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ADDITIONAL UMPQUA LIGHTHOUSE MASTER PLANNING DOCUMENTS

The following documents are incorporated into the Umpqua Lighthouse State Park Master Plan:

RESOURCE MAPS OF THE UMPQUA LIGHTHOUSE PLANNING AREA:

- Plant Communities and Conditions
- Habitat Types and Values
- Water Features and Hazards
- Scenic Resources and Recreation Settings
- Cultural Resources

BACKGROUND REPORTS:

- “An Inventory and Natural Areas Assessment of the Umpqua Lighthouse Study Area for Vegetation, At-Risk Species, Natural Area Values, and Wildlife Habitats” (Oregon Natural Heritage Information Center, 2003)

The above documents are available for viewing at the following locations:

Oregon Parks and Recreation Department
Salem Headquarters Office
725 Summer Street NE
Salem OR 97301-1271

OTHER REFERENCES

“Umpqua River Lighthouse and Coast Guard Museum Master Planning Study”, prepared for the Douglas County Parks Department by Boothby Architecture.

To inquire about this document, contact the Douglas County Parks Department, Winchester, Oregon.


To inquire about this document, contact the Oregon Dunes National Recreation Area office in Reedsport, Oregon.
I. INTRODUCTION

PURPOSE

This master plan outlines the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department’s (OPRD) plans for the future development, use and management of Umpqua Lighthouse State Park. Also included in this master plan are OPRD’s recommendations for the future development, use and management of other public lands that adjoin the state park. This master plan includes summaries of the issues, resource assessments, recreation needs, goals, development proposals and resource management guidelines associated with the park and the neighboring public lands and the process followed in formulating and adopting this master plan.

The purpose of a state park master plan is to plan for both the protection and public enjoyment of the resources that occur on the land that is being master planned. Master plans identify and provide for the most appropriate recreational uses based on resource opportunities and constraints, development opportunities and constraints, public recreation needs, and the respective roles of OPRD and other recreation providers. A master plan may also identify lands that OPRD would consider acquiring from willing sellers to add to the state park, as well as lands that logically should not be part of the state park. A master plan also provides a basis for preparing partnership agreements, budget and management priorities and detailed development and management guidelines, and for requesting land use approvals from affected local governments for planned projects.

APPLICABILITY

This master plan provides direction to OPRD regarding future development and resource management activities on lands within the planning area that are now, or may be in the future, under OPRD’s management authority. For any land where OPRD may relinquish management responsibilities through an agreement with another agency, the master plan provides guidance to OPRD in formulating the terms of such agreement. For lands in the planning area that are not under OPRD’s management authority, the master plan provides recommendations to the affected agencies regarding future development and resource management activities. The master plan is not intended to be directive to the other agencies.

AUTHORITY

OPRD prepares master plans for its properties under the authorities embodied in state statutes and rules, which include ORS 390.180, OAR 736 Division 18, ORS 195.120 and OAR 660 Division 34.
BENEFITS OF A MASTER PLANNING PROCESS

- **A written and illustrated reference** is produced containing extensive information about, and long term plans for, the park. This “master plan” is the guide for the park’s 20-year future. It describes the planning purpose and process, existing facilities in the park, future recreation demand, the suitability of the land for public recreational uses, issues related to public use and management, the goals, objectives and development concepts for the future use and development of the park property, and guidelines for managing the park resources.

- **Development concepts in the master plan** show how to fit needed facilities into the park. These are the conceptual ‘blueprints” for the park. The development concepts reflect the resource constraints and opportunities and address the goals established in the planning process. They describe the appropriate types, sizes, locations and access for the proposed facilities.

- **Resource maps, which accompany the master plan document**, show various natural, cultural and scenic resources in the park. These maps are invaluable planning tools used frequently by the park rangers, other resource agencies, policy makers and members of the public or “friends” groups. They are the basis for sound resource management and development decisions.

- **A public discussion occurs regarding the future of the park.** The master planning process is an excellent opportunity for the public to discuss and provide input on the future of the park. The planning process includes several public meetings and mailings and invites the public to provide written comments on the pertinent issues and the proposals and guidelines established by the master plan.

- **Partnerships.** A master planning process is an opportunity to encourage partnerships with other agencies, interest groups and neighbors to benefit park implementation and management.
PROCESS FOR COMPLETING A MASTER PLAN

The flow chart that follows illustrates the basic steps for completing a master plan.

In the first steps, information is gathered regarding natural, cultural and scenic resources, existing facilities and recreation and interpretive needs, as well as information about the local community.

Issues involving the use, development and management of the park are identified through meetings with department staff, an advisory committee, the local government decision-making body and the general public.

Goals for the future use and development of the park and management of its resources are determined. Resource management guidelines and development concepts for the park are formulated. These are checked for consistency with the state land use goals and local government comprehensive plan.

All of the above information is compiled into a draft master plan that is reviewed by department staff, the advisory committee, the interested public and by the OPRD Director and the Oregon Parks and Recreation Commission. Comments are collected and the master plan is edited based on guidance from the Director and Commission.

The edited draft is then presented for adoption as a state rule and approval by the affected local government. Additional comments are received from the public and local government in formal public hearings, which often lead to additional edits prior to final adoption.

