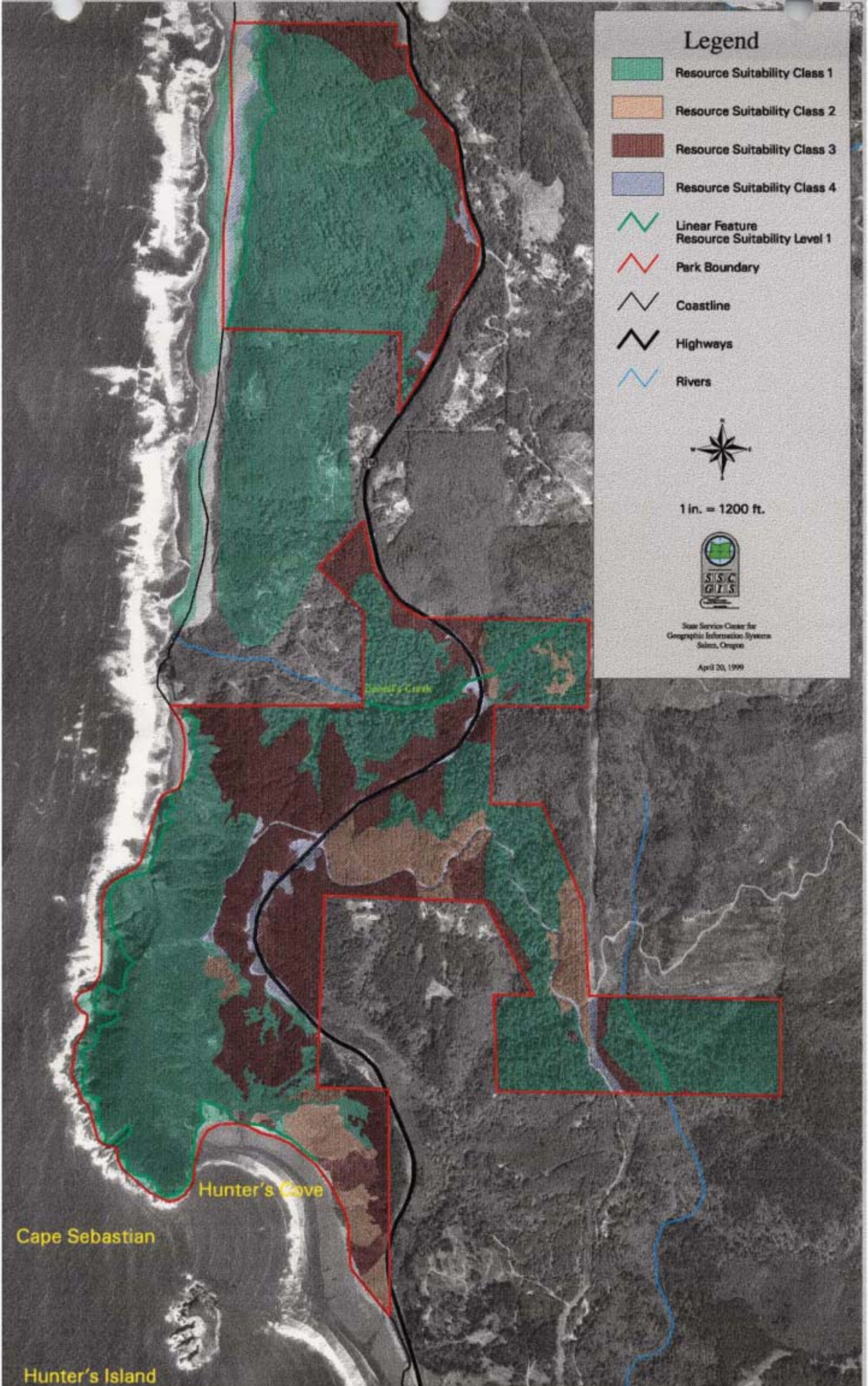
Feature	Map Name	Description
Wetlands	<i>Wetlands</i>	There is little wetland acreage at Cape Sebastian State Scenic Corridor. The wetlands that do exist in the Corridor are a diversity of high quality forested wetlands and are of conservation importance. These are critical amphibian habitat and are important to other wildlife species as well. The alder wetlands in the eastern section of the Corridor are of especially high quality.
Wildlife	<i>Wildlife</i>	Potential important block of forest habitat as trees mature.
Protected Species	<i>Protected Species</i>	No threatened and endangered plants or animals were found in Cape Sebastian State Scenic Corridor.
Plant Communities	<i>Vegetative Cover</i>	The large size and diverse topography of the Scenic Corridor yields a wide variety of plant associations. The site includes coniferous forests dominated by Sitka spruce or shore pine near the coast and diverse forests of Douglas-fir, grand fir and tanoak inland. These forests include both high quality old growth forests and areas that were highgraded. Forested riparian zones and post-logging successional areas are largely dominated by red alder. Exposed shrubland, grassland and formland associations occur on headlands and the beach.
Geology/ Topography	<i>Dogami Info & USGS Quad</i>	The site is composed almost entirely of low dunes dominated by European beach grass and a wide beach.
Cultural Resources	<i>Historic and Cultural Resources</i>	None

Recreation Needs - Cape Sebastian State Scenic Corridor

This is an important site for continuation of the Coast Trail. There was some discussion regarding the need for primitive campsites within the park especially to accommodate hikers/bikers. Excellent views would make this park ideal location for whale watching.

Resource Suitability - Cape Sebastian State Scenic Corridor

The majority of the park is designated with Composite Suitability Level 1.



Legend

- Resource Suitability Class 1
- Resource Suitability Class 2
- Resource Suitability Class 3
- Resource Suitability Class 4
- Linear Feature
Resource Suitability Level 1
- Park Boundary
- Coastline
- Highways
- Rivers



1 in. = 1200 ft.



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April 20, 1999

Cape Sebastian

Hunter's Cove

Hunter's Island

Cape Sebastian State Scenic Corridor
Composite Suitability Map

Issues - Cape Sebastian State Scenic Corridor

- Repair trails where needed. Don't close service roads to trail use.
- Support for connecting Coast Trail through acquisition of the inholding.
- Some did not like the idea of a walk-in camp here.
- Several stressed the importance of getting on top of vegetation management to restore views.

Goals - Cape Sebastian State Scenic Corridor

Goal I - Protect and Enhance Important Natural, Cultural and Scenic Resources

- A. Implement needed forest management actions.
- B. Protect old growth.

Goal II - Improve Maintenance, Management and Rehabilitation

- A. Maintain existing parking lot.
- B. Install gates at strategic locations to limit unauthorized access to the property and to minimize conflicts with the adjacent private property.
- C. OPRD will review and resolve property boundary signage and fencing issues to reduce trespass conflicts with neighboring properties on a case-by-case basis as the issues arise.

Goal III - Use Partnerships to Implement Goals

- A. Work with partners to maintain existing and construct new trails where appropriate.

Goal IV - Improve Access and Orientation

- A. Desirable to improve standard of access road, but very infeasible. Pursue if special funding is available.

Goal V - Provide for Recreation Needs

- A. Enhance and expand trails.
- B. Provide some walk-in, primitive camping.

Goal VI - Improve Disabled Access

- A. Viewpoint access from parking should be rehabilitated to allow access by disabled.

Goal VII - Improve Interpretive and Educational Opportunities

- A. Provide interpretation at viewpoint.

Goal VIII. - Outside the Park

- A. ODOT right of way parcels or some adjacent private lands may be needed as access through acquisition or easements for trailhead parking area.

Development Concepts - Cape Sebastian State Scenic Corridor

1. Develop Hiker Camp
 - Designate primitive walk in camp sites along the Coast Trail to serve coast trail users. Provide chemical or vault toilets using the best management practices and the most “up-to-date” appropriate technology to reduce odors.
2. Trail Improvements
 - Improve Segments of Coast Trail especially on the parcel to the north .
 - Close ad hoc trails to vehicle traffic.
 - Construct new trail connecting through the property. Improve road alignments for use as trails.
3. Viewpoint Improvements:
 - Construct chemical or vault toilet using the best management practices and the most “up-to-date” appropriate technology to reduce odors for use in relation to viewpoint or viewpoint access..
 - Construct Wildlife Observation Plaza- Construct an open decked railed platform for whale watching or wildlife viewing at viewpoint. (2 alternate sites)
 - Improve vehicular access and maneuvering area in parking lots for RVs by enlarging parking area

Natural, Scenic and Cultural Resource Management Guidelines - Cape Sebastian - Cape Sebastian State Scenic Corridor

Forest Management: Implement tailored thinning actions on young, overly dense second growth.

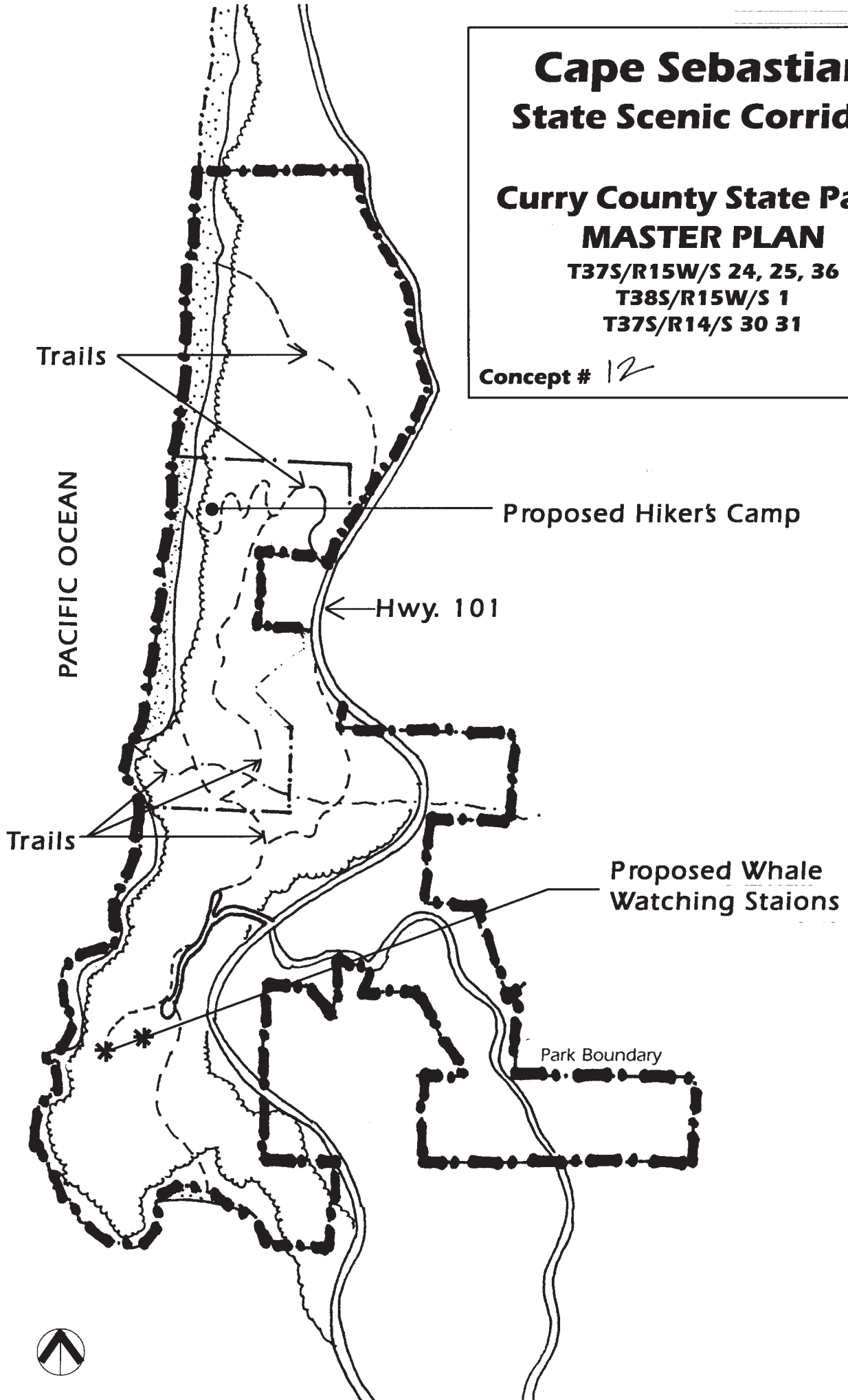
Control Invasive Species: As in all the State Parks non-native species are of concern here and if funds and effective management techniques become available the removal of non-native species from headlands and beaches would be advisable. The Scots broom area located south of the parking area on the summit of Cape Sebastian should be eradicated to prevent its expansion.

Cape Sebastian State Scenic Corridor

Curry County State Parks MASTER PLAN

T37S/R15W/S 24, 25, 36
T38S/R15W/S 1
T37S/R14/S 30 31

Concept # 12



PISTOL RIVER STATE SCENIC VIEWPOINT

PISTOL RIVER STATE SCENIC VIEWPOINT

Existing Conditions – Pistol River State Scenic Viewpoint

Location: Pistol River State Viewpoint is located along the Oregon Coast Highway 101 at Pistol River, eleven miles south of Gold Beach.

Size: 440.05 acres

Classification: Pistol River is classified as a State Scenic Viewpoint.

Description: This viewpoint is located at the mouth of the Pistol River. Includes mouth of the river and surrounding beaches and dunes. The property consists of three parcels. The largest portion lies between the Coast Highway and the Pacific Ocean and extends from Pistol River south to Crook Point. It consists largely of rolling sand dunes next to a large beach. Adjacent lands are owned by ODOT.

The area is popular among windsurfers. Each year the national competition is held at Pistol River. Primarily the windsurfers use the ODOT pullouts and the larger of the OPRD parcels to the north. In the last few years the Meyers Creek area has emerged as a world-class windsurfing area drawing participants from around the country for an annual professional competition and participants throughout the summer. The area also has a pleasant beach with easy access for beach combing.

The park is composed largely of sandy habitats, almost entirely on partially to totally stabilized sand dunes. There are a few small areas in the southwestern portion of the park where grasslands are found on stabilized sandstone, and there is an isolated large rock supporting headland vegetation on one of the northern parcels. However, sand dune habitats including open sand, dunes stabilized by European beachgrass, baccharis or stabilized dune forests compose the majority of the vegetation.

Facilities:

- Parking Lot with views to the ocean.
- Horse Trails - Equestrian trails are available in the park. A local horse concessionaire uses the horse trails for sunset rides on the beach, in exchange for maintenance of the trails.
- Beach Access - Dunes area currently undeveloped except for an paved parking area. The park provides beach access to outstanding shoreline both north and south of the river.

Zoning: Pistol River State Viewpoint is located within the jurisdiction of Curry County. The site is zoned Public Facilities (PF). The site is impacted by several overlay zoning districts including the beach and dune overlay and the estuary overlay.

Neighborhood: Recently Crook Point ownership, to the south, was taken over by U.S. Fish and Wildlife. is the southern boundary of Pistol River Park, the Ocean is the western boundary, and Highway 101 is the eastern boundary of the entire Scenic Viewpoint. Private property is located east of Highway 101.

Acquisition and Ownership: The viewpoint was acquired between 1962 and 1969 by purchase and litigation from various owners. Martor H and Vari McKinley of Los Angeles, California gave one tract of 26 acres to the State of Oregon for park purposes in 1964. In 1969, a small tract (3.2 acres) was transferred from highway to park use.

Other Classifications: Three archaeological sites have been identified within the property boundaries. These site were eligible and nominated to the National Register of Historic Places.

Heritage Assessment - Pistol River State Scenic Viewpoint

Feature	Map Name	Description
<i>Flood Plain</i>	<i>Water Features/ Hazards & Geologic Features/ Hazards</i>	FEMA has not mapped the floodplain within this property. This map shows the approximate location of the 100 year flood plain.
<i>Active Dunes</i>	<i>Water Features/ Hazards & Geologic Features/ Hazards</i>	Foredunes and active foredunes are associated with spits and mouth of the river. The Pistol River creates a constantly changing environment of dunes and ephemeral ponds formed where the water table is seasonally high.
<i>Beach</i>	<i>Water Features/ Hazards & Geologic Features/ Hazards</i>	A beach is located along the coastline as is associated with the active foredunes.
<i>Slump Topography</i>	<i>Water Features/ Hazards & Geologic Features/ Hazards</i>	No slump topography is present on this property. Dune erosion occurs when the river runs to the south.
<i>Tsunami</i>	<i>Water Features/ Hazards & Geologic Features/ Hazards</i>	The tsunami inundation boundary generally follows the top of the cliff, however here at the mouth of the Pistol River the boundary moves inland, affecting the north end of the park. To north of the park the smaller, disconnected parcels are inundated during a tsunami event.
<i>Water Features</i>	<i>Water Features/ Hazards & Geologic Features/ Hazards</i>	The Pistol River is the primary water feature. Ephemeral ponds are also present to the north of the river primarily on ODOT right-of-way.
<i>Wetlands</i>	<i>Wetlands</i>	Due to the sandy soils, and the fairly steep slopes, wetlands are not an important part of the vegetation of Pistol River State Scenic Viewpoint. There are some large, high quality wetlands on some of the isolated northern units of the viewpoint, which have not been included on the main overlay. These wetlands include ponds, emergent marshes, and the more common Hooker willow–mixed shrub dominated dune wetlands.
<i>Wildlife</i>	<i>Wildlife</i>	Potential snowy plover habitat in the future.
<i>Protected Species</i>	<i>Protected Species</i>	Several protected plant species occur here.

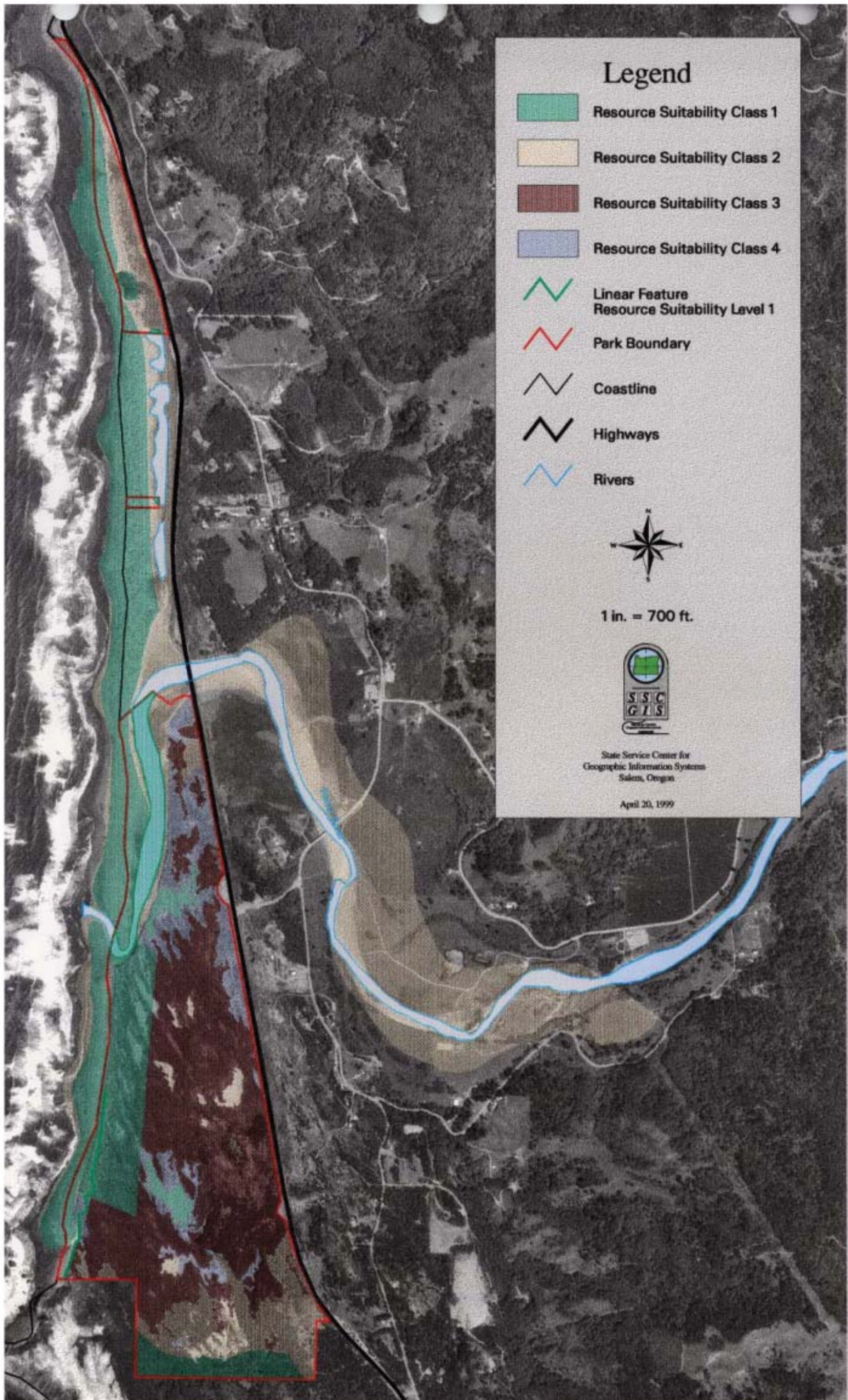
Feature	Map Name	Description
<i>Plant Communities</i>	<i>Vegetative Cover</i>	At the turn of the last century, the Pistol River State Scenic Viewpoint was probably almost entirely open, exposed dunes with small areas stabilized by native grasses and forbs. The planting of European beachgrass has created a large foredune with a very steep face. As a result, the park is composed largely of European beachgrass dunes, coniferous forests dominated by Sitka spruce and shorepine and open shrublands dominated by baccharis or tree lupine with a dense European beachgrass understory. There are some open blowouts and sandy bowls with native sand binders and rare plants, but these are local and fairly small. There are a number of small wetlands, grasslands dominated by introduced species, and very large areas of open sandy beach as well.
<i>Geology/ Topography</i>	<i>Dogami Info & USGS Quad</i>	The park is composed largely of sandy habitats, almost entirely on partially to totally stabilized sand dunes. There are a few small areas in the southwestern portion of the park where grasslands are found on stabilized sandstone, and there is an isolated large rock supporting headland vegetation on one of the northern parcels.
<i>Cultural Resources</i>	<i>Historic and Cultural Resources</i>	Several National Register listed archaeological sites are located within this parcel.

Recreation Needs - Pistol River








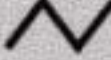

- Sail boarding competition occurred here. Many participants sought near by camping which is sheltered, particularly out of the wind
- Equestrian uses
- Coast Trail connection through the property.
- Continued beach access.

Resource Suitability - Pistol River

Approximately 65% of the park is suitability Level 3 due to invasion of European Beachgrass and other non-native species. The remainder of the site is either developed or important (level 1) due to the site's cultural significance.



Legend

-  Resource Suitability Class 1
-  Resource Suitability Class 2
-  Resource Suitability Class 3
-  Resource Suitability Class 4
-  Linear Feature
Resource Suitability Level 1
-  Park Boundary
-  Coastline
-  Highways
-  Rivers



1 in. = 700 ft.



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April 20, 1999

Pistol River State Park
Composite Suitability Map

Issues - Pistol River State Scenic Viewpoint

- Explore interpretation opportunities at trailhead and along trails.
- Prehistoric interpretation - needs to be done in manner that protects the resource
- Need to accommodate wind surfing events in the area
- Some preferred this park for walk-in camping. Others did not.
- Many support connecting the Coast Trail through agreements to the south - To what degree should access to Crook Point be emphasized

Goals - Pistol River State Scenic Viewpoint

Goal I - Protect and Enhance Important Natural, Cultural and Scenic Resources

- A. Monitor condition of archaeological sites and document changes.

Goal II - Improve Maintenance, Management and Rehabilitation

- A. Maintain parking lot.

Goal III - Use Partnerships to Implement Goals

- A. Coordinate with USFW regarding appropriate access to Crook Point
- B. Continue partnership with concessionaire providing equestrian access to park.
- C. Continue cooperation with ODOT and law enforcement during windsurfing competition.

Goal IV - Improve Access and Orientation

- A. None planned, except special highway pulloff designations and allowed uses during competition.

Goal V - Provide for Recreation Needs

- A. Continue beach access and trailhead.
- B. Provide better staging accommodations for windsurfing competition in cooperation with ODOT.

Goal VI - Improve Disabled Access

- A. New facilities will only allow challenging access due to primitive amenity level and sandy soils.

Goal VII - Improve Interpretive and Educational Opportunities

- A. Provide interpretive panel at trailhead.

Goal VIII. - Outside the Park

- A. Identify Crook Point as an Area of Concern in regard to Coast Trail extension.
- B. Identify excess ODOT right of way between OPRD parcels and adjacent as Areas of Concern.

Development Concepts - Pistol River State Scenic Viewpoint

1. Improve Equestrian Facilities

- Provide appropriate signage on highway and a chemical or vault toilet using the best management practices and the most “up-to-date” appropriate technology to reduce odors

2. Designate Staging Area For Sail Boarding Events.
3. Coast Trail Connection Over Crook Point
 - Design to avoid sensitive areas.
4. Coordinate With ODOT On Way-finder Station Construction

Natural, Scenic and Cultural Resource Management Guidelines - Pistol River - Pistol River State Scenic Viewpoint

Crook Point Cooperation: The very south end of the Scenic Viewpoint is adjacent to Crook Point, an area recently acquired by The Nature Conservancy for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as an addition to their Oregon Islands Wildlife Refuge. This area is extremely important to seabirds, marine mammals, and general marine and intertidal habitats. The limited access is an important reason for the high wildlife density of this site. Keep Coast Trail connection close to highway through this segment.

Monitor archaeological sites: Monitor and document changes.

SAMUEL BOARDMAN STATE SCENIC CORRIDOR

SAMUEL BOARDMAN STATE SCENIC CORRIDOR

Existing Conditions – Samuel Boardman State Scenic Corridor

Location: The corridor is located on the Oregon Coast Highway 101, between Brookings and Pistol River.

Size: 1,471.01 acres

Classification: Boardman is classified as a state scenic corridor to protect corridors and viewpoints along the state highway.

Description: This property is located in one of the most scenic sections of the Oregon coast. It has rugged shoreline backed by high-forested bluffs and indented by steep-walled canyons opening on small sandy beaches. There are several day use areas along the Coast Highway and within this park, some with beach access and trailhead access to the Oregon Coast Trail. Samuel Boardman State Scenic Corridor is considered the longest continuous stretch of public ally owned oceanfront land on the Oregon Coast being approximately 12 miles in length. Defining features include Arch Rock, House Rock, Lone Ranch Beach and Whaleshead Cove.

Boardman State Scenic Corridor includes a diversity of habitats, including forests, riparian zones, headlands and cliffs, and sandy habitats. Headlands and rocky shores occupy much of the park along the coast and forested habitats with Sitka spruce, Douglas-fir and red alder occupy most of the site inland.

Because no place in the park is further than 0.25 mile (0.4 km) from Highway 101 -- few areas in the park escape disturbance from its impacts. Highway viewpoints, popular headlands and a few beaches receive heavy tourist use. The Coast Trail, which winds through most of the park west of Highway 101, receives light hiker use along most of its length with sections near popular headlands receiving moderate use. Forested areas east of Highway 101 and headlands and beaches with difficult access receive minor visitation. The forest supports successional red alder or young Sitka spruce forests. High quality old growth areas remain in the park. The presence of non-native species (European beachgrass on the beach, non-native grasses and forbs on the headlands, and gorse on some shrublands) continues to have major impacts on these oceanside plant associations.

Facilities: Samuel Boardman State Scenic Corridor facilities include a series off vehicular pullouts. The pullouts serve as viewpoints, trailheads, beach access, picnic areas, and restroom facilities. These pullouts are described below from north to south:

- Arch Rock View Point - Pull-Out Area
- Arch Rock Picnic Area - Picnic Area, Viewpoint
- Spruce Island- Pull-out contains a small parking area with views to a series of rocky islands.
- Thunder Rock Cove-Trailhead, parking lot

- Natural Bridges Trailhead - This site contains a small parking lot. A spectacular view of a cove with natural bridges from a viewing platform, accessed by a short hike, attracts visitors
- North Island Trail Viewpoint - Pull-out, trailhead
- Thomas Creek Bridge Trailhead - Gravel parking lot, trailhead, views to Thomas Creek canyon and bridge. Thomas Creek Canyon is some of 350 feet deep and is spanned by the highest highway bridges in Oregon.
- Indian Sands Beach - Natural area, parking lot and beach access
- Whaleshead Beach - Beach access, parking lot, toilets, picnic tables, access drive located below highway 101.
- Whaleshead Viewpoint - View point and trail access
- House Rock Viewpoint - Parking and access to the Sam Boardman memorial, trail access, entrance drive, forested bluff, rock walls and World war II defense facilities. Views to the ocean are being impaired by vegetation.
- Cape Ferrelo Viewpoint - This site is accessed by a short drive and small hike to viewpoint that is a grassy headland with views to Brookings and to California
- Lone Ranch Beach – picnic area, visible from Hwy. 101 beach access, bathrooms. archaeological sites.

Zoning: The Samuel A. Boardman State Scenic Corridor is located within the jurisdiction of Curry County. The site is zoned Public Facility (PF). Several overlay zoning designation effect the parcel. These overlays include the coastal shoreland overlay and the beach and dune overlay, and the natural hazards overlay.

Other Classifications: Samuel A. Boardman State Scenic Corridor contains the Indian Sands Natural Heritage Site. Indian Sands contains very small but good quality examples of two of the rarest and most threatened ecosystems in the south coast: grand fir-Sitka spruce coastal forest and red fescue coastal headland grasslands. It has important habitat for some rare plants and animals, and is a very good example of a coastal natural area in an area which has been extensively developed.

The scenic corridor contains several archaeological sites listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Neighborhood: The Scenic Corridor is surrounded by the Pacific Ocean to the west and forest land to the east. Boardman State Scenic Corridor is located north of Brookings and extends for approximately 12 miles (16 km) along the Pacific Ocean. Highway 101 usually provides the eastern boundary of the park, although the park extends up slope east of Highway 101 in a few areas.

Ownership: The land for this park was acquired mostly between 1949 and 1957 by purchase from private owners and the US Bureau of Land Management. In 1950, Borax Consolidates, Ltd., of London, England, gave 304.10 acres for the park and 62.90 acres for the right-of-way on the relocated Oregon Coast Highway. Many of the tracts contained reservation for the removal of timber and sheep grazing. The Oregon Coast Highway bisects the park.

Heritage Assessment - Samuel Boardman State Scenic Corridor

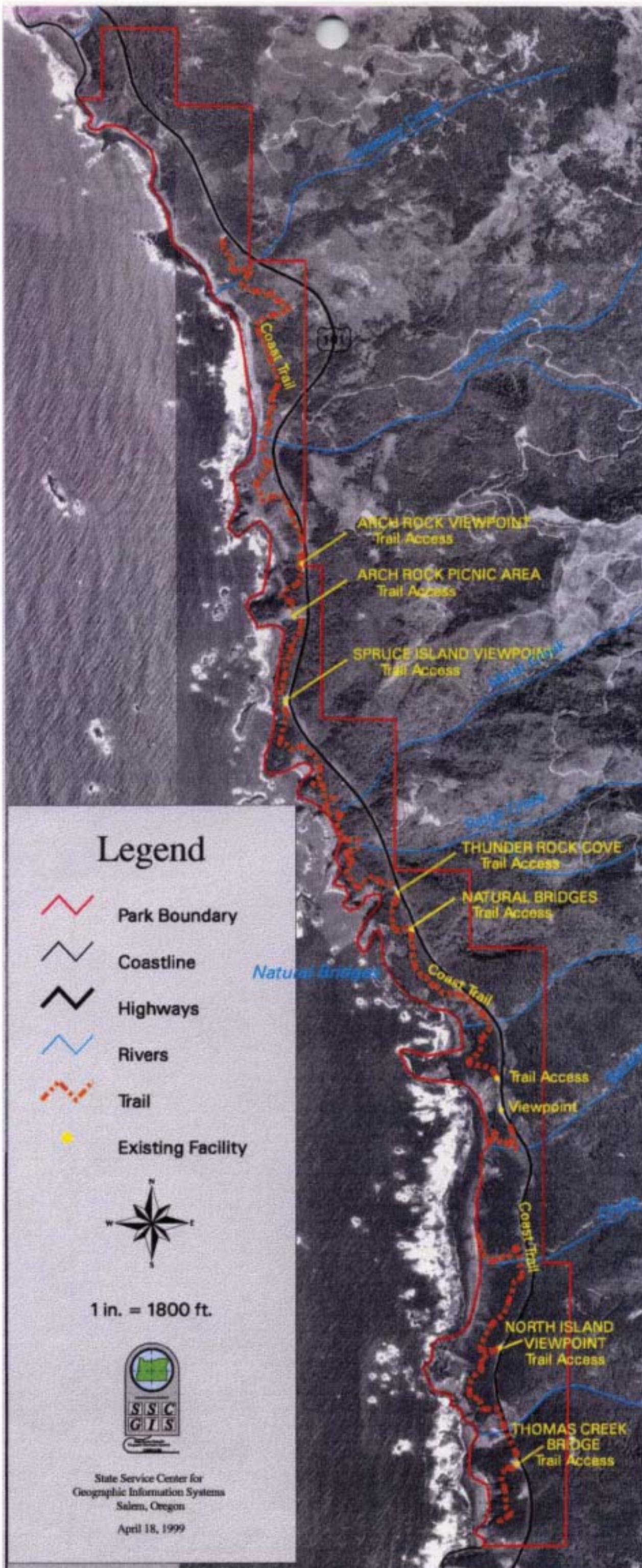
Feature	Map Name	Description
<i>Flood Plain</i>	<i>Water Features/Hazards & Geologic Features/Hazards</i>	No FEMA mapping is available for this park.
<i>Active Dunes</i>	<i>Water Features/ Hazards & Geologic Features/Hazards</i>	No active dune areas are present in this park.
<i>Beach</i>	<i>Water Features/ Hazards & Geologic Features/Hazards</i>	Small isolated beaches are located along the coastline.
<i>Slump Topography</i>	<i>Water Features/ Hazards & Geologic Features/Hazards</i>	A large area of slump topography is located north of Hooskanaden Creek. Another area is located on the Hillside to east of Whaleshead Cove. A portion of Cape Ferrello is subject to slump.
<i>Tsunami</i>	<i>Water Features/ Hazards & Geologic Features/Hazards</i>	The tsunami inundation boundary generally follows the top of the cliffs.
<i>Water Features</i>	<i>Water Features/ Hazards & Geologic Features/Hazards</i>	Several draingages traverse the property. The stream include the following: Whiskey Creek, Hooskanaden Creek, Miner Creek, Wridge Creek, China Creek, Whaleshead Creek, Coon Creek, Bowman Creek, House Rock Creek, Lone Ranch Creek, and Ram Creek.
<i>Wetlands</i>	<i>Wetlands</i>	<p>Wetlands are scattered sporadically along the length of Boardman State Scenic Corridor. Most of the park is too steep to support wetland vegetation. Some of the red alder/salmonberry (<i>Alnus rubra/Rubus spectabilis</i>) wetlands along streams are high quality. At the north end of the Park a small pond has a fringe of herbaceous emergent wetlands vegetation, fed by a stream supporting a willow wetland. There is also a small Hooker willow swamp at the south end of the Park. The Sitka spruce-grand fir/salmonberry (<i>Picea sitchensis-Abies grandis/Rubus spectabilis</i>) forest north of Deer Point contains many small streams and is mostly wetland.</p> <p>Inside a red alder/salmonberry polygon mapped at the mouth of Whaleshead Creek there is a small amount of willow wetlands adjacent to the Creek and a smallfruit bulrush and giant horsetail marsh. These areas are too small to map and were included in the mapped red alder/salmonberry community.</p> <p>Upstream clearcuts have negatively impacted some of these riparian zones by the deposition of large quantities of sediments. Also, the construction of Highway 101 and culverts for streams going under the highway strongly affected hydrological regimes and thereby impacted many streams and their respective riparian zones and wetlands.</p>
<i>Wildlife</i>	<i>Wildlife</i>	Includes important marine, intertidal and forest habitats.
<i>Protected Species</i>	<i>Protected Species</i>	The are various protected plant communities located within the park.
<i>Plant Communities</i>	<i>Vegetative Cover</i>	The length and diverse topography of the Park yields a wide variety of plant associations. The site includes coniferous forests largely dominated by Sitka spruce, with Douglas-fir and shore pine forests less frequent. These forests include both high quality old growth forests and areas that were highgraded. Forested riparian zones and logged over successional areas are largely dominated by red alder. Exposed shrubland, grassland and forbland associations occur on headlands and less frequently on the beach.
<i>Geology/ Topography</i>	<i>Dogami Info & USGS Quad</i>	Steep rocky headlands.
<i>Cultural Resources</i>	<i>Historic and Cultural Resources</i>	Several National Register listed archaeological sites are located within this parcel.

Recreation Needs - Samuel Boardman State Scenic Corridor

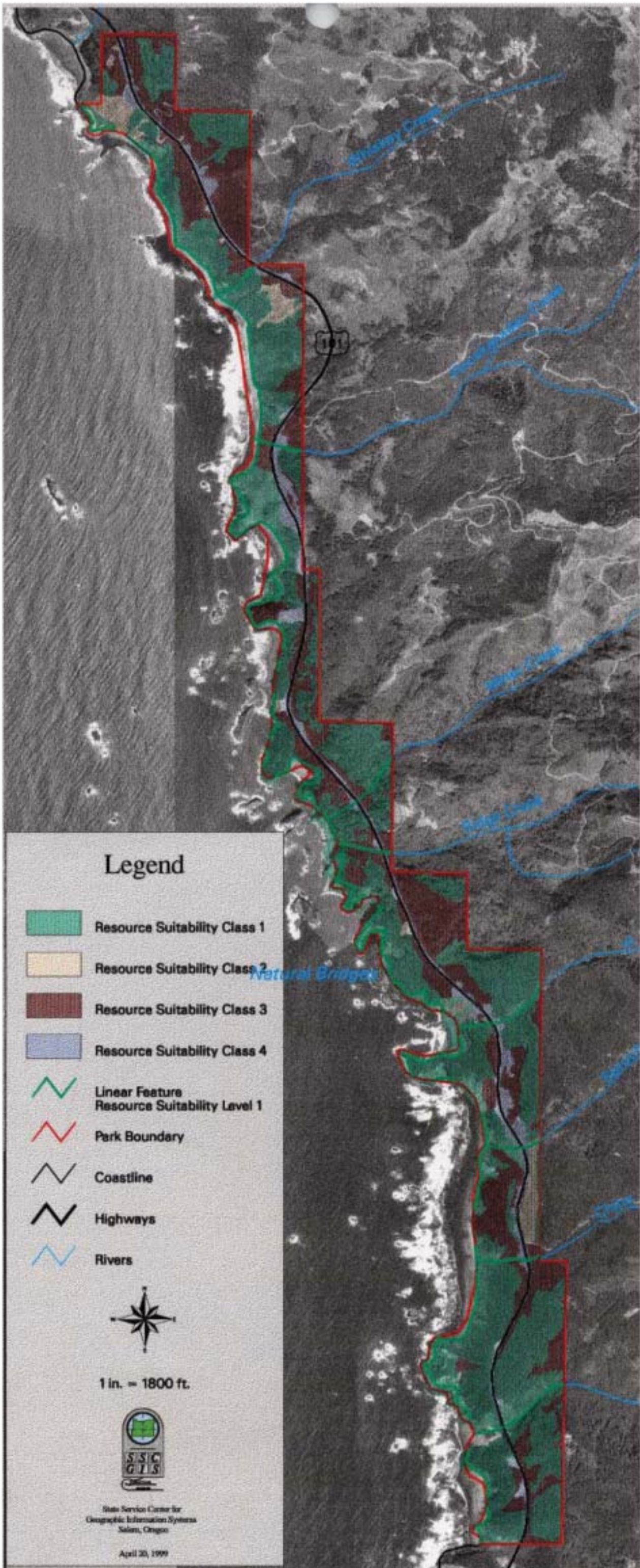
Trails, beach access and nature observation

Resource Suitability - Samuel Boardman State Scenic Corridor

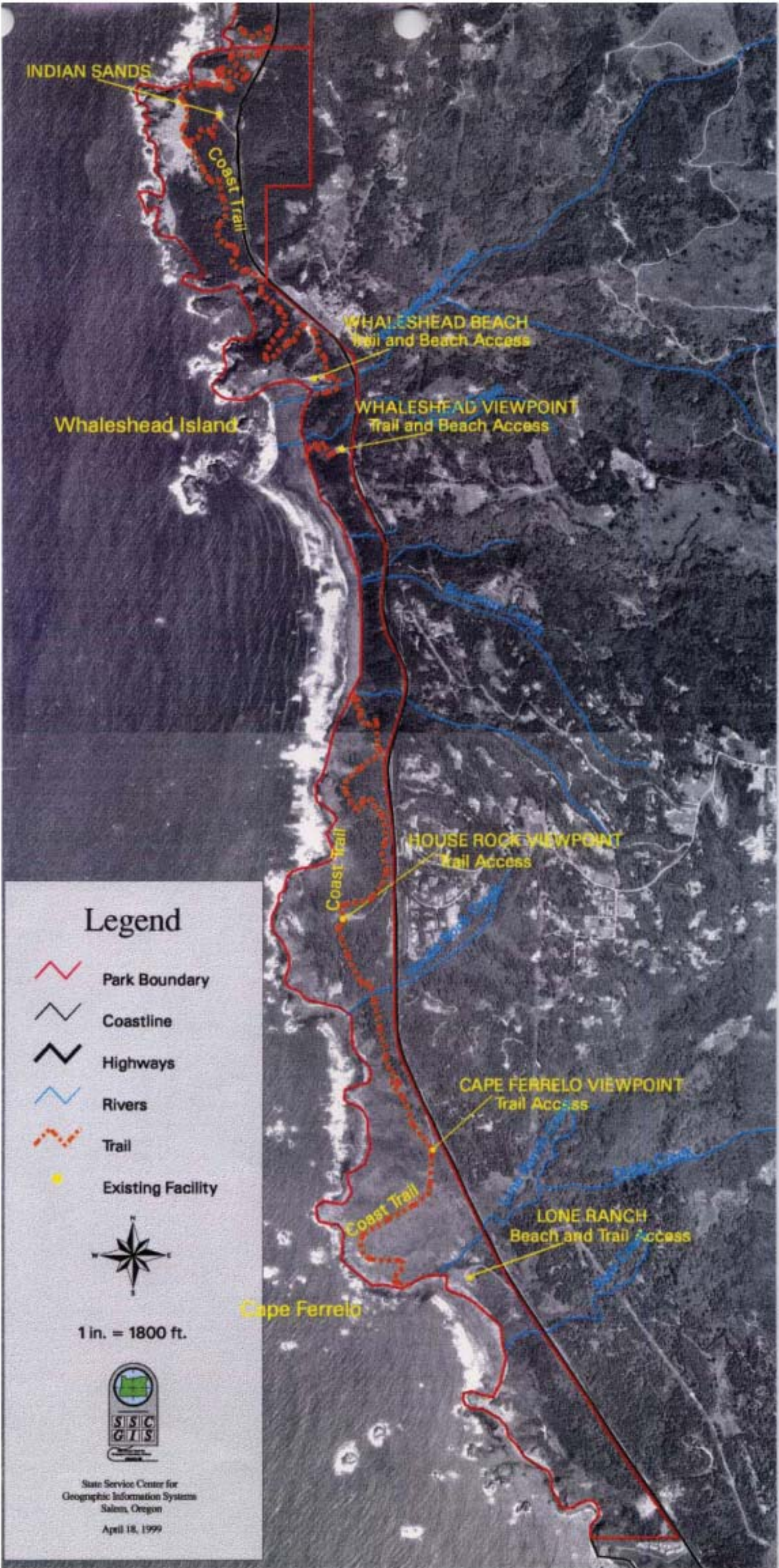
Much of this park is in protected designations except for existing developed areas, and scattered areas of gorse or other non-native plants.

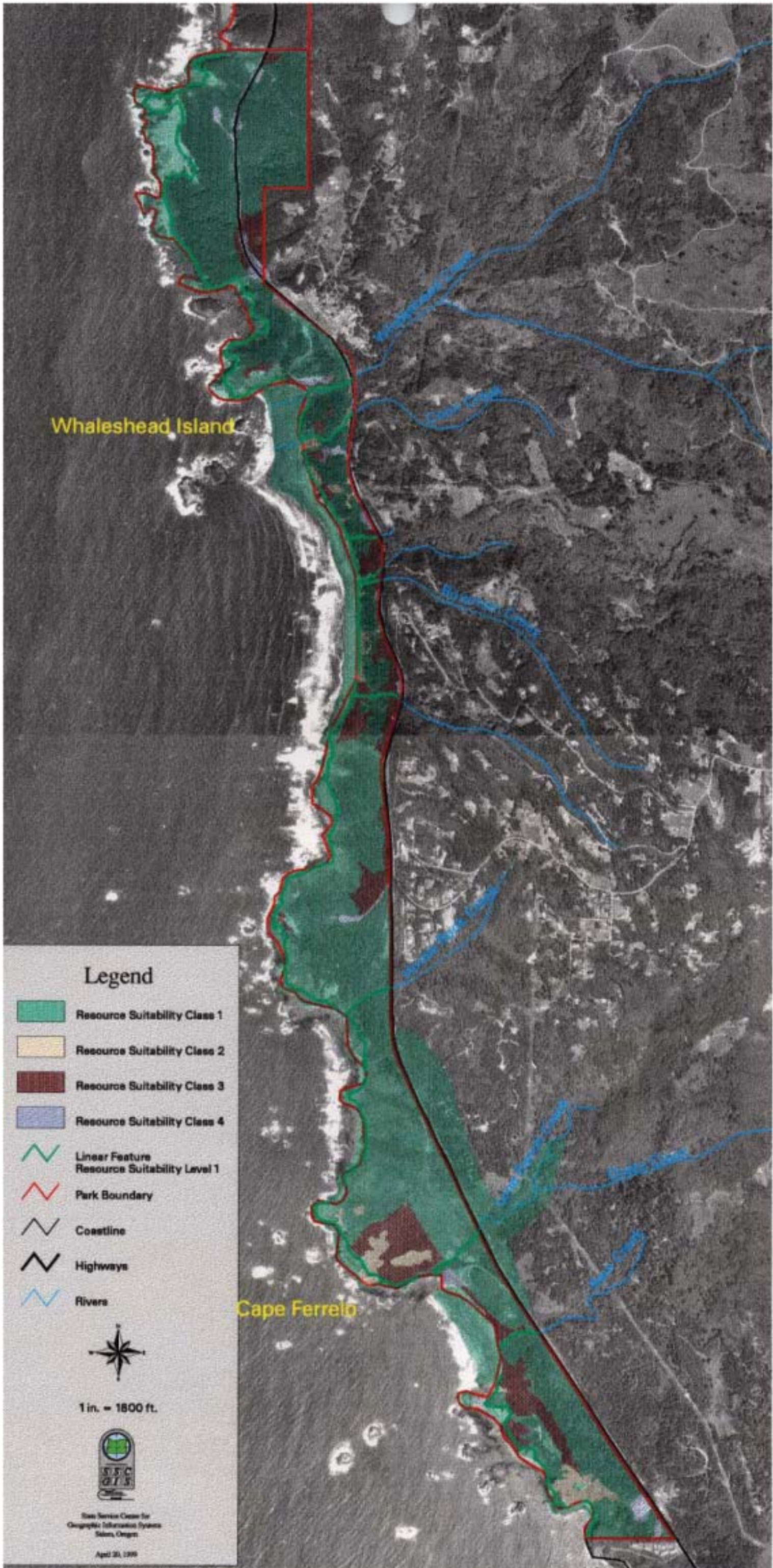


Samuel H. Boardman State Scenic Corridor, North
Existing Facilities



**Samuel H. Boardman State Scenic Corridor, North
Composite Suitability Map**





**Samuel H. Boardman State Scenic Corridor, South
Composite Suitability Map**

Issues - Samuel Boardman State Scenic Corridor

- Fix trails where needed. Provide some needed connections.
- Support for improvements to trailhead pull-offs, including signage, maps and better designation from the highway.
- Need to close some unsafe service roads and renegade trails.
- Vegetation management to restore views.
- See comments on the Canopy Walk Discovery Center in the Chapter VIII., Issues.
- Need better trail maps for the Coast Trail.

Goals - Samuel Boardman State Scenic Corridor

Goal I - Protect and Enhance Important Natural, Cultural and Scenic Resources

- A. Monitor archaeological sites and document changes.
- B. Implement needed forest management actions to increase habitat value and/or to restore selected views.
- C. Provide headland grassland enhancements.

Goal II - Improve Maintenance, Management and Rehabilitation

- A. Maintain existing facilities as a priority.

Goal III - Use Partnerships to Implement Goals

- A. Work with volunteers to maintain trails.

Goal IV - Improve Access and Orientation

- A. Provide better orienting signage, brochure maps and parking lot improvements for trailhead pull-outs.

Goal V - Provide for Recreation Needs

- A. Continue to provide numerous accesses to beach and Coast Trail. Improve trailheads.

Goal VI - Improve Disabled Access

- A. For current use, access will continue to be challenging due to topo and shrub cover.

Goal VII - Improve Interpretive and Educational Opportunities

- A. Provide interpretive panels at key trailheads and viewpoints.

Goal VIII. - Outside the Park

- A. Consider trading storage yard for needed ODOT property.
- B. Participate in land use approvals for Borax property development. Request screening from Highway view, pedestrian crossing, adequate highway intersection, attractive signage and support for parking expansion at Lone Ranch Beach.

Development Concepts - Samuel Boardman State Scenic Corridor

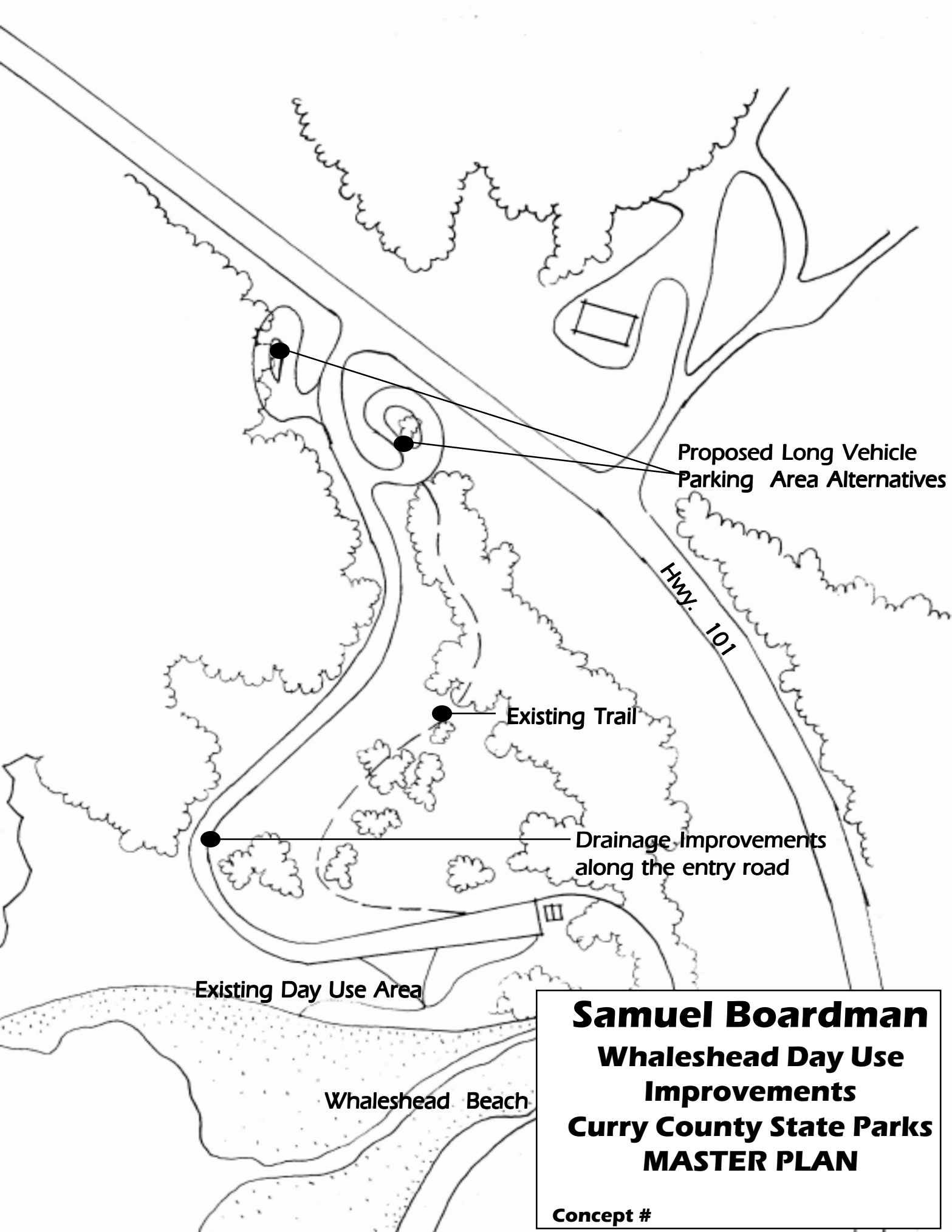
1. Construct Trailhead Signs That Give Information About Length And Relative Difficulty
2. Spruce Island Viewpoint
 - Improve pullout
 - Add left-turn lane
3. Thunder Rock Cove
 - Improve pull out
4. Thomas Creek Bridge
 - Construct observation platform with Interpretive sign looking back at the highest bridge in the state at Thomas Creek
 - Restore hogsback trail below and terraced path to view bridge
 - Improve parking area
5. Indian Sands Viewpoint
 - Add signs to warn of high winds and unstable footing at viewpoint
6. Cape Ferello
 - Interpret archaeology and industrial history, whale watching station
7. Rainbow Rock
 - Interpret striations that give rock peculiar colors (ODOT pulloff)
8. Close Informal Pull Offs
9. Consider Some Expansion Of Lone Ranch Beach Access Parking In Connection With The Borax Property

Natural, Scenic and Cultural Resource Management Guidelines - Samuel Boardman State Scenic Corridor

Forest and Scenic Management: Work with ODOT to identify needed actions and correct places for tree thinning and selective removal to improve habitat values and restore important views.

Twenty view management units have been identified within Samuel Boardman State Scenic Corridor. Then OPRD forester and park manager have visited the sites and prepared a report. This report documents each of the view management units, describes management techniques, special considerations such as the Coast Trail or proximity to the highway, estimates the amount and gives a net cost for removal.

Monitor archaeological Sites: Document any changes.



Proposed Long Vehicle
Parking Area Alternatives

Hwy. 101

Existing Trail

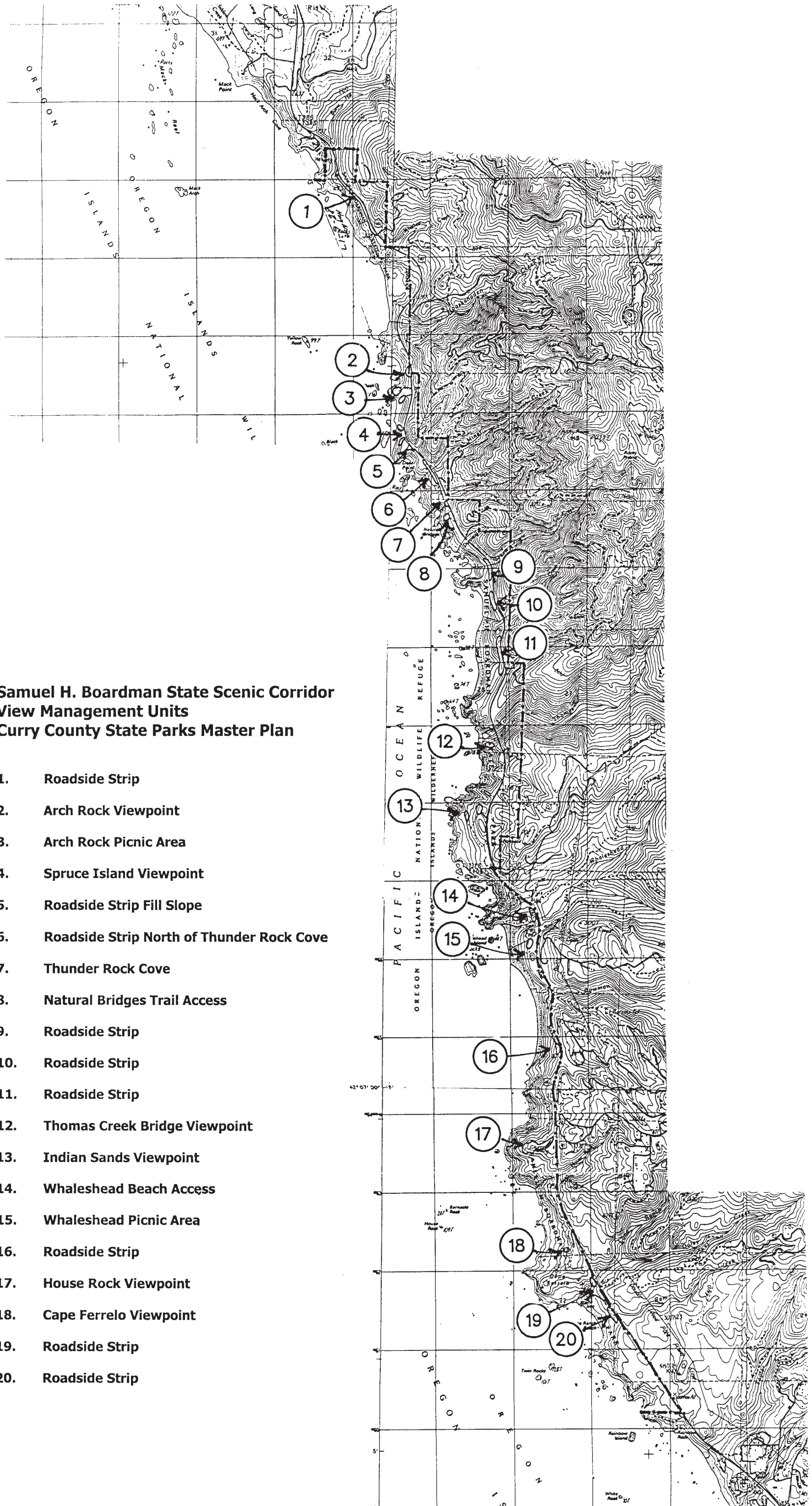
Drainage Improvements
along the entry road

Existing Day Use Area

Whaleshead Beach

**Samuel Boardman
Whaleshead Day Use
Improvements
Curry County State Parks
MASTER PLAN**

Concept #



**Samuel H. Boardman State Scenic Corridor
View Management Units
Curry County State Parks Master Plan**

1. Roadside Strip
2. Arch Rock Viewpoint
3. Arch Rock Picnic Area
4. Spruce Island Viewpoint
5. Roadside Strip Fill Slope
6. Roadside Strip North of Thunder Rock Cove
7. Thunder Rock Cove
8. Natural Bridges Trail Access
9. Roadside Strip
10. Roadside Strip
11. Roadside Strip
12. Thomas Creek Bridge Viewpoint
13. Indian Sands Viewpoint
14. Whaleshead Beach Access
15. Whaleshead Picnic Area
16. Roadside Strip
17. House Rock Viewpoint
18. Cape Ferrelo Viewpoint
19. Roadside Strip
20. Roadside Strip

HARRIS BEACH STATE RECREATION AREA

HARRIS BEACH STATE RECREATION AREA*

Existing Conditions - Harris Beach State Recreation Area

Location: The area is located off the Oregon Coast Highway 101, in the City of Brookings.

Size: 172.81 acres

Classification: Harris Beach is classified as a State Recreation Area (SRA) that provides access to recreational resources.

Description: It is one of the major coastal destination parks and provides both day use and overnight camping facilities. Special features include outstanding wildlife viewing opportunities, views of Oregon coast's largest offshore island. The principal features of the recreation area are its spectacular shoreline with offshore rocks and a prominent hill (Harris Butte) rising above the coast bluff. There are excellent coastline viewpoints in the park as well as a fine sandy beach. A large section of this park is undeveloped. The Civilian Conservation Corps made early developments in 1934 and 1935.

Harris Beach State Recreation Area is bisected by Highway 101, diagonally from the northwest to southeast. East of the highway, the Recreation Area consists of a developed area with parking lot and visitors center, and an undeveloped area composed of forest and wetland. Eiler Creek passes through the southeast corner, and flows under the parking lot in a culvert. Wetlands include a large shrub swamp and two small fens. West of Highway 101, the Recreation Area consists of a campground, Harris Butte with a hiking trail, a wooded valley along the lower reach of Harris Creek, rocky headlands, 150-foot bluffs overlooking the beach and ocean, and an access road and hiking trails leading to bluffs and the beach. A length of abandoned roadway extends north of the campground to the extreme northern boundary of the Recreation Area. A small fen was found adjacent to an old home site northeast of the campground.

Two utility corridors run through the section of the Recreation Area east of Highway 101, and both have impacted the rare fens. The first is a buried line running about 50 feet east of and parallel to Highway 101, and involved both trenching and backfilling with gravel. The second utility corridor, an overhead power line, runs diagonally through the northeastern corner of the Recreation Area. This right-of-way is kept cleared of trees, and the hydrology of the fen and shrub swamp may have been altered by construction and maintenance of the line, which passes along one side of the fen.

Intensive housing development has occurred along the northern boundary of the Recreation Area, east of Highway 101, with numerous houses immediately adjacent to the Recreation Area boundary. Development upslope is changing the hydrology of the wetlands in the park.

* Harris Beach State Recreation Area is located within the City of Brookings and therefore land use permitting is the responsibility of the City of Brookings.

Facilities: Harris Beach Recreation Area provides many opportunities for fishing, hiking, bicycling and picnicking. It has great beach access and wildlife viewing areas. The park includes overnight camping.

- **Campground:** The campground includes 34 full hook up site, 52 electrical, and 63 tent, cable TV hookups in selected campsites; 6 yurts; hiker/biker camp. The campground is connected to beach via trails.
- **Welcome Center:** To the east of the highway a large visitor center with restrooms and picnic tables. The site is popular stopping point for northbound coastal travelers. The Oregon Tourism Division runs the center.
- **Day Use:** This area contains a parking area, restrooms, and viewpoint with excellent beach.

Zoning: Harris Beach State Recreation Area is located within the jurisdiction of the City of Brookings. The site is zoned public/ open space (P/OS). A portion of the property is zoned residential.

Neighborhood: The park is situated within a residential area. The Pacific Ocean and beaches are located to the west and south of the park.

Other Classifications: Harris Beach has been designated as a Marine Garden.

Ownership: The land was purchased from various owners between 1926 and 1985.

Heritage Assessment - Harris Beach State Recreation Area

Feature	Map Name	Description
<i>Flood Plain</i>	<i>Water Features/ Hazards & Geologic Features/ Hazards</i>	No FEMA mapping is available for this park.
<i>Active Dunes</i>	<i>Water Features/ Hazards & Geologic Features/ Hazards</i>	No active dune areas are present in this park.
<i>Beach</i>	<i>Water Features/ Hazards & Geologic Features/ Hazards</i>	Yes.
<i>Slump Topography</i>	<i>Water Features/ Hazards & Geologic Features/ Hazards</i>	An area of slump topography is associated with the entrance road.
<i>Tsunami</i>	<i>Water Features/ Hazards & Geologic Features/ Hazards</i>	The tsunami inundation boundary generally follows the top of the cliffs.
<i>Water Features</i>	<i>Water Features/ Hazards & Geologic Features/ Hazards</i>	Harris and Eiler Creeks traverse the property.

Feature	Map Name	Description
<i>Wetlands</i>	<i>Wetlands</i>	Wetlands occur along the two creeks and in the low lying areas in the northeastern corner of the park. A small wetland occurs just south of the caretaker residence.
<i>Wildlife</i>	<i>Wildlife</i>	Includes important marine, intertidal and wetland habitats.
<i>Protected Species</i>	<i>Protected Species</i>	Includes two populations of western lily (<i>Lilium occidentale</i>), a federally-listed and state-listed endangered species.
<i>Plant Communities</i>	<i>Vegetative Cover</i>	High quality shrublands and forest occur outside of the developed areas of the park. Forests include Sitka spruce, Douglas fir, shore pine and alder.
<i>Geology/ Topography</i>	<i>Dogami Info & USGS Quad</i>	Relatively level marine terrace with Harris Bluff to west and lowland to north and east.
<i>Cultural Resources</i>	<i>Historic and Cultural Resources</i>	Three National Register listed archaeological sites are located within this parcel.

Recreation Needs - Harris Beach State Recreation Area

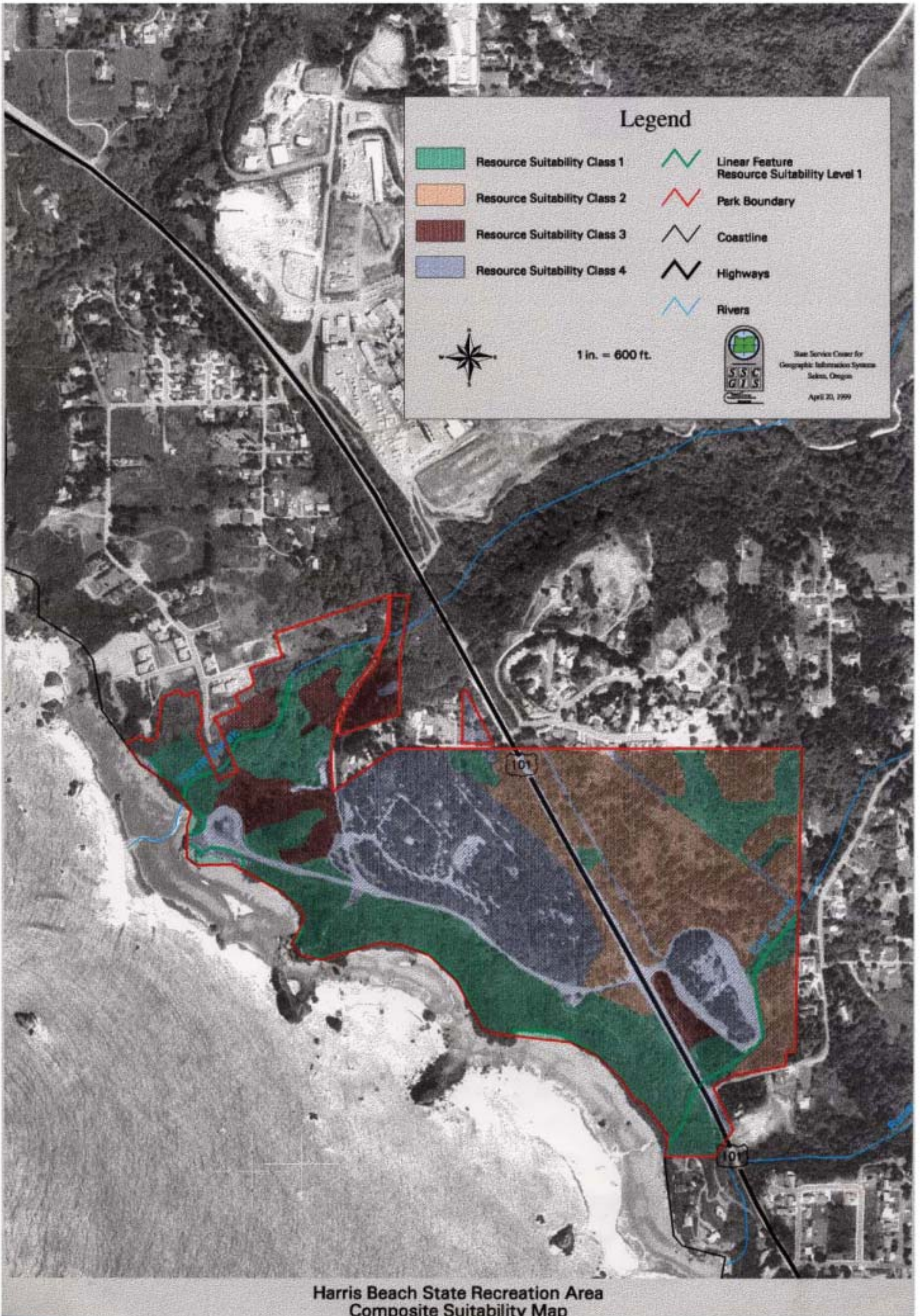
Beach access, local walking, camping, day-use, group camping, nature observation and interpretation.

Resource Suitability - Harris Beach State Recreation Area

About 2/3 of Harris Beach are designated as Suitability levels 1-2, which requires low intensity uses. The remaining area consists of some degraded woodland and the existing developed areas.

Note: The proposed shop location is located in an area designated as a suitability level 2. Typically, adopted master planning rules deem areas designated with a quality level 2 as unsuitable for development. However, in this instance the identified suitable area is less than the minimum mapping unit of 1 hectare (approximately 2 acres). A site visit determined that the identified area, less than .5 acres, would be large enough to accommodate the proposed shop yard that would take up approximately .3 acres.

(Note: North boundary on composite suitability map is shown too far to the north.)



Harris Beach State Recreation Area
Composite Suitability Map

Issues - Harris Beach State Recreation Area

- Improve/relocate group camp
- Reorganize existing camp/shop/office. Improve registration area.
- Maintenance area is located in the middle of the campground, conflicts with campers.
- Expand beach access parking
- Lily management is needed.
- Some did not want to see the Welcome Center move.
- Some concern about providing pedestrian highway crossing.
- Many did not like a store or sales area in the park. Some thought it would be ok if run by local business or, volunteers or interpretive group.
- Open up views along entrance road.
- Yurts and cabins - some people did not support
- Concern for impacts to neighboring wetlands due to development north of the Harris Beach Welcome Center

Goals - Harris Beach State Recreation Area

Goal I - Protect and Enhance Important Natural, Cultural and Scenic Resources

- A. Implement enhancement actions for protected lilies.

Goal II - Improve Maintenance, Management and Rehabilitation

- A. Make maintenance and rehab a funding priority.

Goal III - Use Partnerships to Implement Goals

- A. Consider using partners to enhance lilies.
- B. Permit non-profit organizations to operate temporary/storable concession building at the day use area.

Goal IV - Improve Access and Orientation

- A. Redesign campground by relocating registration booth and reconfiguring the access lanes.
- B. Relocate office to a more visible location near the park's entrance.

Goal V - Provide for Recreation Needs

- A. Provide an improved group camp, consider east side site if Welcome Center is moved.
- B. Rehab campground to provide for large vehicles and additional spaces.
- C. Provide camper cabin/yurt options for overnight.
- D. Move maintenance yard out of campground
- E. Redesign/expand beach access parking.
- F. Provide office in easily seen location.

Goal VI - Improve Disabled Access

- A. Seek to provide disabled beach access.

Goal VII - Improve Interpretive and Educational Opportunities

- A. Provide more interpretive signs.

Goal VIII - Outside the Park

- A. Coordinate with ODOT and the City regarding any proposed future access and/or highway improvements that may affect the park.
- B. Coordinate with the City to control Gorse in and surrounding the park.
- C. Coordinate with City of Brookings to locate an emergency access easement along the historic highway from the Dawson Tract.

Development Concepts - Harris Beach State Recreation Area

1. Expand Day Use Parking Area
 - Enlarge parking area as space provides and add parallel RV sites. Incorporate staging pad into central grassy area for OPRD designed temporary structure (100 sf max) for OPRD permitted uses by non-profit organizations for concession sales. Seek to provide disabled access to the beach.
2. Relocate Office
 - Build new office, up to 1500 s.f., near camping entrance and overflow parking. Include parking for up to 15 cars.
3. Construct New Maintenance Yard/Staff Lodging Area
 - The existing maintenance yard and park office needs to be moved from the center of the park. The proposed site is north of camping loop "B" with direct access into the park and to West Harris Heights and Highway #101 to the north.

Park facilities at with alternative will include shop buildings: 6 bays covered, 8 bay open, parking for 14-16 employees, garbage compactor, 7 -8 park vehicle parking areas, gas storage and 30' x 50' of open storage area.

At the time of construction, the portion of West Harris Heights Road from the maintenance yard access road to the Highway 101 shall be paved if not already.
4. Convert Current Maintenance/Office Area To Yurts/Cabins
 - Construct up to 5 yurts/cabins in current maintenance shop area. Provide 2 parking spaces for each yurt/cabin. Provide a group shelter up to 1000 sf.
5. Construct Cabin Area Overlooking Wetland
 - Construct up to 5 cabins on the westside of the Old Highway overlooking Harris Creek and the wetland area. Provide two parking spaces for each cabin. Also provide one group cabin that could be used for staff lodging.
6. Construct Wildlife Observation Plaza- Construct an open decked railed platform for whale watching or wildlife viewing at viewpoint.

7. Convert Existing Welcome Center Area into Group and RV camp
 - Develop 3 group camp areas to accommodate large and potentially noisy groups away from the main Harris Beach Camp Area each site contains a picnic shelter Develop existing truck parking area into group RV sites to accommodate 13-17 RVs. Work with ODOT and the City of Brookings on the development of a safe pedestrian crossing of Highway 101 and future intersection improvements. Convert existing structure into group meeting facility. Construct small meeting hall at north end of the center island. Prior to development investigate opportunities and feasibility of providing safe pedestrian crossing across Highway 101.

8. Construct Boardwalk Trail Through Wetland Area To Access Beach
 - Develop a trail from the day use parking lot north along Harris Creek, which could include a boardwalk through the low wetland area. The trail would access the beach north of the park.

9. Improve Entrance and Check- In Area
 - Move existing check-in booth south on the entrance road to a location that will allow for expansion to multiple check-in lanes including automated check-in. This expansion should shorten lines and speed up and make check-ins more efficient.
 - Improve Existing Campground
 - Replace sewer lines and hook up as needed.
 - Improvements to camp loops and parking spurs
 - Widen roads and realign pads as needed or space allows.
 - Change electrical sites to full hook up sites as needed.
 - Convert current group tent area to designated campsites at loop "E". (plus 20 sites in replacement of the existing group tent which has a max. capacity of 35 campers)
 - Convert sites near highway to extra vehicle parking (minus 14 camp sites)

Natural, Scenic and Cultural Resource Management Guidelines - Harris Beach State Recreation Area

Lily Management: The rare wetland plant associations, and their populations of western lily have been affected by overhead and buried utility lines running through the eastern half of the Recreation Area. The fen just east of Highway 101 was affected by construction of a buried line running about 50 feet east of and parallel to Highway 101. Construction involved trenching and backfilling with gravel. The second utility corridor, an overhead power line, runs diagonally through the fen in the northeastern corner of the Recreation Area. The right-of-way along this line is kept cleared of trees, and the hydrology of the fen and shrub swamp may have been altered by construction activity. . More vigilance is needed by State Parks to avoid these conflicts. The management plan should clearly identify the presence of these resources so that all managers and planners are made aware of them. Partnerships may need to be developed to ensure habitat maintenance. Some form of management may eventually be needed to control invasion of woody species in lily habitat.

Gorse Control: Despite the excellent job of cutting gorse in three areas along lower Harris Creek northwest of the campground, the stumps are resprouting vigorously. These stands will revert to dense gorse cover in short order unless prompt action is taken to kill the plants with herbicide or by burning, or a combination of such practices. Coordinate with the City of Brookings and neighboring property owners to control Gorse both within and outside the park boundaries.

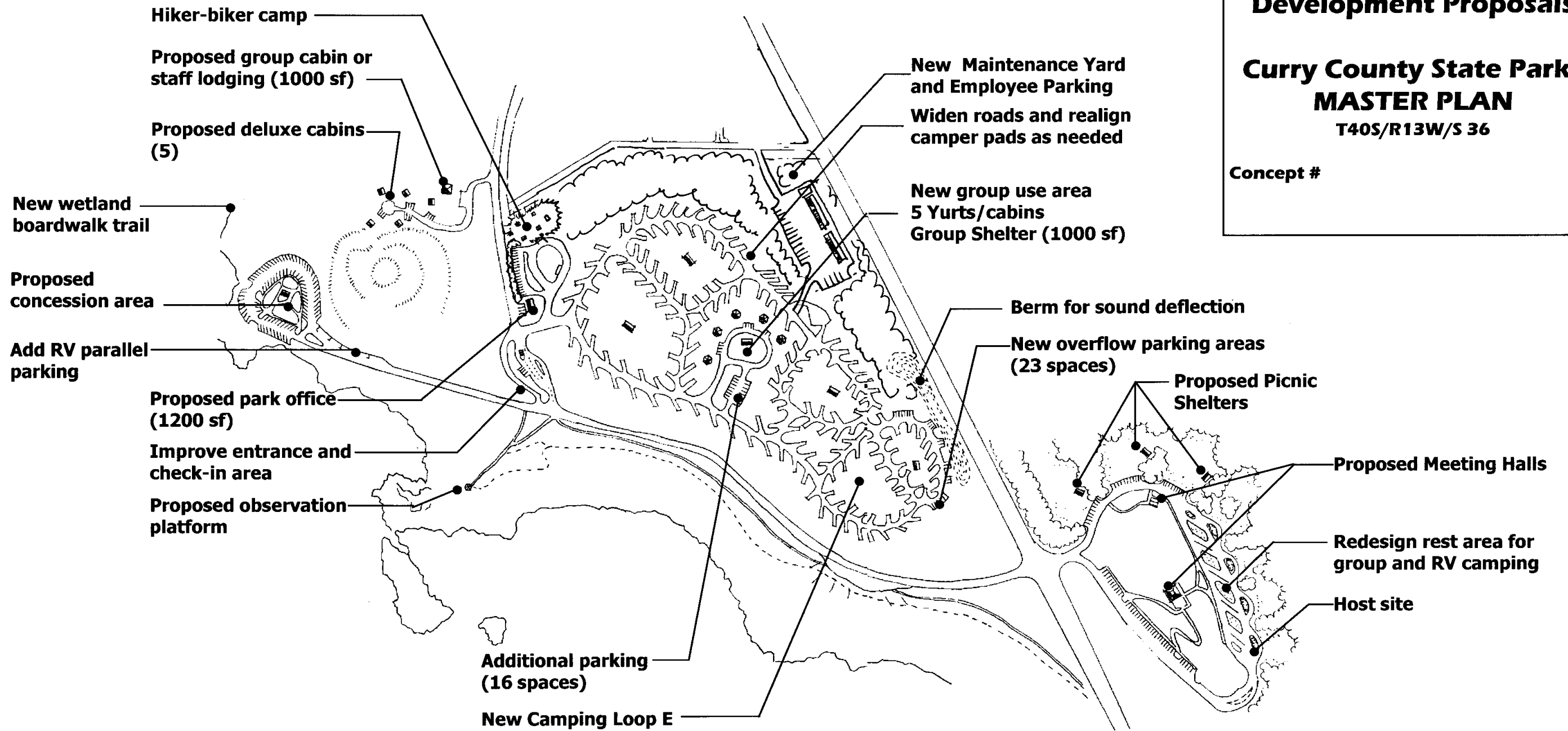
View Management: Clear select views to ocean along entrance road into the park with appropriate vegetation management techniques. Select vistas should be considered. This work should coordinate with the City of Brookings efforts to open up views along the adjacent ODOT right of way.

Harris Beach State Recreation Area Development Proposals

Curry County State Parks MASTER PLAN

T40S/R13W/S 36

Concept #



McVAY ROCK STATE RECREATION SITE

MCVAY ROCK STATE RECREATION SITE

Existing Conditions - McVay Rock State Recreation Site

Location: This site is located off of the Oregon Coast Highway on a county road, approximately two miles south of the city of Brookings.

Size: 18.09 acres

Classification: The property is currently not signed on Highway 101 or on the county road. It is currently primarily known and used by local residents. However, the property is important for providing future, general public access to the beach between the Harbor access and the Winchuck River. As such it should be signed on Highway 101 and the county road as McVay Rock State Recreation Site.

Description: McVay Rock is well loved by the local community as a beach access and as an opportunity for typical day use activities. Popular activities such as picnicking, walking on the beach, nature enjoyment, general play in open areas and walking dogs are enjoyed by local residents.

The site is generally open and flat with steep bluffs and rocky outcrops at the shoreline. McVay Creek runs through the tract.

McVay Rock is located on a marine terrace immediately adjacent to the ocean. With the exception of an old hedgerow of shore pine there are virtually no trees present. The north half of the park is mostly mowed field dominated by Eurasian forage species, and was presumably once a farm field. The field is studded with four large and three or four small rock outcrops resembling sea stacks. Vegetation on these rocks is typical of headlands and sea stacks along this part of the coast, and a population of dudleya, a species once thought to be rare.

Facilities: The site has a gravel parking lot and a mowed day use area with access to the beach.

Zoning: The site is located within the jurisdiction of Curry County. The site is zoned as Public Facilities (PF). Several zoning overlays affect this parcel including the coastal shoreland overlay and the beach and dune overlay.

Other Classifications: None

Ownership: The site is currently owned by OPRD. The park was obtained by purchase from private owners between 1970 and 1974 for public access to the beach.

Neighborhood: The site is located within a residential and agricultural landscape. The neighboring area is famous for lily production. To the north and south of the property are residential uses. Agricultural uses are located to the east of the property. The beach and Pacific Ocean are located to the west of the property.

Heritage Assessment - McVay Rock State Recreation Site

McVay Rock has no important or protected resources. There are no serious flooding or landslide hazards. Terrace and gully erosion is occurring. Tsunami would extend to the top of the terrace.

Recreation Needs - McVay Rock State Recreation Site

Open space, day use and beach access.

Resource Suitability - McVay Rock State Recreation Site

This site has some small areas of level 1 Suitability designations, restricting development. (The rocks, cliff and creek.) The remainder of the site is suitable for development.



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2	2

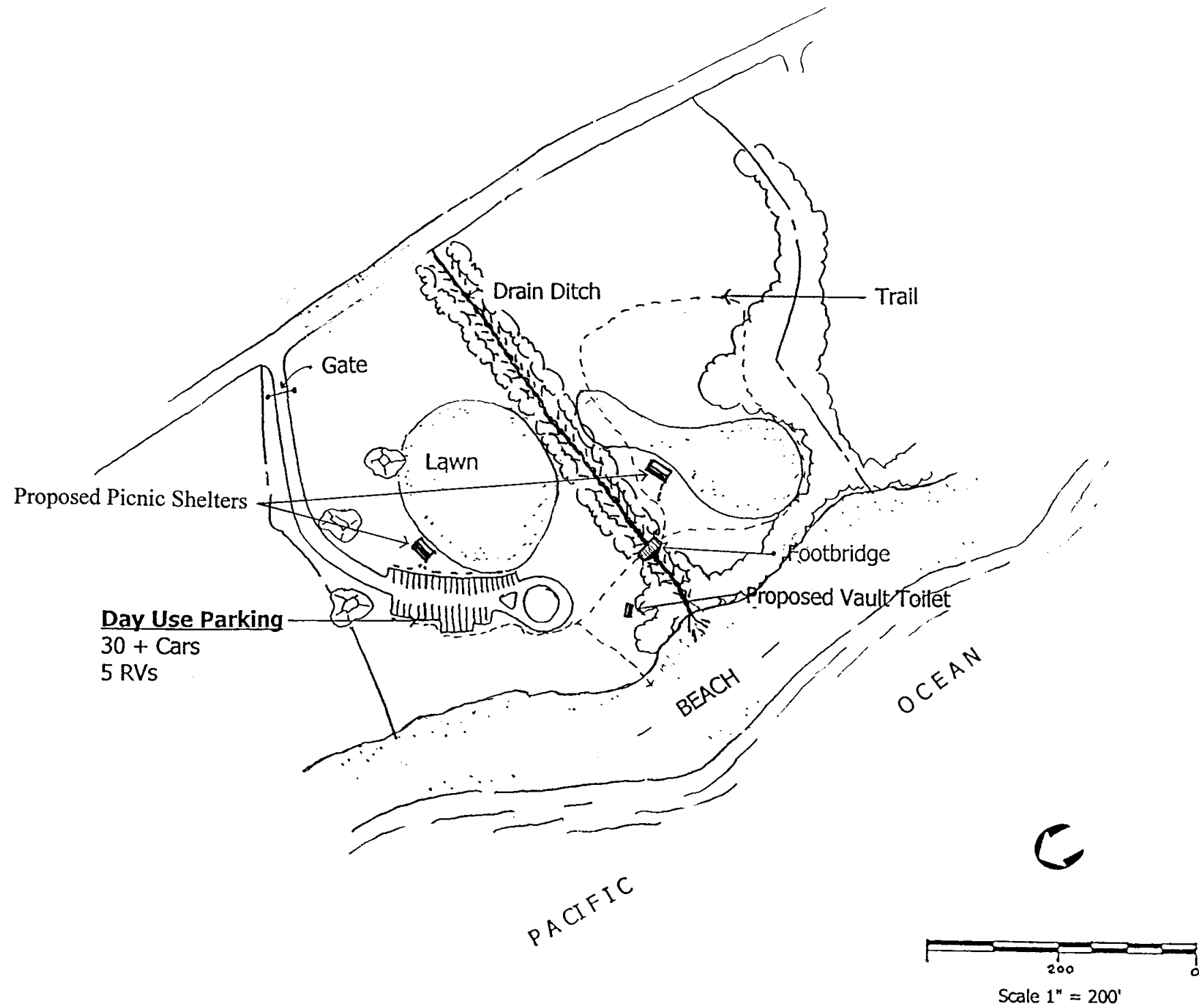
McVay Rock State Recreation Site

Composite Suitability

Curry County State Parks
MASTER PLAN



Scale 1" = 200'



**McVay State
Recreation Site**
Day Use Improvements

Curry County State Parks
MASTER PLAN
T41S/R13W/S 22

Concept # 16

Issues - McVay Rock State Recreation Site

- Keep as beach access and day use.
- Discontinue agriculture uses.
- Fix erosion.
- Provide visitor facilities such as toilet and picnic shelters.
- Redevelop south half of property or keep for park use.
- Security and supervision are important to neighbors.
- Access to beach at McVay is not obvious. Those new to the site scramble down the bank.
- Consider replanting the extra land in lily fields.
- Not a lot of beach accesses in Brookings.
- People use the grassy filed area. OPRD should retain this property.
- Sell off excess property if not needed for recreation.

Goals - McVay Rock State Recreation Site

Goal I - Protect and Enhance Important Natural, Cultural and Scenic Resources

- A. Pursue solutions to the gully erosion.

Goal II - Improve Maintenance, Management and Rehabilitation

- A. Improve beach access and control erosion
- B. Improve southern half of the park. Discontinue agriculture leases.
- C. Install a gate to increase security if needed.

Goal III - Use Partnerships to Implement Goals

- A. Continue to work with the neighbors to gain assistance for maintenance and gate closure.
- B. Enlist volunteers, school groups and local businesses to implement the park improvements. Due to the local use emphasis on this state park, scarce state capital investment funding is unlikely to be used here.

Goal IV - Improve Access and Orientation

- A. Place sign on highway.

Goal V - Provide for Recreation Needs

- A. Construct a picnic shelter
- B. Construct a pedestrian bridge over drainage ditch to make use of southern half of the property.
- C. Construct a vault toilet

Goal VI - Improve Disabled Access

- A. Improve beach access, parking, and trails

Goal VII - Improve Interpretive and Educational Opportunities

- A. This site is not a major interpretive focus, but could be used by local schools as an outdoor learning area.

Goal VIII - Outside the Park

- A. Consideration of future endowment of southern parcel.

Development Concepts - McVay Rock State Recreation Site

1. Construct Two Picnic Shelters and a chemical or vault toilet using the best management practices and the most “up-to-date” appropriate technology to reduce odors.
 - Construct Foot Path and Bridge Connecting the Parcels
2. Improve Beach Access
 - Possibly use a stairway
3. Gate Entrance to Provide Security if Needed.
4. Maintain Mowed Lawn
 - Plant shrubs and trees around perimeter of mowed area. See plan.
 - Informal sportsfield
5. Maintain Parking Area As Is

Natural, Scenic and Cultural Resource Management Guidelines - McVay Rock State Recreation Site

Erosion Abatement: Work with the local Soil Conservation District and upstream farmers to identify and implement abatement of gully erosion.

WINCHUCK STATE RECREATION SITE

WINCHUCK STATE RECREATION SITE

Existing Conditions- Winchuck State Recreation Site

Location: The site is located off of Highway 101 just north of the Winchuck River.

Size: 6.80 acres

Classification: The site is classified as a state recreation site due to its primary use as access to the Winchuck River and the adjacent ocean beach.

Description: This site is located on the north bank of the Winchuck River near the river's mouth. The site is currently undeveloped but is heavily used as an informal river access for fishing and beach access during low tide by local residents.

Facilities: The site is undeveloped. A large undefined parking area allows access to the site.

Zoning: The site is within the jurisdiction of Curry County. The site is located within the Public Facilities Zoning district. Several overlays affect this site, namely, the estuary overlay and the coastal shoreland overlay. Most of the developed portions of the site are located west and south of the beach zone line that precludes development.

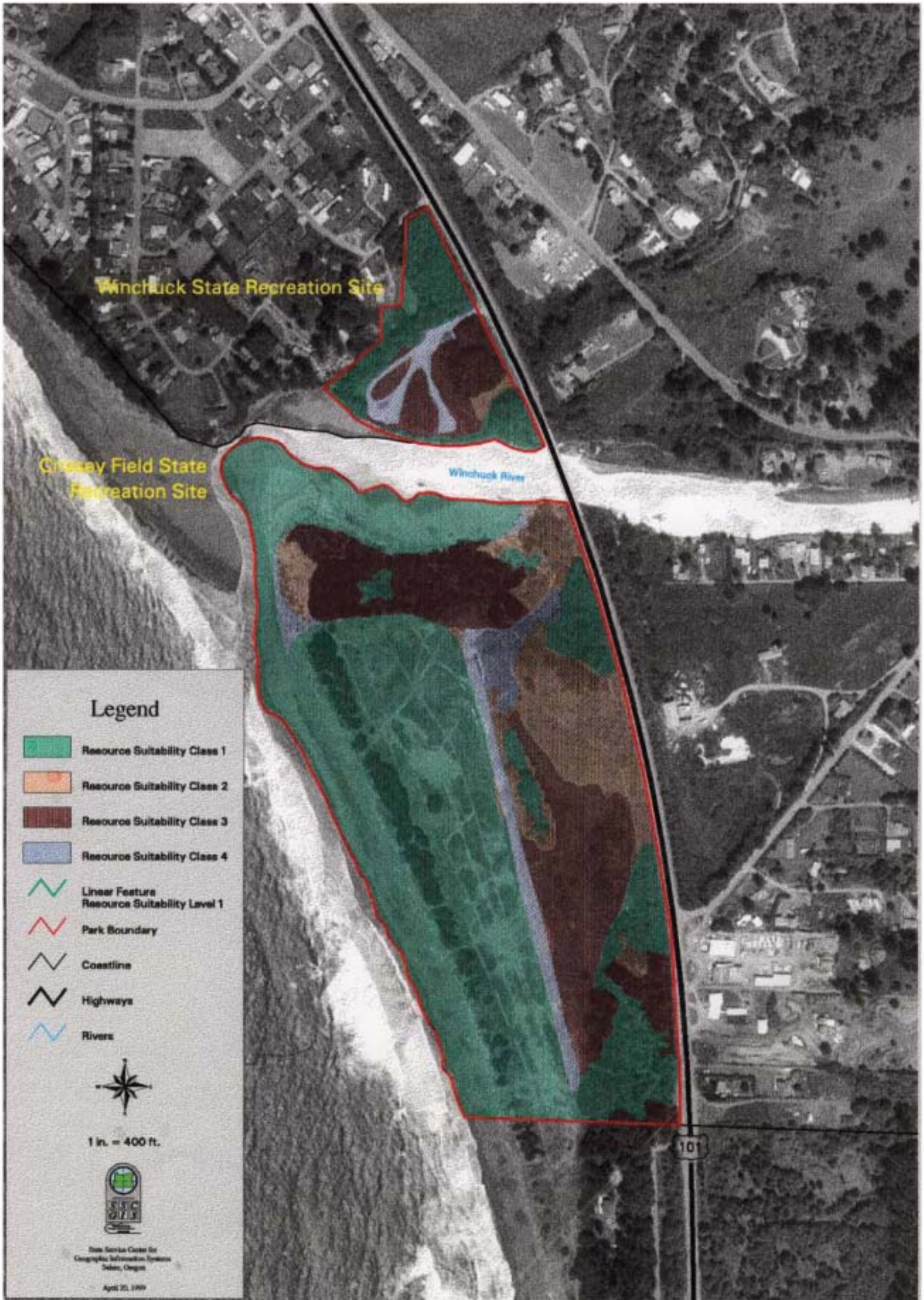
Neighborhood: The mouth of the Winchuck River provides the southern boundary of the property. Highway 101 bounds the property to the east. Residential properties are located to the northwest.

Other Classifications: The beach zone line is located far into the property.

Ownership: The holding was purchased from a private owner in 1964 as a possible beach access site. To date, due to the difficult highway access and lack of funding, the site remains undeveloped.

Heritage Assessment - Winchuck State Recreation Site

Feature	Map Name	Description
Flood Plain	<i>Water Features/ Hazards & Geologic Features/ Hazards</i>	<i>The floodplain has been mapped. The boundary generally follows the top of the bank.</i>
Active Dunes	<i>Water Features/ Hazards & Geologic Features/ Hazards</i>	<i>No active dune areas are present in this park.</i>
Beach	<i>Water Features/ Hazards & Geologic Features/ Hazards</i>	<i>None</i>
Slump Topography	<i>Water Features/ Hazards & Geologic Features/ Hazards</i>	<i>None.</i>
Tsunami	<i>Water Features/ Hazards & Geologic Features/ Hazards</i>	<i>In a tsunami event the parking area would be effected as would Highway 101 and the Winchuck Bridge.</i>
Water Features	<i>Water Features/ Hazards & Geologic Features/ Hazards</i>	<i>A small drainage is located along the eastern boundary of the property. Most likely this is run off from the highway.</i>
Wetlands	Wetlands	<i>There are some small wetlands although not extremely important.</i>
Wildlife	Wildlife	<i>Limited and associated with the riparian areas.</i>
Protected Species	Protected Species	<i>None</i>
Plant Communities	Vegetative Cover	<i>Consists primarily of post disturbance red alder forested areas. Much of the site is developed and impacted by vehicle access.</i>
Geology/ Topography	Dogami Info & USGS Quad	<i>Sandy beach</i>
Cultural Resources	Historic and Cultural Resources	<i>None</i>



Winchuck State Recreation Site Crissey Field State Recreation Site
Composite Suitability Map

Recreation Needs - Winchuck State Recreation Site

Beach access and river fishing access.

Resource Suitability – Winchuck State Recreation Site

The developed portions of the site are designated 3 or 4. The undeveloped portions of the site are designated Composite Suitability level 1 or 2 limiting any new development beyond trails and general rehab.

Issues- Winchuck State Recreation Site

- Beach logging causes bank erosion.
- Vehicles are impacting the beach access points.
- Control renegade trails.
- Vegetation restoration is needed.
- Considered for siting Welcome Center, but Beach Zone Line does not allow.
- A gate would reduce vandalism, consider a gate similar to the one at McVay
- Concern the gate would not be open in the early morning to accommodate fishermen
- Plenty of volunteers to man the gate.
- More enforcement needed.
- Toilet facility needed
- A boat ramp is needed at this location. Currently no place to take out in the area.
- Plant Sitka Spruce to complement the existing grove of trees.

Goals - Winchuck State Recreation Site

Goal I - Protect and Enhance Important Natural, Cultural and Scenic Resources

- A. Enhance riparian vegetation for anadromous fish habitat. Enhance estuary.
- B. Define vehicle access areas to reduce impacts on the rest of the site.

Goal II - Improve Maintenance, Management and Rehabilitation

- A. Discontinue renegade trails
- B. Post park rules and hours
- C. Install gate at highway.

Goal III - Use Partnerships to Implement Goals

- A. Enlist volunteers to aid with maintenance, gate closure, supervision and improvements.

Goal IV - Improve Access and Orientation

- A. Rehab existing parking to be limited to a defined area.

Goal V - Provide for Recreation Needs

- A. Improve beach access as needed.
- B. Create a grassy day use area between rehabbed parking and river. Plant trees.

Goal VI - Improve Disabled Access

- A. Rehab improvements should allow disabled access from parking to the river edge. Possibly install a disabled access fishing platform.

Goal VII - Improve Interpretive and Educational Opportunities

- A. Consider installing interpretive panel on anadromous fish habitat and enhancement.

Goal VIII - Outside the Park

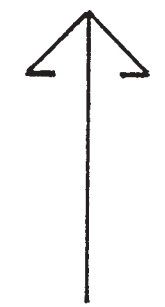
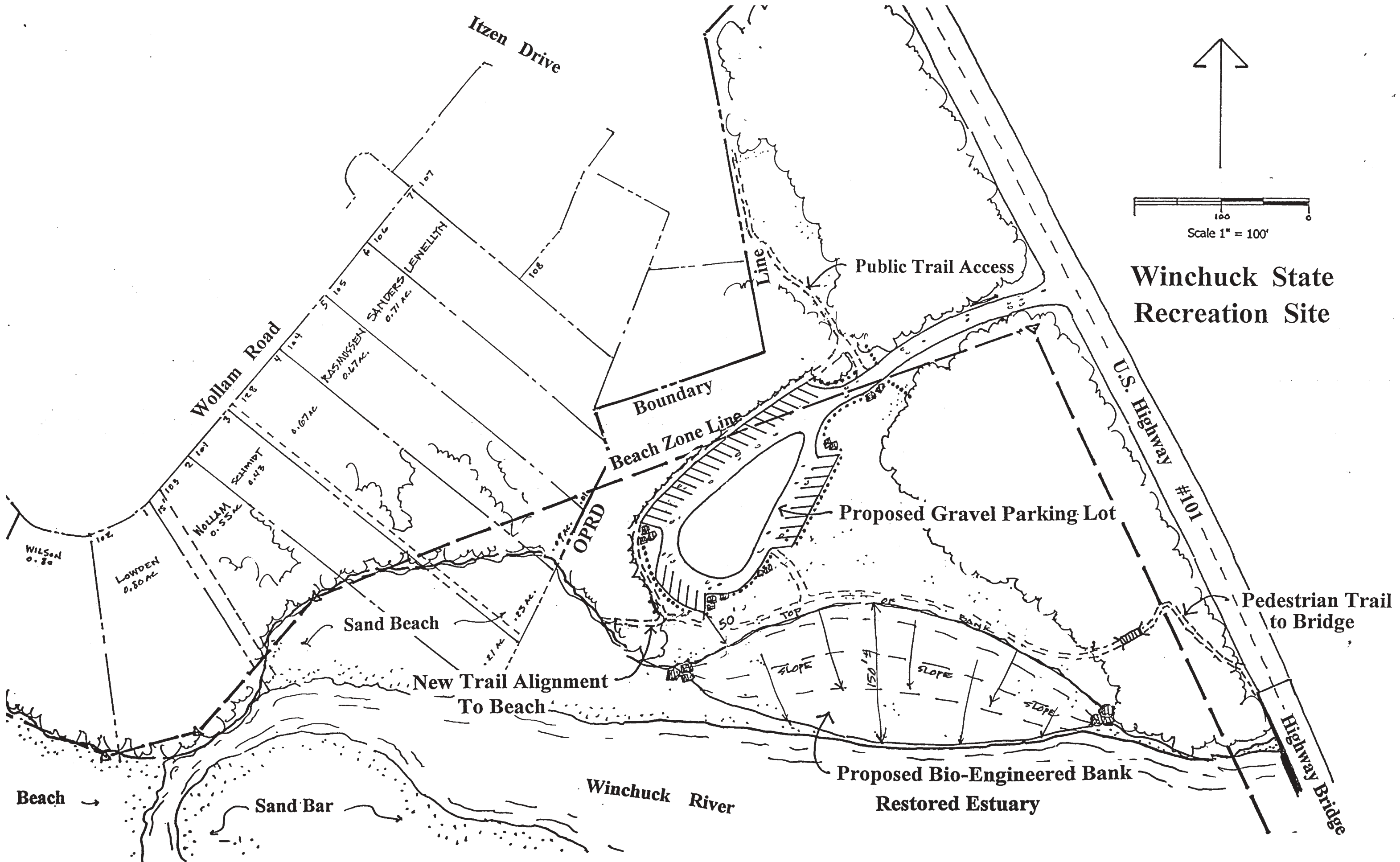
- A. Fence property boundary along residential lots and install boundary signs. Allow opening for legal beach access as needed.

Development Concepts - Winchuck State Recreation Site

1. Rehab Parking Lot
 - Define parking area with fencing or other barriers. Install grass and trees in other areas. Plant riparian trees and shrubs along riverbank. Allow space for potential disabled fishing platform and trail to river.
2. Work With ODOT And Scenic Byway Program To Install Pedestrian Walkway On Highway Bridge
 - To allow better connection between Winchuck and Crissey Field with additional river and ocean beaches.
3. Discontinue Renegade Trails

Natural, Scenic and Cultural Resource Management Guidelines - Winchuck State Recreation Site

Enhance Riparian Area: Plant banks of river and inland up to 50 feet to improve fish habitat and reduce erosion. Consider estuary enhancement by lowering and planting a portion of the riverbank while considering impacts on downstream private properties.



Scale 1" = 100'

Winchuck State Recreation Site

CRISSEY FIELD STATE RECREATION SITE

CRISSEY FIELD STATE RECREATION SITE

Existing Conditions - Crissey Field State Recreation Site

Location: This site is located west of Highway 101 and between the California border and the Winchuck River.

Size: 55.39 acres

Classification: Crissey Field is classified as a state recreation site. A recreation site provides access to adjacent outdoor attractions, in this case, the ocean and river beaches.

Description: This site has an abandoned WWII air strip, low rolling dunes, ocean and river beaches, rare native vegetation, wetlands and small stands of large Sitka spruce trees. The fore dune is largely vegetated with European beachgrass except for the eastern slope. Scot's broom is present.

Portions of the areas have been disturbed by off road vehicles, although they are no longer allowed. There is currently no vehicular access (walk-in only), although OPRD owns a legal access from the highway.

The site was originally a part of a larger parcel that extended into California. The California parcel has been developed as a residential site. At grade access to the site from the highway is only available at the state line. Farther north the highway is located on a 15 foot high fill which drops steeply into the site.

Facilities: The site is currently undeveloped, and has long been considered as an appropriate location for an Oregon Welcome Center, due to its proximity to the California border.

Zoning: The site is located within the jurisdiction of Curry County. The site is designated as grazing and timberland. Several overlays effect this property including, the estuary overlay, beach and dune, coastal shorelands and natural hazards overlay.

Other Classifications: A portion of the site has recently been designated as a Natural Heritage site.

Neighborhood: The Pacific Ocean borders the property to the west, the Winchuck River is to the north, Highway 101 is located along the eastern property boundary. A residence is located to the south of the property. The state line is the southern property line. To the east, across the highway are small businesses and residences and an abandoned lumber mill. Along the Winchuck just east of the highway are a number of residences.

Ownership: Crissey Field was purchased by OPRD in 1993.

Heritage Assessment - Crissey Field State Recreation Site

Feature	Map Name	Description
<i>Flood Plain</i>	<i>Water Features/ Hazards & Geologic Features/ Hazards</i>	A large portion of the park is affected by the Velocity Flood Zone. Only the foredune and a small section in the SE quadrant of the property are located outside the floodplain.
<i>Active Dunes</i>	<i>Water Features/ Hazards & Geologic Features/ Hazards</i>	The large foredune runs the length of the property parallel to the coastline. The foredune is adjacent to the abandoned air strip.
<i>Beach</i>	<i>Water Features/ Hazards & Geologic Features/ Hazards</i>	A large portion of the property contains sandy beaches. The beach is associated with both the Winchuck River and the Pacific Ocean.
<i>Slump Topography</i>	<i>Water Features/ Hazards & Geologic Features/ Hazards</i>	None.
<i>Tsunami</i>	<i>Water Features/ Hazards & Geologic Features/ Hazards</i>	During a tsunami event a large percentage of the property would be inundated, only a small section in the SE quadrant would be spared.
<i>Water Features</i>	<i>Water Features/ Hazards & Geologic Features/ Hazards</i>	None inside the property. Winchuck River and the ocean are adjacent.
<i>Wetlands</i>	<i>Wetlands</i>	There are some small wetlands. However the occurrence here may or may not be a result of hydrological modification from the construction of Hwy. 101. This is also true of the large, alder wetlands along the eastern edge of the site.
<i>Wildlife</i>	<i>Wildlife</i>	Minor value. Adjacent river and ocean have the important wildlife values.
<i>Protected Species</i>	<i>Protected Species</i>	Has two protected plant species.
<i>Plant Communities</i>	<i>Vegetative Cover</i>	The site includes coniferous forests dominated by Sitka Spruce, forested wetlands dominated largely by red alder, grassland and dunal herbal communities.
<i>Geology/ Topography</i>	<i>Dogami Info & USGS Quad</i>	Sandy habitat composed of partially to totally of stabilized sand.
<i>Cultural Resources</i>	<i>Historic and Cultural Resources</i>	None known

Recreation Needs- Crissey Field State Recreation Site

Besides the Welcome Center, the site offers opportunities for additional beach access, nature observation and short distance hiking.

Resource Suitability - Crissey Field State Recreation Site

Much of the site is designated Composite Suitability level 1. This limits development in these areas to trails and small trail heads. The abandoned airstrip and an area adjacent is suitable for intensive development, as long as the construction is done in a manner that complies with the floodplain restrictions. The suitability map is found with the Winchuck map, in the Winchuck State Wayside chapter.

Issues - Crissey Field State Recreation Site

Potential Welcome Center Site:

- Gateway to Oregon and Highway 101 Scenic Byway: There has long been a local and department desire to relocate the Harris Beach Welcome Center to a place closer to the Oregon/California border, to better attract visitors entering and leaving Oregon and to introduce them to the Oregon State Parks system. The center would provide a first contact point for visitors entering from the south. Other potential partners have expressed interest in participating in a new center, including: USFS, BLM, Chambers of Commerce, Curry County, the National Park Service and possibly California State Parks. Also ODOT has identified the site as a good location for the Welcome Center in its Scenic Byways plan for Highway 101. Interpretation of the Byway would also occur in the proposed center.
- Access Points – In 2002 OPRD contract with H.Lee Associates to complete a Traffic Impact Study for this site to better to determine the constraints and opportunities for access into this site. This study recommends that the Crissey Field access road approach to US 101 would need to be created in such a manner that was level with the highway grade and provide for adequate turning radii for RVs and vehicles towing campers. Having access approach to US 101 at a level grade will be important to facilitate RV traffic and movement out of the visitor center with the ability to accelerate to highway speeds more quickly. To accomplish this, fill would be required since the access road is at a lower elevation than 101. Other design considerations for the Crissey Field access road approach to 101 is the creation of a right angle intersection and a minimum two RV queue (100 feet) for the access approach to 101 prior to any curves into the site.
- 100 Yr. Flood Plain: Approximately 90% of Crissey Field is located in the 100 yr. flood boundary. This does not preclude development, however it would require the finished floor elevation of the Center be 25 ft above sea level. The buildable area located at Crissey Field is approximately 7 to 13 ft. above sea level. This would require an elevated building with an elevator or ramp to provide ADA compliant public access.
- Tsunami Line: In a tsunami event the ocean flooding could potentially reach an elevation of 35 ft. above sea level. The Welcome Center could be allowed if zoning approval was obtained, and certain tsunami-related requirements were incorporated into the building and site design and management of the facility.
- Protected Register Sites: Any design of a facility would need to protect this sensitive plant community from impacts associated with development.
- Rest Area Relocation: If the center were moved, a site would need to be found or dedicated to use as an official or unofficial highway rest area. Truckers currently

heavily use the Harris Beach site as an informal rest area. The Crissey Field Welcome Center concept is not intended to function as a highway rest area. Alternate locations for a rest area might include the north jetty area at Gold Beach or a site north of Port Orford. No feasible sites can be found between Harris Beach and the state line, or north of Harris Beach.

- Vegetation and plant management needed.
- Interpret natural history and botany, and WWII history related to the site. (Possibly interpret changes in human use and landscape in this area.)
- Develop low-key, day use facility: Whether there is a Welcome Center or not, for beach and river access is important to this site. There is support by most commenters for a public beach access at the site, and support by business and city representatives for the Welcome Center moving there. Several other individuals and groups have concerns about the expense of developing highway access there for a Welcome Center and the potential to harm important resources from more intensive use.
- Limit access from the California side, conflicts with private property owners.

Goals - Crissey Field State Recreation Site

Goal I - Protect and Enhance Important Natural, Cultural and Scenic Resources

- A. Protect sensitive plant communities on the site.

Goal II - Improve Maintenance, Management and Rehabilitation

- A. Not applicable, site currently undeveloped.
OPRD will review and resolve property boundary signage and fencing issues to reduce trespass conflicts with neighboring properties on a case-by-case basis as the issues arise.

Goal III - Use Partnerships to Implement Goals

- A. Organize strong involvement by a number of partners. Funding and management support, as well as negotiating permitting and construction alternatives will be necessary to ensure that the Welcome Center is constructed at Crissey Field.
- B. Obtain large grant support for the detailed design and construction of the Welcome Center will be necessary.

Goal IV - Improve Access and Orientation

- A. Pursue the most feasible solution for highway access for the site. Work closely with ODOT Region office and the ODOT Scenic Byways program.

Goal V - Provide for Recreation Needs

- A. Provide for beach and river access.
- B. Provide for regional orientation and introductory interpretation at a Welcome Center.

Goal VI - Improve Disabled Access

- A. New construction should provide access for the disabled to selected beach and riverfront points and to the Welcome Center (if constructed).

Goal VII - Improve Interpretive and Educational Opportunities

- A. Interpret the Scenic Byway, regional attractions and natural features found to the north, rare plants found on site, local history including WWII use, highway changes and the mill operation.

Goal VIII - Outside the Park

- A. Consider additional acquisition to aid the feasibility of constructing the Welcome Center at Crissey Field. This could include some additional property to the south or to the east. Acquisitions would primarily contribute to access solutions. However, the old mill site could provide a larger day use area or possibly rest area parking.

The mill site has been considered as an alternate location for the Welcome Center. It's location on the right side of the highway for northbound traffic is preferred. However, it lacks views of the ocean and would put the intensive use in the middle of the local rural, residential neighborhood. For these reasons it has not been pursued as a concept for this master plan. However, purchase of all or a portion of this property may be needed if highway interchange is required. This site may provide needed space for accessory facilities as well.

Development Concepts - Crissey Field State Recreation Site

1. Construct A Park Access From The Highway
 - The most logical access for Crissey Field is to create the fourth leg (west side) of the US 101/Stateline Road intersection. By doing this, the number of access points onto US 101 is minimized. Also since a southbound lane already exists, there is a taper on the south side of the intersection that can be utilized for a northbound left turn lane. A concern in developing the northbound left turn lane and proper taper is the distance from State Line Road to the Oregon-California state line. Approximately 750 feet exists between State Line Road and the Oregon-California state line. This is ample distance to fit the northbound left turn lane and taper.

With adequate v/c ratio (.35), good site distance, and low crash rate, it appears that creating a direct access for the proposed Crissey Field Oregon Visitor Center and day use area on to US 101 can be done safely.

The Crissey Field access road approach to US 101 would need to be created in such a manner to provide an approach that was level with the highway grade and provide for adequate turning radii for RVs and vehicles towing campers. Having the access approach to US 101 at a level grade will be important to facilitate RV traffic movement out of the visitor center with the ability to accelerate to highway speeds more quickly. To accomplish this, fill would be required since the access road is at a lower elevation than US 101. Other

design considerations for the Crissey Field access road approach to US 101 is the creation of a right angle intersection and a minimum two RV queue length (100 ft) for the access approach to US 101 prior to any curves into the site.

No physical access currently exists at the Crissey Field site, however OPRD retains access rights into the property as negotiated by ODOT upon OPRD's purchase of the property. The traffic study suggested that the Crissey Field access onto US 101 be constructed at the existing US 101/Stateline Road intersection. The Crissey Field access would add a fourth leg (west leg) to this intersection. Based on the traffic study analysis, this location appears to be the most ideal location for the Crissey Field access. However, since no physical access currently exists, the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department would need to make a formal application to get approval for the location of the access. At that time, ODOT will make a final determination of appropriate location for the access point onto US 101.

2. Construct A "Welcome Center"

- The "Welcome Center" concept is assumed to require approximately the same amount of parking as the current center at Harris Beach, but more interior space to allow more information, interpretation and public gathering space. Further studies and program development of the facility will determine the size of the parking lot and detailed site development. Some basic design and construction program elements to be incorporated are listed below:

Welcome Center" Building

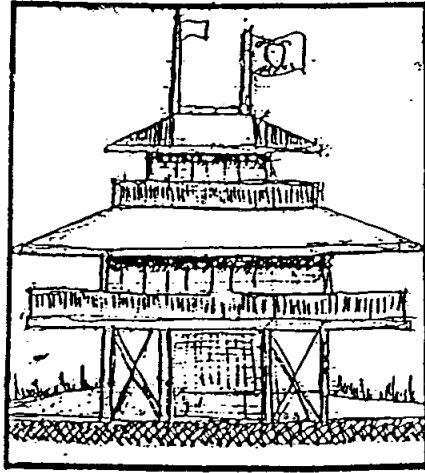
- The building should be approximately 4,000 sf in size, although it could be multi-level and should contain a welcoming lobby, information desk, Interpretive display area, public rest rooms, staff office and storage space, area for the distribution of maps and brochures and the sale of tourist items.
- All areas of the building should be accessible for the disabled.
- A view of the Pacific Ocean is desirable.
- The first floor elevation of the building would need to be at the 25' elevation. Within the identified building envelope, the finished floor elevation would be approximately 12 ft above the existing ground elevation.
- The building would most likely need to be built on posts or pilings.
- The lower level would need to have "break-away" walls if walls are installed.
- Architectural style might take reference from the Orec facility in California, viewing towers and boardwalks.
- Building roof should be seen from the highway, as a visual clue for location. But the portion of the building that can be seen from the highway should be compatible with the character of the area.
- Parking
 - 60 -70 cars and approximately 20 RVs. Some parking might occur under the building.

- Up to 30 cars in a separate lot for ocean and Winchuck River access on the Crissey Field site.
 - Provide restroom, if chemical or vault toilet, use the best management practices and the most “up-to-date” appropriate technology to reduce odors.
 - Potentially up to 30 cars and 20 RV's on the mill site if used as a rest area.
 - Provide a flush toilet building typical of Oregon rest areas.
3. Trails
- Construct trail connections from the Welcome Center and dayuse parking to the river and ocean beach. Trails need to be constructed in a manner that will keep erosion from foot traffic down and will keep visitors on the trails until they reach the beaches. This could include hard surfacing or boardwalks and fencing. Develop equestrian only trails.
4. Beach/River Access Without Welcome Center
- Same dayuse and beach access program elements mentioned above, minus the Welcome Center and/or rest area elements. Highway access would be either near the state line and at grade or at State Line Road and with the use of turning refuges already there.

Natural, Scenic and Cultural Resource Management Guidelines - Crissey Field State Recreation Site

Protect and Enhance the Herbal Dunal Community: The major portions of Crissey Field State Park and Winchuck State wayside have limited natural values. The forests are both small, and generally early to mid seral, although the spruce stands are quite lovely. Primarily non-native pasture grasses dominate the meadows. However, there is one very significant habitat at Crissey State Park, the native forb dominated dunes, which also supports the sensitive species found at the site. This habitat is extremely fragile, and will require more management than most natural vegetation.

The most significant threat to this type is the invasion of exotic species, primarily Scots broom and European beachgrass. Control of Scots broom should be straightforward, and is recommended as a priority. Controlling European beachgrass may or may not be possible. It is recommended that periodic monitoring of the extent of beachgrass invasion into the native dunes occur, and that certain areas should be managed to be free of European beachgrass.



**Welcome Center
Schematic Building Design**

Construction within the 100 yr.
floodplain requires the first floor to be
approximately 12 feet above existing
grade.

PACIFIC OCEAN

Beach

Proposed
Boardwalk Trail
to Beach

WINCHUCK RIVER

Day Use Parking
20 Cars
7 Rvs

Day Use Parking
8 Cars

Proposed Welcome Center
4000 s.f.

Parking
63 Cars
15 RVs

Day Use Entrance

Abandoned Runway

Pedestrian Access to Bridge

The FFE of the building must
be approx. 12' above existing
ground elevation.

Treed Area

Proposed Access Location
(Approximate)

CALIFORNIA

U.S. Highway 101

**Crissey Field
State Recreation Site**
Welcome Center Conceptual Design

Curry County State Parks
MASTER PLAN

T41S/R13W/S26

Concept # 10



Scale 1" = 200'

ALFRED A. LOEB STATE PARK

ALFRED A. LOEB STATE PARK

Existing Conditions - Alfred A. Loeb State Park

Location: Loeb State Park is located on the western banks of the Chetco River approximately nine miles northeast of Brookings, on North Bank Road.

Size: 320.23 acres

Classification: Loeb is classified as a state park to provide general, outdoor recreation in an extensive scenic setting.

Description: The park is contained within two discontinuous parcels. The campground and Day use facilities are contained on one parcel as well as a scenic hiking trail. The other parcel is undeveloped. The camp is located on the banks of the Chetco River under the canopy of a myrtle grove. The northernmost parcel has mature redwoods. The Forest Service has installed an interpretive trail through a portion of the redwood forest.

The forests at Loeb State Park range from very recently logged areas, young second growth forests to some of the oldest old-growth redwood forests in the state. While access to the best examples of the redwood forests at Loeb is exceedingly difficult, they are interesting, and represent an important part of Oregon's natural heritage.

The forests at Loeb State Park have very significant natural values. The old-growth redwood forests represent the most northerly known occurrences of natural stands for the species.

Facilities: Special features include a myrtlewood grove, connecting trail to 1-mile USFS "Redwood Nature Trail"

- **Campground:** The campground contains 50 electrical sites, 3 camper cabins, paved parking and picnic tables at all sites, flush toilets and showers.
- **Dayuse Area:** This area is located with views to the river and has picnic facilities.

Zoning: The site is located within the jurisdiction of Curry County. The site is designated public facilities.

Other Classifications: None

Neighborhood: The site is bordered by private residences, BLM, South Coast Lumber Company, Tidewater corporation and the US Forest Service.

Ownership: The site is owned by ORPD.

Heritage Assessment - Alfred A. Loeb State Park

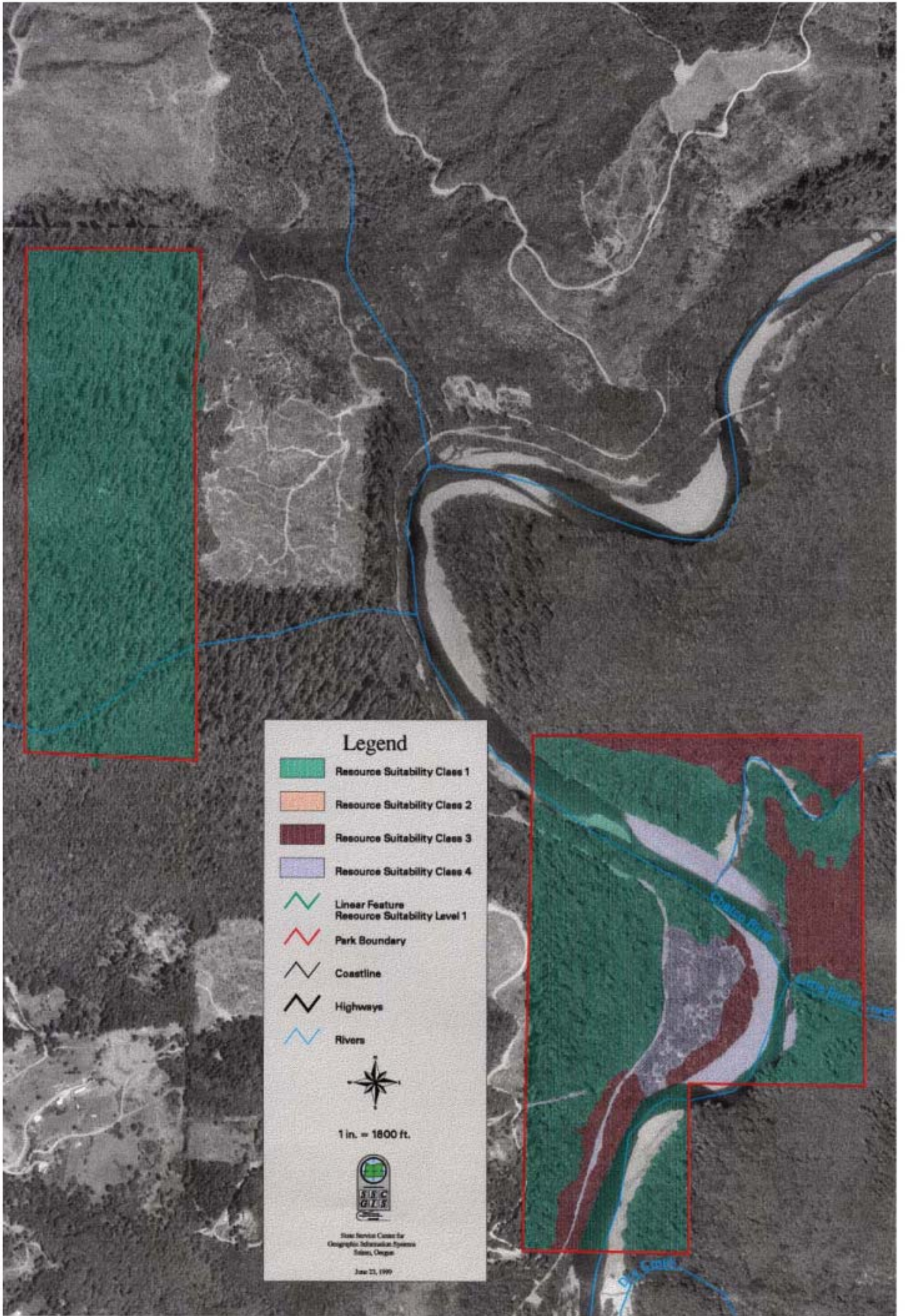
Feature	Map Name	Description
Flood Plain	<i>Water Features/ Hazards & Geologic Features/ Hazards</i>	There is no floodplain mapping for this park however it would be associated with the Chetco River.
Active Dunes	<i>Water Features/ Hazards & Geologic Features/ Hazards</i>	NA
Beach	<i>Water Features/ Hazards & Geologic Features/ Hazards</i>	NA
Slump Topography	<i>Water Features/ Hazards & Geologic Features/ Hazards</i>	None
Tsunami	<i>Water Features/ Hazards & Geologic Features/ Hazards</i>	NA
Water Features	<i>Water Features/ Hazards & Geologic Features/ Hazards</i>	Chetco River
Wetlands	<i>Wetlands</i>	Due to the very steep slopes, and the mostly well drained soils, there were no large wetlands found at Loeb State Park. Small wetlands occur along the perennial and seasonal creeks in the park.
Wildlife	<i>Wildlife</i>	May have some old growth forest values.
Protected Species	<i>Protected Species</i>	No sensitive plant or animal species were seen during the 1998 inventories, and there are no sensitive plants known from Loeb State Park or adjacent areas. The old-growth forests at Loeb State Park and on the adjacent U.S. Forest Service property support a number (five) of protected and sensitive wildlife species
Plant Communities	<i>Vegetative Cover</i>	The forests at Loeb State Park range from very recently logged areas, young second growth forests to some of the oldest, old-growth, redwood forests in the state.
Geology/ Topography	<i>Dogami Info & USGS Quad</i>	Steep forested slopes and river terrace.
Cultural Resources	<i>Historic and Cultural Resources</i>	None known

Recreation Needs - Alfred A. Loeb State Park

River related activities including swimming, fishing, boat access, dayuse and camping.
Hiking and nature study.

Resource Suitability - Alfred A. Loeb State Park

The northern unit is designated a resource suitability level 1. Much of the southernmost parcel is designated resource suitability levels 3 and 4 due to existing development.



Alfred E. Loeb State Park
Composite Suitability Map

Issues - Alfred A. Loeb State Park

- Potential Canopy Walk site on northern parcel and adjacent USFS parcel.
- Needs a picnic shelter and new restroom.
- Find solutions to myrtle forest decline.
- Support for more trails.
- Concern about impacts on murrelets if vertical trail is done.
- See Canopy Walk concerns in Chapter VIII, Issues.

Goals - Alfred A. Loeb State Park

Goal I - Protect and Enhance Important Natural, Cultural and Scenic Resources

- A. Protect the quality of the redwood, Douglas fir forests.
- B. Protect the river banks from erosion.
- C. Find solutions to the myrtle forest decline.

Goal II - Improve Maintenance, Management and Rehabilitation

- A. Make maintenance and rehab a funding priority.

Goal III - Use Partnerships to Implement Goals

- A. USFS are partners in resource protection.

Goal IV - Improve Access and Orientation

- A. None planned for southern parcel.

Goal V - Provide for Recreation Needs

- A. Improve and extend trail connections.

Goal VI - Improve Disabled Access

- A. Provide access to all facility buildings and to at least some camp and picnic sites.

Goal VII - Improve Interpretive and Educational Opportunities

- A. Provide interpretive opportunities in relation to the trails.

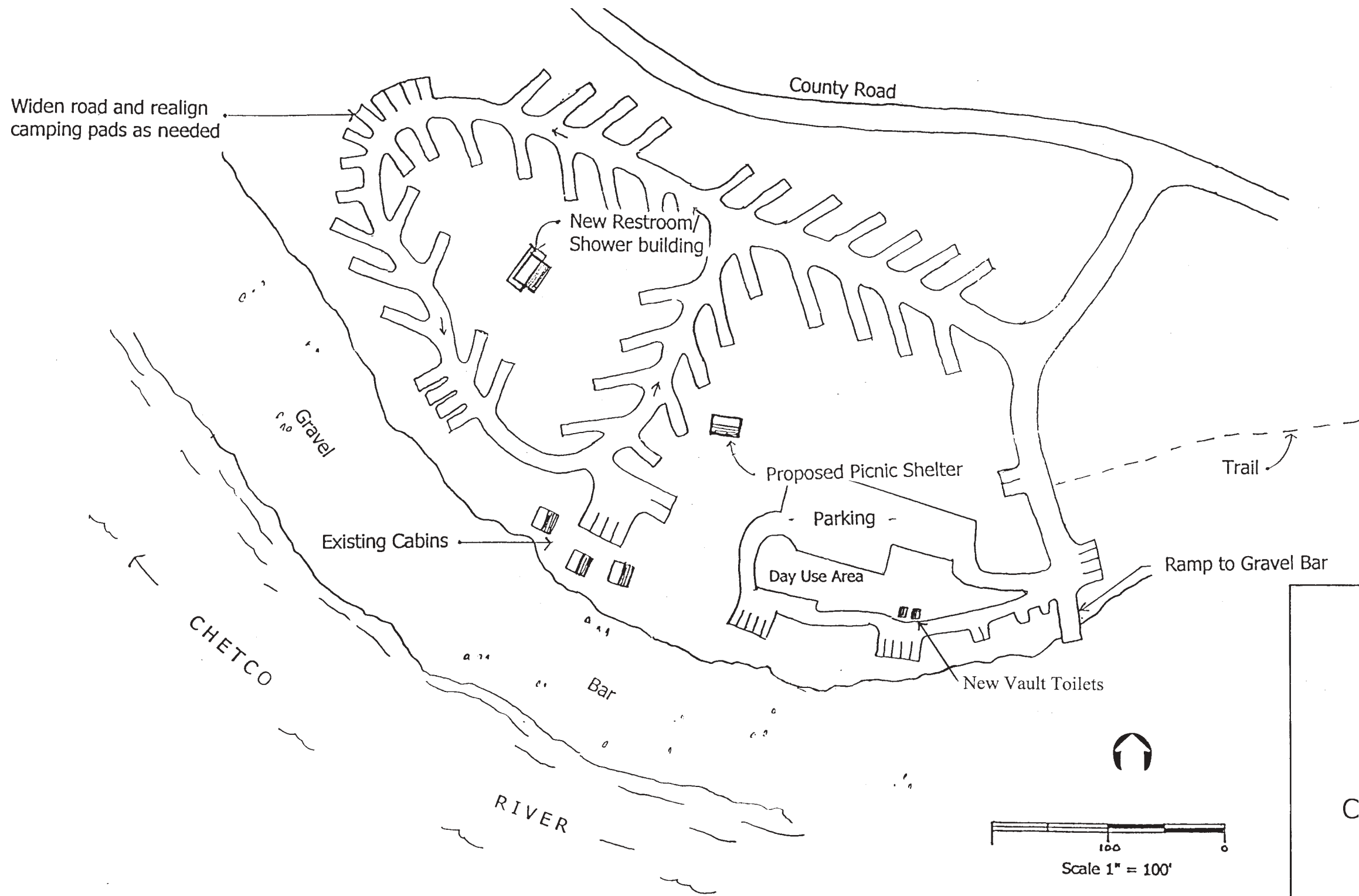
Goal VIII - Outside the Park

Development Concepts - Alfred A. Loeb State Park

1. Construct a vault toilet, use the best management practices and the most “up-to-date” appropriate technology to reduce odors. and picnic shelter in dayuse area
2. Remove existing toilet facility
3. Build more trails
4. High Priority Rehabilitation
 - Widen camp loop road to accommodate larger trailers.
 - The camping spurs need to be realigned for better access.
 - Water lines throughout the park need to be replaced.
 - Electric lines throughout the park need to be upgraded to new 30 amp service. Electrical breaker panel needs to be replaced and moved to the restroom store rooms.
 - Dayuse restroom needs to be replaced and have showers added.

Natural, Scenic and Cultural Resource Management Guidelines- Alfred A. Loeb State Park

- Protect and Enhance Riparian Vegetation.
- Complete a plan for Myrtle Grove rehabilitation.
- Protect the old growth forests while Allowing Interpretive Access -The forests at Loeb State Park have very significant natural values. The old-growth redwood forests represent the most northerly known occurrences of natural stands for the species. The small redwood groves in the northern unit are contiguous with the grove currently used by the Siskiyou National Forest for their redwood interpretive walk. The Forest Service grove is small enough so that the park forests greatly increases the overall viability of the stand. The old-growth Douglas-fir forests present at the site are not now represented in Oregon’s system of natural areas. With better access, they could be quite valuable for research and education. These old-growth forests have high priority for protection.



Alfred A. Loeb
State Park
 Campground and
 Day Use Improvements

 Curry County State Parks
MASTER PLAN
 T39S/R13W/S 13
 Concept *JD*