

Oregon Parks and Recreation Commission

April 15, 2015

Agenda Item: 10a

Information

Topic: Planning in the South Beach and Beverly Beach Management Units

Presented by: Jaime English, Interim IPS Manager

Background:

OPRD is required by statute to plan for the management of natural resources and recreation activities on all state park lands. As part of a rotating management unit approach to planning, the Integrated Parks Services Division has begun a planning process for state parks within the South Beach and Beverly Beach Management Units on Oregon's Central Coast.

To plan for these parks OPRD is taking a comprehensive look at existing natural, scenic, cultural, and recreational resources, and soliciting feedback from key stakeholders and the general public to help identify management strategies and needed improvements to keep these parks healthy into the future. We are taking the long view by looking at a 100-year vision for the two management units and then identifying resource appropriate projects for implementation over the next 10 to 20 years.

Where We Are in the Process:

We are currently still in the beginning stages of the planning process, which is expected to continue through spring of 2016. A core planning team composed of park staff, planners, and regional representatives from various OPRD divisions was formed last fall to lead to the planning effort. In addition, extensive natural, cultural, and recreational resource assessments have been conducted; the results of these assessments are being compiled in reports that will inform the planning process.

Efforts have been made to involve the public in the planning process in a meaningful way. An advisory committee consisting of over twenty representatives from federal and state agencies as well as local governments and organizations has been formed. The advisory committee met for the first time in February 2015 on the same day that an initial public meeting was held near Newport.

In addition to reaching the public through meetings and the plan website, an informational video was distributed to park visitor centers, and an online survey was sent to people who recently made reservations at state park campgrounds on the central coast, allowing us to reach a new and geographically diverse segment of park users.

BEVERLY BEACH MANAGEMENT UNIT

- Cities
- OPRD Properties
- Siuslaw National Forest (USFS)
- Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians
- Highways
- Roads