(Those who are interested in a more detailed description of the process should contact the Master Planning Section at the OPRD headquarters office in Salem. OAR 736 Division 18 mandates this process.)

MASTER PLAN IMPLEMENTATION AND AMENDMENTS

Once the master plan is adopted as a state rule and granted land use approval, any development in the park must be consistent with the master plan. Minor variations from the adopted master plan may be allowed if such variations are determined by the OPRD Director and the affected local government to be consistent with the master plan in accordance with OAR 736-018-0040. Any use that is not consistent with the master plan requires a master plan amendment. Master plan amendments must follow the same process used to adopt the master plan, as described in OAR 660 Division 34 and OAR 736 Division 18, which includes re-adoption as a state rule and land use approval by the affected local government.
Park master plans are amended when changes in circumstances are significant enough to warrant changes. The OPRD Director considers the recommendations of OPRD staff and outside interests in prioritizing the park master plans to be adopted or amended each biennium. The director’s decisions are based on consideration of the following factors:

1. Significant changes in:
   a. Condition of, or threats to, the natural, scenic or cultural resources within or surrounding the park.
   b. Knowledge of and need for best management practices for natural, cultural or scenic resources within the park.
   c. Recreation demand or needs, or crowding within the park or the vicinity of the park.
   d. Partnership opportunities for the state park or its management.
   e. Impacts or potential for impacts from surrounding land uses.

2. Alternatives to master plan amendments that will address changes, such as inter-agency management agreements, non-OPRD management partnerships, etc.
OPRD MASTER PLANNING PROCESS

Natural Cultural Scenic Resource
Recreation Needs
Interpretive Needs
Local Community

OCRD Issues

Issue Scoping

GOALS
Resource Management Guidelines
Site Development Concepts
Land Use Requirements

Director/Commission

Draft Master Plan

State Rule Adoption Process
Local Jurisdiction Adoption Process

Final Master Plan

State Rule Adoption Process

Public Meetings

Steering Committee

Public Meetings

Steering Committee
WHY MASTER PLAN THIS STATE PARK NOW?

Several factors are considered in determining which parks will be master planned each year within the State Park system. OPRD’s Director sets master plan completion priorities after a review of staff recommendations. The Umpqua Lighthouse State Park Master Plan was chosen to be completed this year for the following reasons:

- The existing master plan for Umpqua Lighthouse State Park is outdated. The original plan for the park was grouped with plans for several other parks in the “Sunset Bay District Parks Master Plan” dated 1986. Since then OPRD’s guidelines for park master planning have been expanded. There is a need to apply the current guidelines to reassess the park resource management needs and recreational development opportunities.

- The ATV activity that occurs on adjacent public lands spills over onto the state park property. ATV riding is authorized in the Dunes NRA south of the state park and on County-owned lands north of the park. ATV riding is not permitted under the existing master plan for the state park, and enforcement of this activity by OPRD is impractical. There is a need to assess the management options for this area of the park, including the option of transferring this land area to either Douglas County or the US Forest Service.

- Douglas County is currently engaged in a planning process to enhance cultural resources and expand tourist facilities in the historic area that encompasses the lighthouse and former Coast Guard lifeboat station. These proposals are described and illustrated in the County’s planning document titled “Umpqua River Lighthouse and Coast Guard Museum Master Planning Study.” The preferred alternative in the County’s conceptual development plan for this area includes proposed development of visitor parking on the state park property. To support this proposal, OPRD must assess the proposal in relation to the resource values and the existing state park uses, and update the master plan for the state park accordingly.

- OPRD and Douglas County have formulated a Memorandum of Understanding to cooperate in a master planning process to address the issues summarized above.
II. MASTER PLAN SUMMARY

THE PLANNING AREA

This master plan addresses recreation planning issues and opportunities within the current boundaries of Umpqua Lighthouse State Park properties on the west side of Highway 101. Also included in the planning area are neighboring public lands owned the US Coast Guard, (USCG) the federal Bureau of Land Management (BLM), the Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE), the Oregon Division of State Lands (DSL), and certain lands owned by Douglas County. Collectively these lands are referred to in this master plan as “the planning area.” Representatives from all of these agencies have been involved in the planning process. The planning area is illustrated by the “Existing Ownership and Facilities” map at the end of the “Existing Conditions” chapter.

The state park also includes undeveloped properties along the east side of Highway 101 and the shore of Clear Lake. The entire land area within the state park boundary is illustrated by the “Umpqua Lighthouse State Park and Planning Area” map at the end of the “Planning Context” chapter. The lands east of the highway have been assessed in the master planning process to the extent necessary to determine whether any actions are needed concerning these lands. No actions were determined to be necessary. This area is disconnected from the rest of the park and has no facilities for public access. However, this area is important to the scenic values of the highway corridor and for protection of Clear Lake’s water quality. It also provides forest habitat values. This area is intended to remain as part of the state park, although it is not included in the discussions of resources and recreation in the context of this master plan, i.e., no “planning” is needed for this area. As such, it is not described as part of the “planning area.”

The relationship of the US Forest Service-administered Oregon Dunes National Recreation Area (DNRA), which abuts the southern boundary of the planning area, has also been a major subject of discussion in the planning process because it relates so closely to the activities and issues in the planning area. The Forest Service has also been represented in the planning process. The proposals in this master plan do not include specific development or resource management proposals for the DNRA. The use and management of the DNRA is guided by the “Management Plan for the Oregon Dunes National Recreation Area” adopted by the Forest Service in 1994.

MASTER PLAN SUMMARY

Umpqua Lighthouse State Park and the surrounding public lands offer a variety of outdoor recreation opportunities in a coastal setting that includes vast areas of open sand dunes, ocean beach, a major river with a shallow-draft harbor, freshwater lakes, forests and unique cultural resource features. The recreation that occurs in this setting includes activities that range from the very passive non-motorized activities such as beach combing, birding and whale watching to the quite intensive activity of riding all terrain vehicles. Ocean and river fishing, shellfish harvest, surfing, camping with a variety of amenities, primitive camping, hiking, biking, picnicking, swimming, visiting cultural sites, as well as other activities are all popular. The proposals and guidelines contained in this master plan are presented with the assumption that all of these activities should be allowed to continue provided that important resources are protected and that the various uses are compatible with each other and the neighboring land uses. This intent is expressed in the master plan goals, development concepts and resource management guidelines.
THE GOALS AND STRATEGIES OF THIS MASTER PLAN ADDRESS THE FOLLOWING:

- Protecting and enhancing natural, cultural and scenic resources and recreation opportunities.
- Consolidating and coordinating the management of resources and recreation activities.
- Providing for adequate management, maintenance and rehabilitation of park facilities, and park operations.
- Providing for safe, efficient, identifiable and pleasant access and circulation.
- Promoting public awareness, understanding, appreciation and enjoyment of the recreation setting through resource interpretation.
- Forming partnerships and agreements to aid in achieving goals.

THE KEY DEVELOPMENT CONCEPTS INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

- Rehabilitation or replacement of existing facilities in the state park campground and day use area.
- Installing a few more yurts in the existing yurt area of the state park.
- Development of visitor parking in the state park to support Douglas County’s proposed development of the Coast Guard historic area.
- Development of a day use area at Half Moon Bay.
- Addition of restrooms and a group shelter at the northern day use beach access area.
- Development of an ATV riders’ campground in a forested area on the deflation plain.
- Development of a day use parking and staging area for ATV riders.
- Development of a dune emergency response facility. This facility could include ATV rider training.
- Installing signage and fencing as needed to define the ATV riding area.
- Development of a speed-regulated ATV access route that connects the ATV open riding area to Discovery Point.
- Development of a paved bike trail loop that connects the proposed Half Moon Bay day use area with the existing northern beach access area.
• Development of various hiking trails with connections to key recreational facilities.

THE KEY RESOURCE MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES ADDRESS THE FOLLOWING:
• A proposal for dedicating a portion of the state park as a Natural Heritage Conservation Area (NHCA).
• Management of selected second growth forests.
• Management of Lake Marie and other important surface water features.
• Management of sensitive wildlife species.
• Management of sensitive resource areas including the beach zone, wetlands, and rare forest plant communities.
• Controlling exotic plant species.
• Management of dune stability.
• Management of key view sheds.
• Management of important cultural resource sites.
III. PLANNING CONTEXT

LOCATION

As illustrated by the “Vicinity Map” at the end of this chapter, the Umpqua Lighthouse planning area is located between the ocean shore and Highway 101 just south of the Umpqua River near the unincorporated community of Winchester Bay and about three miles west of Reedsport in Douglas County. The City of Florence is about 20 miles north, and the Cities of Coos Bay and North Bend are about 20 miles south, along Highway 101.

As discussed in the previous chapter, the state park property also includes lands on the east side of Highway 101. The entire state park is illustrated by the “Umpqua Lighthouse State Park and Planning Area” map at the end of this chapter.

PHYSIOGRAPHIC SETTING

The setting is in the Coast Range foothills and coastal dunes at the mouth of the Umpqua River within the central portion of the Oregon Coast Range Ecoregion. This ecoregion extends the length of the Oregon Coast Range from the Columbia River to the California border and inland to the edge of the Willamette Valley, in the northern portion, and to the Klamath Mountains in the southern portion.

REGIONAL ECONOMIC TRENDS

Historically the regional economy was dominated by the timber products industry, with agriculture, commercial fishing and tourism also playing significant roles. This area of the coast is somewhat removed from major population centers and, as a result, the growth of tourism has been less pronounced here than in some coastal communities. Nevertheless, the significance of the tourism, together with second home and retirement income, in the local economy has grown proportionally as other natural resource-based industries have declined. Recent growth in the local tourism industry is attributed in large part to the efforts of local community in promoting tourism development.

OPRD’S ROLE AS A STATEWIDE RECREATION PROVIDER

OPRD’s Mission is to:

“Protect and provide outstanding natural, scenic, cultural, historic and recreational sites for the enjoyment and education of present and future generations.”

OPRD master plans help to accomplish the OPRD mission by establishing the goals, development concepts and resource management guidelines that strike a balance between recreational use and development and resource protection.

The Oregon State Parks System has provided Oregon’s residents and visitors with reputable park services since its initiation in 1929. Originally, the department saw its role as a protector of the scenic resources related to highway travel and emphasized land acquisition. From the department’s first land acquisition in 1929 until now, OPRD has acquired over 95,000 acres of diverse, historic...
and scenically treasured public land. This is largely due to OPRD’s origin within the early State Highway Division. OPRD did not become a separate department from the later Oregon Transportation Department until 1989. Much of OPRD’s role has been shaped by its connection with Oregon’s highway locations and their enjoyment. The early park system was built upon a framework of roadside rest areas and scenic corridor preserves.

Developed overnight camping facilities were not available in Oregon’s state parks until the 1950s. The demand for such facilities began to boom in the post WWII period. OPRD expanded its role to include recreation development beyond just rest area facilities to include campgrounds and more developed day use and swim areas. Today OPRD has 53 parks with overnight accommodations.

As life styles have changed so have approaches to camping, and OPRD has tried to diversify the types of camping provided in its parks. The current OPRD role for camping includes providing tent sites, full RV hookup sites, hiker-biker sites and close by, walk-in tent camping. Very few OPRD properties offer dispersed or pack-in camping. Most OPRD camps are considered to be “high amenity” within a scenic setting, including flush toilets, showers and access to water, garbage and electricity somewhere in the camp. The camps are generally not far from a state highway. In recent years, OPRD has been constructing yurts or cabins in many of its larger camping parks in an effort to extend the camping season. Group camping and horse camping are also popular and growing in state parks across the state.

Another common OPRD role is providing high quality grounds and facilities for accessing adjacent resources such as lakes, ocean beaches, rivers and other attractions. Again, the parks are generally not far from a state highway and include developed facilities with vehicular access.

In the 1970’s, with the advent of a variety of natural and cultural resource protection laws, OPRD discovered that its scenic lands and traditional access sites were also high quality natural and cultural resources. Master planning for protection and public access to OPRD’s sites began in the 1970’s to address this emerging dual role.

Recently, OPRD has been acquiring a few very high quality natural and cultural areas for the purpose of protecting their resource values and providing appropriate levels of public access for recreation and interpretive purposes.

**OTHER RECREATION PROVIDERS**

A full range of recreation providers, including public and private providers, offer outdoor recreation opportunities and support facilities in the Douglas County coastal area.

In addition to Umpqua Lighthouse State Park, there are two other state parks in the nearby coastal area that offer similar amenities for camping, freshwater lakes and proximity to the dunes. Honeyman State Park, located just south of Florence in Lane County, has the second largest campground in the state. Honeyman offers yurts, RV sites, tent sites, group tent sites, and a hiker/biker camp. In the off-season ATV riders can access riding areas in the Dunes NRA from one of the park’s camp loops. There are two freshwater lakes in the park that support a range of water sports. Tugman State Park, located on Eel lake near Lakeside and less than one mile from the Dunes NRA, also offers a range of freshwater sports. This park also offers camping in tents, RVs, yurts and hiker/biker sites.
The US Forest Service has a number of coastal campgrounds within or near the Dunes NRA which reaches from Florence to North Bend. Four of the Forest Service campgrounds provide direct access by ATV’s to riding areas in the dunes.

The Forest Service has a total of nine parking areas in the Dunes NRA that are used for ATV staging, including two in the Dunes NRA management unit located south of the planning area. One of these staging areas allows overnight parking for dispersed sand camping by ATV riders.

Public access to the ocean beach occurs at ten locations along the Douglas County coast. Beach access parking is provided at one location in the planning area. Beach access is also provided at the two southern lots along Salmon Harbor Drive, which are heavily used by ATV riders for parking and staging.

Douglas County offers coastal camping opportunities under two separate entities. The County Parks Department offers RV and tent camping at Windy Cove Campground, located next to the harbor. Salmon Harbor Marina is the second largest public provider of campsites in the area, second to Honeyman State Park. Salmon Harbor offers RV and tent camping on two of the harbor spits.

Various private businesses provide camping and other recreation support services in the Reedsport/Winchester Bay area. At least eleven private campgrounds offer RV and/or tent camping opportunities in this area. There are several ATV rental businesses in Winchester Bay and Reedsport that support ATV riding activity in the dunes.
IV. EXISTING CONDITIONS

PLANNING AREA SIZE

The planning area includes a total of approximately 738 acres, including lands owned by six public agencies, in the following proportions:

- OPRD / State Park: 336.75 acres
- DSL: 190.45 acres
- Douglas County: 27.89 acres
- ACOE: 102 acres
- BLM: 68.8 acres
- US Coast Guard: 12.6 acres

Total Planning Area Acreage: 738.49 acres

(Note: Additional acreage included in the State Park boundary, but not included in the “planning area”, is located east of Highway 101 along the west shore of Clear Lake.)

LANDSCAPE CHARACTER

The planning area is located in the middle of the central Oregon dune sheet, which is notable as one of the largest coastal dune resource areas in North America. As such, most of the these dunes between Florence and North Bend are protected under the federally-administered Oregon Dunes National Recreation Area designation. Most of the planning area is composed of a mosaic of open sand dunes and stabilized dune ridges and interdune areas. A headland of consolidated marine sediments forms the east, northeast and southeast portions of the planning area. This formation supports predominantly second growth coniferous forests. Parallel dune ridges stabilized with second and old growth coniferous forests extend in a north-south direction through the central portion of the planning area. Lake Marie lies between the headland and dune ridge formations. The western portion of the planning area includes a large area of ocean beach, foredunes and interdune area. The foredunes are stabilized on their inland margin by beach grasses and shrubs. Young coniferous forest types have stabilized the interdune. Open sand dunes extend across the inland margin of the interdune to the forested dune ridges and southward to the more extensive open sand areas of the Dunes NRA. The jetty that armors the Umpqua River’s south shore extends seaward from the river mouth in a unique triangular pattern, adding to the scenic character of the landscape as seen from the lighthouse and whale watching station atop the forested dune ridge.

THE NEIGHBORHOOD

The state park is bounded on the north and northwest by largely undeveloped lands owned by the Oregon Division of State Lands, the Bureau of Land Management, the Army Corps of Engineers and Douglas County. The US Coast Guard Reservation, which includes the Umpqua River Lighthouse and housing for Coast Guard staff, is also located along the north boundary of the park. The former Coast Guard administration building and barracks, located immediately north of the lighthouse, is now owned by the County and is used as a museum and point or origin for guided lighthouse tours sponsored by the County Parks Department. An area of private lands also borders
the north park boundary. The western boundary of the park is the ocean shore. Highway 101 defines the east boundary of the state park proper, although an undeveloped portion of the park property is located on the opposite side of the highway along the shore of Clear Lake. Most other lands on the opposite side of the Highway are owned by private timber companies. A management unit of the Oregon Dunes National Recreation Area, which is administered by the US Forest Service, extends southward from the southern boundary of the state park. ATV riding and dispersed camping is allowed in the open sand areas of the Dunes NRA. The County supports ATV use with lands and facilities north of the state park. Unauthorized ATV activity occurs on the state park lands on the open dune and deflation plain. On the BLM and ACOE lands, ATV use is unmanaged but is not prohibited.

The community of Winchester Bay / Salmon Harbor, located north and northeast of the park, includes a variety of residential, commercial, industrial and public land and water uses. Salmon Harbor, which is owned by Douglas County, supports various water-dependent and related commercial and industrial enterprises that operate on the harbor shorelands and in the boat basin under lease agreements with the County. Large areas of the County-owned shorelands are developed for public day use and camping. Most of the boat slips in the harbor are rented or leased for recreational fishing boats and a few commercial fishing operations. A number of commercial and industrial uses also occur on the private lands near the harbor and along Highway 101. The privately-owned residential areas of the community support a mix of housing, a large portion of which are seasonally occupied second homes. The Coast Guard lifeboat station, formerly located next to the lighthouse, now operates from the north shore of Salmon Harbor.

ZONING

The entire planning area is zoned “Public Reserve” under the County’s Zoning Ordinance. Additionally, three overlay zones apply to portions of the planning area. The “Shoreland Overlay” and “Beaches and Dunes Overlay” apply to nearly all of the state park property and all of the other public lands in the planning area except the DSL-owned land. The “Flood Hazard Overlay” applies to the 100-year flood plain as reported by FEMA. The extent of this overlay is limited to narrow waterfront areas along the Umpqua River and the shoreline between the South and Training jetties.

RECREATION IN THE PLANNING AREA

The land base and facilities in the planning area support a wide range of recreation activities. The state park offers facilities for camping in tents, RVs, yurts and camper cabins, as well as picnicking, short distance hiking, and swimming and fishing in a small freshwater lake. The ocean beach access offers beachcombing, surfing and surf fishing. Birding occurs along the tidelands and fishing occurs from the river jetties. A small pier provides the opportunity for crabbing. ATV enthusiasts ride the open sand dunes and camp on the undeveloped public lands. Visitors to the historic lighthouse also visit the small Coast Guard museum and the whale watching station.

EXISTING FACILITIES IN THE PLANNING AREA

STATE PARK FACILITIES
Road Access: Vehicles enter Umpqua Lighthouse State Park from east and north entrances. From Highway 101, two roads join to enter the park from the east. This road continues through the park
past the campground road and the picnic area before exiting the park property into the Coast Guard reservation. Here the road becomes “Lighthouse Road” which passes through a residential area on its way to its intersection with Salmon Harbor Drive.

Campground Facilities: The campground at Lake Marie is small, with 44 camp sites that accommodate small to medium size recreational vehicles or tent campers, eight yurts, two camper cabins and a hiker/biker camp. Two of the RV/tent sites are host sites. The RV/tent sites, hiker/biker camp and cabins have shared central restroom facilities, all of which are in need of rehabilitation or replacement. Six of the existing yurts are deluxe with private bathrooms.

Day Use Area: A picnic area is located near a small beach on Lake Marie. The restroom building in the picnic area is in need of rehabilitation or replacement.

Maintenance Area: A park maintenance area with a small office, shop space and maintenance yard is located on the north side of the park road. Two additional host sites are in this area.

Trail: A hiking trail follows the shoreline of Lake Marie, and a spur trail extends from this loop westward to dead end at an overlook at the edge of the forest above the open sand dunes.

Water and Sewer: Except for two vault toilets that serve the north end of the campground, all of the restrooms in the park are connected to the Winchester Bay Sanitary District treatment system. Water service is provided by the City of Reedsport.

**OTHER FACILITIES IN THE PLANNING AREA**

Salmon Harbor Drive provides road access to the open dunes and deflation plain where lands owned by the BLM, ACOE and the County are located. Part of the state park also occupies this area. Salmon Harbor Drive extends through the planning area connecting the community of Winchester Bay and the harbor with the Dunes NRA, where it dead ends. A road extends westward from the main road to a beach access parking lot on the ACOE land. Two gravel roads extend from the main road to the South Jetty and Training Jetty. These two jetties are configured in a triangle pattern at the river mouth. The tide lands within the jetty triangle are leased for a private aquaculture business. The road to the Training Jetty also provides access to the Coast Guard watchtower that overlooks the river mouth. South of the planning area in the Dunes NRA, two other parking areas, including one at the road’s end, are used as parking and staging areas for ATV riders. Near the north end of the planning area along the river, property owned by DSL provides parking and access to a crabbing pier. The Winchester Bay Sanitary District treatment facility is located in this area on the opposite side of the road. A County-owned restroom building is located near the treatment facility.

The lighthouse and Coast Guard historic area overlook the open dune and deflation plain and the river mouth. The County is currently involved in a planning process for the historic area with intentions of acquiring the remaining Coast Guard reservation, removing the existing barracks, reconstructing the former lighthouse keeper residences, expanding the museum and adding to the tourist accommodations.
V. HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

This chapter provides a summary of the natural, cultural and scenic resource inventories and assessments that were used in completing the master plan. Detailed mapping of key resources contributed to the completion of the Composite Suitability Assessment, which is discussed in the “Suitability Assessments” chapter. Detailed maps and background information are filed at the OPRD headquarters office in Salem and may be viewed upon request. The resource maps may also be viewed at the OPRD Area 3 office at Honeyman State Park in Florence.

CLIMATE

The Oregon coast climate is moderate, with winter weather patterns influenced by counterclockwise rotating low pressure centers that pass over the North Pacific bringing frontal cyclonic storms with heavy rains and strong south to southwesterly winds. In summer, the pattern is dominated by fair weather and mild north-northwesterly winds with strong afternoon breezes and coastal fog. Mean annual temperatures are generally in the low 50’s (F) with mean summer temperatures in the low 60’s and mean winter temperatures in the low 40’s. Most of the precipitation falls in the winter in the form of rain. Average annual precipitation is 75 to 90 inches.

GEOLOGY AND SOILS

The landscape features in the planning area represent four surficial geologic formations. The forested headland in the eastern portion of the planning area is a marine sedimentary formation comprised of sandstone and siltstone. In the central part of the planning area, the high dune ridges and terraces consist of wind-deposited, unconsolidated sands that have been stabilized by mature forest vegetation. The foredune is a much younger representation of wind-deposited sand, conditionally stabilized by dune grasses. Unconsolidated marine deposited sands form the deflation plain and the ocean beach. Young forest and shrub communities help stabilize the deflation plain. Unvegetated and unstable sand dunes are located immediately east of the deflation plain.

Soil development is thin on the vegetated sand dune and interdune formations and non-existent on the unvegetated sands. Drainage is rapid in the sandy soils except where high ground water impedes drainage on the deflation plain. The older and more developed soils on the headland formation are well drained and higher in organic matter content.

The soil types in the planning area are mapped and described in reports prepared for the currently unpublished soil survey for Douglas County. These reports are kept on file at the OPRD headquarters office as background information for the master plan.

SURFACE WATER HYDROLOGY

Three small stream drainages occur in the study area, as well as a few small forested wetlands, several herbaceous wetlands on the deflation plain, and Lake Marie. The surface water inflow to Lake Marie is Marie Creek, which flows northward into the lake from the Dunes NRA along the boundary between the marine sedimentary headland formation and the stabilized dune formation in the southeastern portion of the planning area. The outlet of Lake Marie is located near the small public beach at the northwest end of the Lake. Drainage from the lake is underground, apparently in
culverts where it crosses the park road. From there, the drainage moves slowly through a channel northward into a small wetland before continuing toward the river along the western edge of the private land area and crossing Salmon Harbor Drive through culverts before entering the river. A third, unnamed, stream flows northward from a forested wetland on the slopes of the DSL land before crossing the road through culverts to the river. A forested wetland parallels Salmon Harbor Drive in this area, apparently a result of road construction. A small isolated forest wetland is located along the north side of the park road at its intersection with the campground road. On the deflation plain, several wetlands occur along Salmon Harbor Drive. These apparently formed as a result of the road interfering with the natural drainage. The surface water on the deflation plain increases substantially with seasonal heavy rains and high groundwater levels. The surface water features are depicted on the map entitled “Water Features and Hazards.”

**NATURAL HAZARDS**

Natural hazards in the planning area are related primarily to flooding. As reported by FEMA, 100-year flood events cause flood inundation along the narrow beaches between Salmon Harbor and the south jetties. In extremely rare storm events, waves could overtop the foredune south of the jetties. Ocean flooding that could occur in a tsunami event caused by a major off-shore earthquake could inundate the deflation plain as far as Salmon Harbor Drive, according to a study published by the Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries (DOGAMI). The hazards in the planning area are illustrated by the map entitled “Water Features and Hazards.”

**PLANT COMMUNITIES**

The assessment of plant communities completed for the master plan is represented by the map titled “Plant Communities and Conditions.” The map is based on the report provided by the Oregon Natural Heritage Information Center titled “An Inventory and Natural Areas Assessment of the Umpqua Lighthouse Study Area for Vegetation, At-Risk Species, Natural Area Values, and Wildlife Habitats.” The map and report are included with the background documentation for the master plan.

The Oregon Natural Heritage Program’s vegetation classification system was used as a basis for identifying, mapping, naming and describing the plant communities that occur in the study area. The plant community names that were assigned to mapping units indicate the dominant tree, shrub and herbaceous species that characterize each plant community. Forested communities are also identified by their seral status. The condition of the plant community represented by each mapping unit was assessed and assigned a numeric rating between 1 and 4. These ratings represent the following conditions:

*Condition 1*: Pristine native plant community in excellent condition and uncommon in Oregon; and/or has a special protection designation.

*Condition 2*: Native plant community generally undisturbed by historic or current human activities, of good vigor and condition, and relatively uncommon.

*Condition 3*: Native plant community moderately disturbed by historic or current human activities or by intrusion by non-native species; or despite good condition, is so common
in Oregon as to allow some loss to development. Includes dense, single species/age, young to moderately aged forest stands that are common in Oregon.

*Condition 4*: Generally disturbed by development or other human activities; or consists mostly of non-native species.

**Stabilized Dune Forest Communities**: The stabilized dunes located directly north and south of Lake Marie and in some areas of the deflation plain support forests of native conifer and hardwood species. These include the following forest communities.

**Shore pine / kinnikinnik** (*Pinus contorta var. contorta / Arctostaphylos uva-ursi*). Rated Condition 2, because it is rare but has been invaded somewhat by non-native species and is being threatened by ATV use. Reportedly one of the rarest and most endangered plant communities in Oregon. Included along its margins are small areas of shore pine / hairy manzanita (*Pinus contorta var. contorta / Arctostaphylos columbiana*) and small remnants of red fescue (*Festuca rubra*), also rare in Oregon. Located south of Lake Marie near the southern park boundary adjacent to an open sand dune ridge.

**Shore pine – Douglas fir / wax myrtle – evergreen huckleberry** (*Pinus contorta var. contorta – Pseudotsuga menziesii / Myrica californica – Vaccinium ovatum*). Occurrences south of Lake Marie are rated Condition 1, because these are late successional stands that are among the highest quality occurrences of this type in Oregon, and are eligible for designation as a Natural Heritage site. Occurrences along the northeast shore of Lake Marie and immediately east of the lighthouse are second growth stands in good condition, and are rated Condition 2. Younger occurrences, located adjacent to the park road and maintenance areas, are in poorer condition and therefore rated Condition 3.

**Shore pine – Sitka spruce / evergreen huckleberry** (*Pinus contorta var. contorta – Picea sitchensis / Vaccinium ovatum*). Rated Condition 1, because this is a late successional community and high quality examples are rare. This community is eligible for designation as a Natural Heritage site. Located immediately south and west of Lake Marie.

**Western Hemlock / Pacific rhododendron – evergreen huckleberry** (*Tsuga heterophylla / Rhododendron macrophyllum – Vaccinium ovatum*). Occurrences of mid to late successional stands located south of Lake Marie are rated Condition 1, because such occurrences of this quality are quite rare. Also eligible for designation as a Natural Heritage site. A slightly younger stand located adjacent to the campground has experienced recent blowdown and is somewhat more disturbed from human activity and weed infestation, and is rated Condition 2.

**Sitka spruce / evergreen huckleberry** (*Picea sitchensis / Vaccinium ovatum*). Rated Condition 1, because high quality occurrences are quite rare. Also eligible for designation as a Natural Heritage site. This is a mid to late successional forest type located south of Lake Marie. **Sitka spruce – Shore pine / wax myrtle** (*Picea sitchensis – Pinus contorta ssp. contorta / Myrica californica*).
Rated Condition 3, because of weed infestation. This is a somewhat sparsely forested shrubland community characterized by low wind-pruned trees, located on recently stabilized dunes and interdune areas in the western portion of the planning area.

**Non-dune Forest Communities:** The native conifer and hardwood forests in the eastern portion of the study area occur on consolidated marine sedimentary formations. These include the following forest communities.

**Port Orford cedar – Sitka spruce / evergreen huckleberry – Pacific rhododendron** (Chamaecyparis lawsoniana – Picea sitchensis / Vaccinium ovatum – Rhododendron macrophyllum).
Rated Condition 2. Although this community has been heavily influenced by past disturbance, it represents the northernmost naturally occurring stand of this forest type. It is located in the extreme southeast corner of the study area.

**Sitka spruce / sword fern (Picea sitchensis / Polystichum munitum).**
One occurrence between the southern park boundary and Lake Marie is a mid to late successional community with most of the characteristics of a late successional forest, in predominantly natural condition, and is rated Condition 2. Younger stands of this community, which are mainly in the northern portion of the planning area, show more signs of past logging and fewer late successional forest characteristics, and are rated Condition 3.

**Sitka spruce / salal (Picea sitchensis / Gaultheria shallon).**
Mid-successional communities are predominant in the eastern portion of the planning area. One comparatively small and more disturbed stand occurs east of Lake Marie. All are rated Condition 3 due to evidence of past logging.

**Sitka spruce / slough sedge – deer fern** (Picea sitchensis / Carex obnupta – Blechum spicant).
Rated Condition 2. This is a forested wetland community, in good condition. Two mid-successional occurrences are located in ravines in the northern portion of the study area.

Rated Condition 3. Mid-successional community in somewhat poor condition, located in lowlands that border roads in the northeastern portion of the study area and east of Lake Marie.

**Western hemlock / sword fern** (Tsuga heterophylla / Polystichum munitum).
This early to mid-successional community occurs north and east of Lake Marie within the state park. Fairly common, rated Condition 3.

**Sitka spruce – western hemlock / salal** (Picea sitchensis – Tsuga heterophylla / Gaultheria shallon).
Occurs in several areas east and northeast of Lake Marie and along Highway 101. Mid-seral community, rated Condition 3 due to evidence of past logging and some weed infestation.

Rated Condition 2. Mid-successional community in good condition with little evidence of past logging, although recent blow down occurred in this forest type in the northernmost portion of the study area. Also located adjacent to the east end of Lake Marie.

Red alder / salmonberry (Alnus rubra / Rubus spectabilis).
Rated Condition 3. An early seral forested wetland community with infestation of non-native species. Occurs in lowlands along Salmon Harbor Drive in the northern part of the study area. One small occurrence is located south of the park maintenance area along the park road.

Shrubland Communities: Shrubland communities of mixed native and non-native species occur predominantly on the younger dune and interdune formations. These include the following.

Coyote brush – Scots broom / European beach grass (Baccharis pilularis – Cytisus scoparius / Ammophila arenaria).
Rated Condition 3, dominated by native shrubs but with significant occurrences of non-native species. Occurs predominantly on the deflation plain.

Scots broom / European beach grass (Cytisus scoparius / Ammophila arenaria).
Rated Condition 4, dominated by non-native species. Occurs in narrow bands just behind the foredune and along the margins of inland open sand dunes.

Rated Condition 4 due to non-native species. Native trees, wind-pruned and shrub-like, have invaded where non-native shrubs have been predominant, progressing toward forest community. Occurs on recently stabilized dunes and deflation plain.

Herbaceous Communities: The upland herbaceous communities include native and non-native species that occur mostly along the foredune and margins of open sand dunes. These include the following.

European beach grass (Ammophila arenaria).
Rated Condition 4, predominantly non-native species. Occurs mostly on the foredune.

American dune grass (Leymus mollis ssp. mollis).
Rated Condition 3, fairly marginal remanents of native dune grass and threatened by invasion of native and non-native species. Occurs in patches along the foredune.

Red Fescue (Festuca rubra). (Not mapped due to small size of occurrence.)
Rated Condition 3, marginal remanents of a very rare and threatened plant community type. Occurs south of Lake Marie near the southern park boundary adjacent to an open sand dune ridge. This community may not be manageable due to its remote location, ATV disturbance, the spread of European beach grass, and the small size of the occurrence.
Deflation Plain Wetland Communities: The wetlands that occur on the deflation plain along Salmon Harbor Drive were mapped without differentiation between the associated plant community types. The four wetland community types listed below are known to occur in a matrix in the planning area based on previous studies. The largest examples, located east of the road, are open water shallow ponds through most of the winter. ATV activity removes most of the vegetation in the spring and early summer before it has the chance to become fully developed. West of the road where ATV use is restricted, these wetlands are mostly hidden in the young shore pine and spruce forests. All of these communities were rated Condition 2.

Salt Rush (Juncus lesueurii).


Slough Sedge – Pacific Silverweed (Carex obnupta – Argentina egedii).

Creeping Spikerush – Nevada rush (Eleocharis palustris – Juncus nevadensis).

WILDLIFE

The assessment of wildlife habitats completed for the master plan is represented by the map titled “Habitat Types and Values.” The map was prepared based on the report provided by the Oregon Natural Heritage Information Center titled “An Inventory and Natural Areas Assessment of the Umpqua Lighthouse Study Area for Vegetation, At-Risk Species, Natural Area Values, and Wildlife Habitats.” The map and report are included with the background documentation for the master plan. The report includes a list of species that are likely to occur in the planning area.

Habitat types were identified and assessed based on the plant communities that are present in the planning area. The identified habitat types and their values are summarized below. Each habitat type was assigned a value between 1 and 4 representing its viability and importance in maintaining wildlife populations considering the condition of the habitat, the species it supports, the collective size of contiguous habitat, connectedness to surrounding habitat, the likely affects of surrounding land uses, the relative abundance of the habitat type in the region, and the potential for habitat improvement through protection or active management measures. The seral status of the forest plant communities was also factored into the assessments of forested areas. Value 1 represents the most valuable habitat and Value 4 represents the least valuable habitat.

Beach and tidelands. Rated Value 1. This habitat type is naturally limited in extent and highly protected under state and federal laws. