

## Oregon Parks and Recreation Commission

September 20, 2023

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Agenda Item:	5c	<b>Action</b>
Public Comment Allowed:	Yes	
Topic:	North Santiam Transfer to Marion County	
Presented by:	Ladd Whitcomb, Property Agent	

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North Santiam State Recreation Area (SRA) is a ~121-acre property 30 miles east of Salem on Highway 22. Marion County gave the original park land to the state in 1937. Private purchases and a gift added to the area in 1952, 1958, and 1965, and the State Highway Division transferred a final piece of land in 1968. Portions of the park have burned at least twice in the last seven years, with the catastrophic 2020 wildfires doing the most damage. Historically, the site was supported by a volunteer host and staff from the Detroit Lake management unit, 23 miles east.

North Santiam SRA is ringed by county parks, with Niagara, Packsaddle, and Minto parks 8-12 miles east, and the popular North Fork and other county parks 16+ miles west. After briefing the Commission in September 2021, Oregon Parks and Recreation Department and Marion County entered into a two-year agreement whereby the County assumed responsibility for general maintenance and park operations in anticipation of potential transfer of ownership from the Department to the County.

The arrangement has been successful. Operations are going well; the County would like to assume ownership and use the site as a hub for centralized county park services in addition to serving park visitors. The County has requested a transfer move forward, prior to the agreement's expiration in December 2023. There will be no monetary consideration for this transaction, but OPRD will include language that the property will revert back to us if it is used for any purpose that is not public outdoor recreation.

We present this action item to the commission and request that you allow us to record a deed transferring North Santiam SRA to Marion County. As you prepare to vote, we welcome all questions you might have.

**Prior Action by Commission:** Information Item, September 15, 2021 and June 14, 2023

**Action Requested:** Allow OPRD to Deed North Santiam SRA to Marion County

**Attachments:** Map of North Santiam SRA parcels

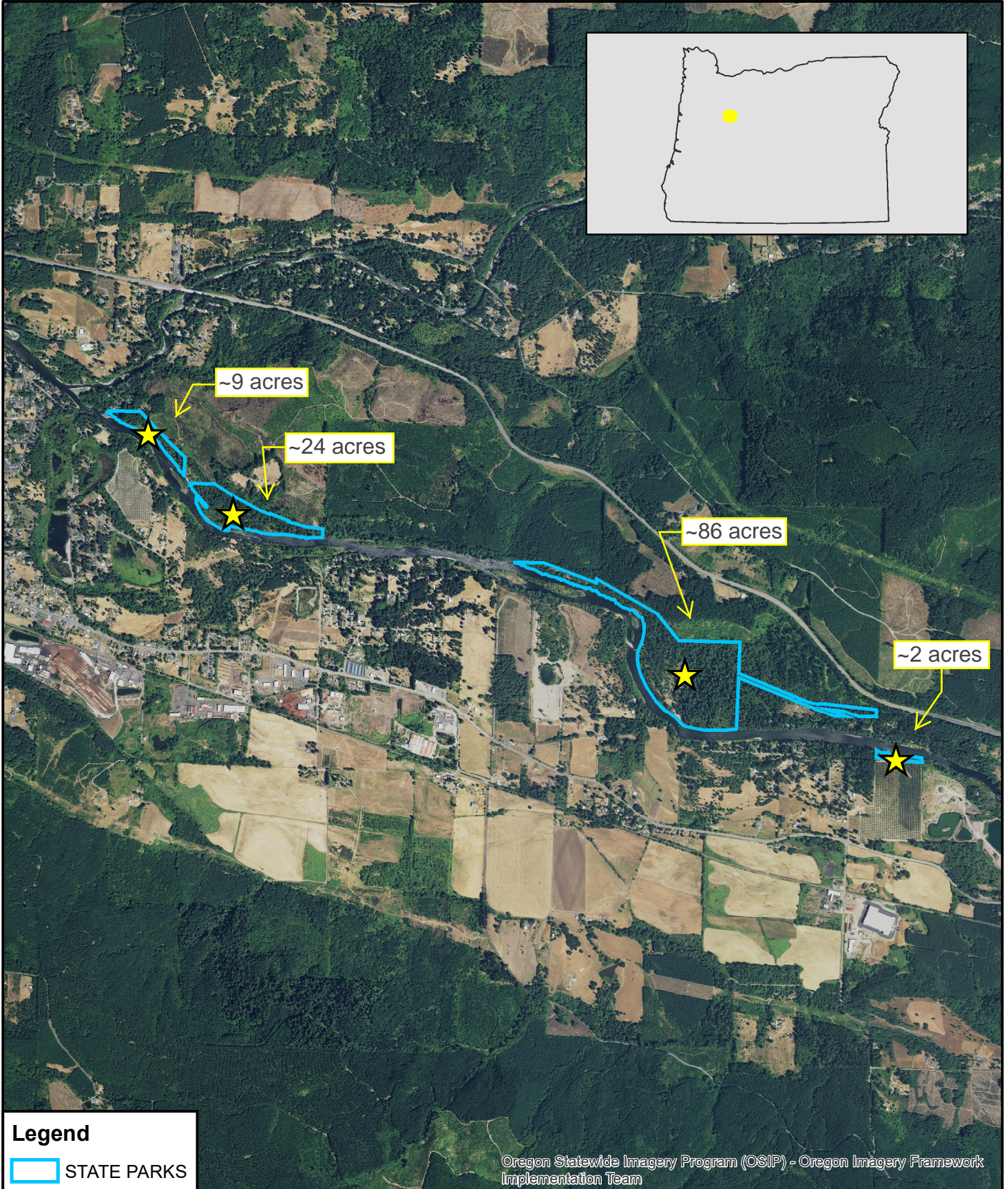
**Prepared by:** Ladd Whitcomb

# 5c. North Santiam SRA - Transfer to Marion County

September 20, 2023

Map exhibit 1 of 1

Oregon Parks and Recreation Dept.  
725 Summer St. NE, Suite C  
Salem OR, 97301



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