Elevation (ft.)
0 2,440

Gleneden Beach **B1**

Fishing Rock **B2**

Fogarty Creek **B3**

Boiler Bay **B4**

Depoe Bay **B5**

Rocky Creek **B6**

Otter Crest **B7**

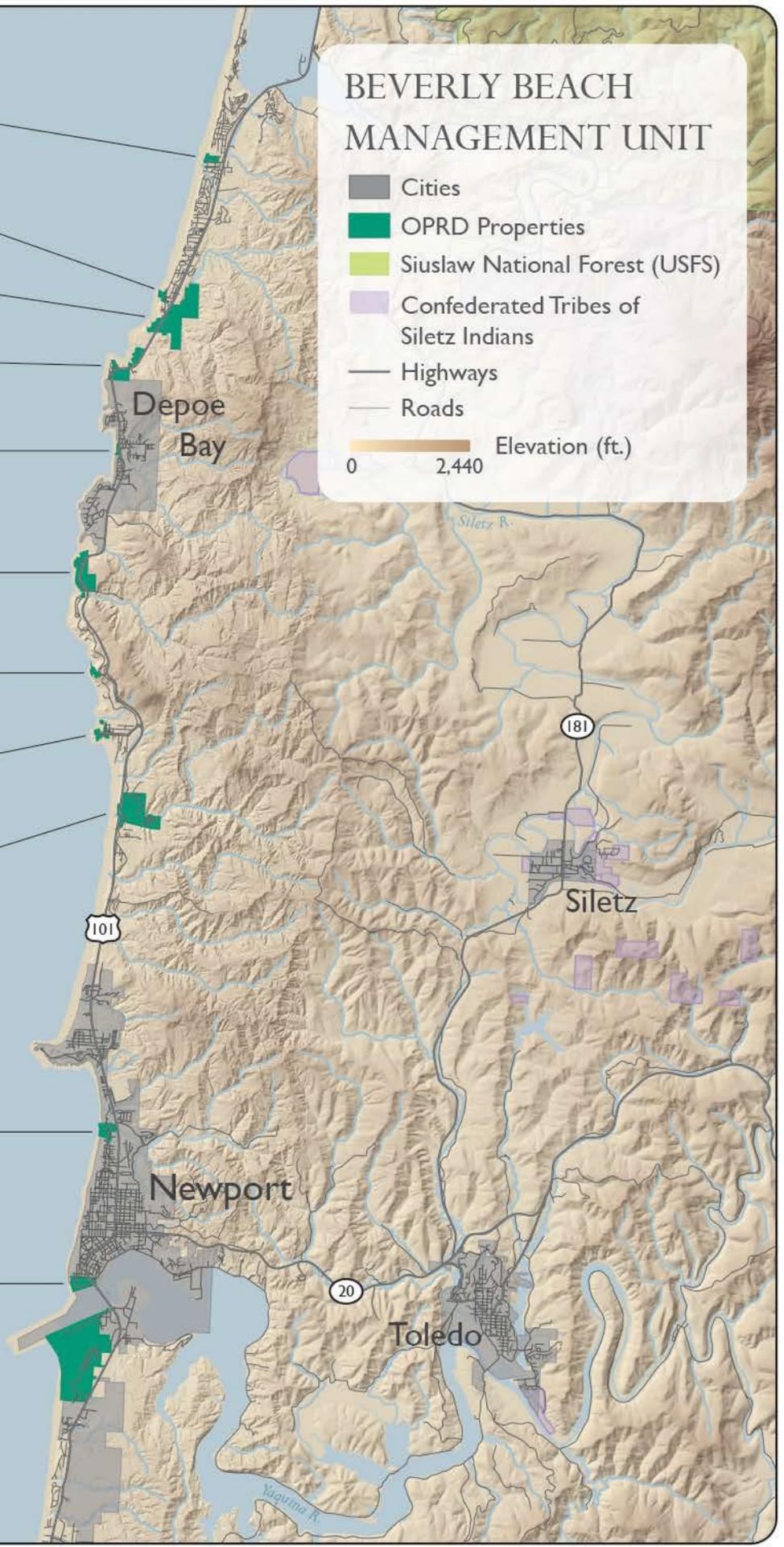
Devil's Punch Bowl **B8**

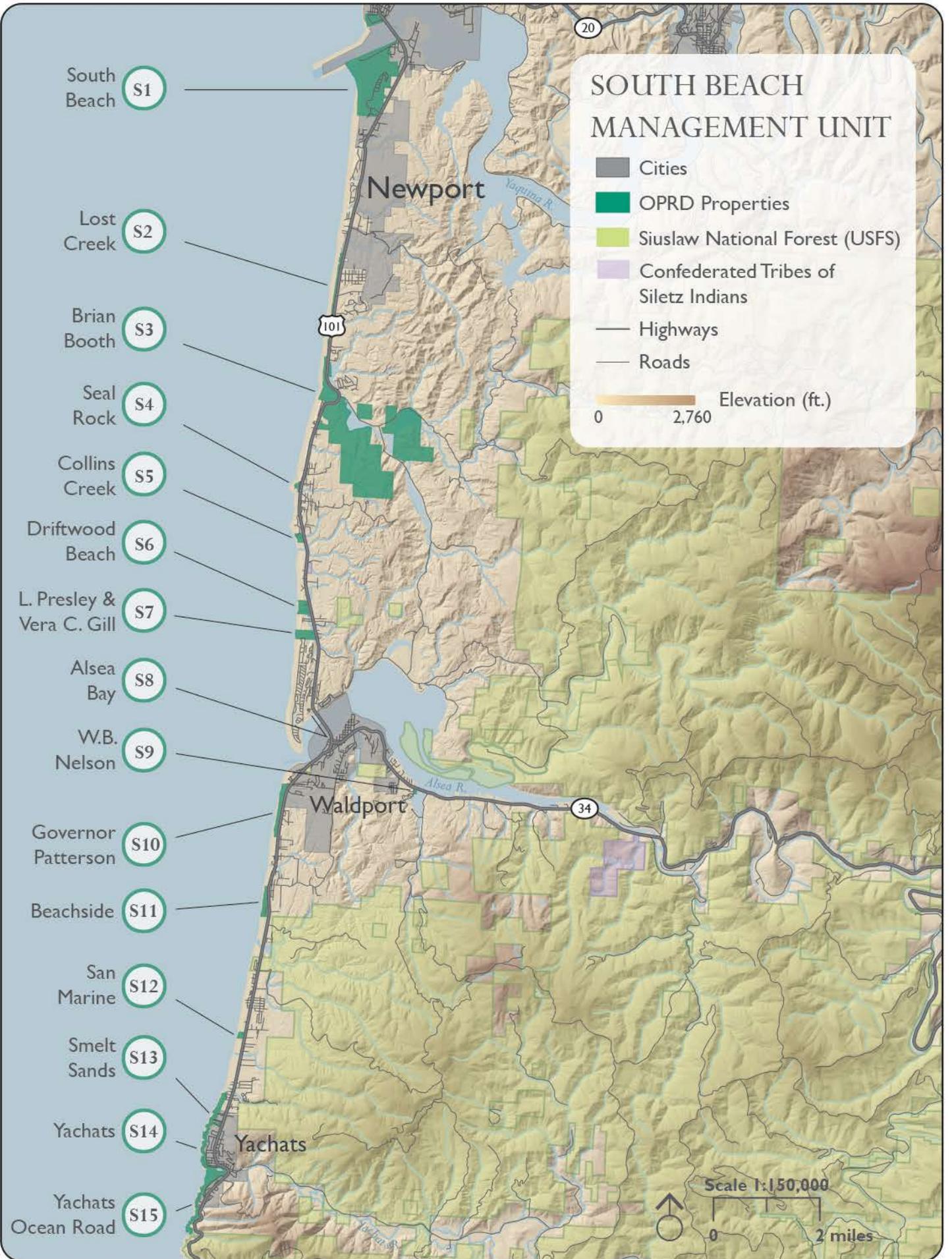
Beverly Beach **B9**

Agate Beach **B10**

Yaquina Bay **B11**

Scale 1:150,000
0 2 miles





Oregon Parks and Recreation Commission

April 15, 2015

Agenda Item: 10b Information
Topic: Beltz Property Master Plan Update
Presented by: Jaime English, Interim-Integrated Park Services Manager

The recently acquired Beltz property is 357 acres at the southern end of the Sand Lake estuary, a vital mix of dunes, forest, and natural wetlands well-suited for low-key, nature-based recreation. Sand Lake estuary is one of Oregon's most pristine estuaries. It was maintained in a mostly natural condition and has the lowest land use conversion rate of any other estuary in Oregon.

The Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD) is interested in adding important, rare natural lands like the Beltz property to the ocean shore system to build on its current success with Whalen Island, and to provide Oregonians with parks that encourage outdoor recreation in quality settings. A park master plan will focus OPRD's restoration and park development priorities in a sustainable manner for short term improvements providing passive recreation and access, while guiding preservation of this pristine natural resource for the enjoyment of future generations.

Existing condition assessments informing the park master plan are underway and expected to be completed by the end of the summer. OPRD is coordinating with US Fish and Wildlife, the US Forest Service, and the Nestucca Neskowin Watershed Council to develop a comprehensive site hydrology assessment to determine restoration alternatives for Reneke and Beltz Creeks. These creeks flow into the freshwater marsh located in the southeastern portion of the site. OPRD is also partnering with a graduate student from Oregon State University to determine the potential quality of snowy plover habitat in the park.

Planning public outreach efforts are being coordinated, including the formation of a plan advisory committee and website. The first public meeting for the park master plan is tentatively scheduled for June 2015 and is being planned as a listening session, where citizens will have an opportunity to share their thoughts, desires, and values for the park prior to development of planning proposals that will follow later in the year.

Prior Action by Commission:

Sand Lake Initiative - Beltz Farm Acquisition (Action) June 25, 2014; Sand Lake Initiative - Beltz Farm (Informational) April 9, 2014; Acquisition Initiatives: Sand Lake (Informational) April 4, 2012; 2007-2013 Acquisition Plan approved Nov. 9, 2006; Acquisition Priorities Report (Informational), Sept. 2005

Action Requested: None

Attachment: None

Prepared by: Ben Hedstrom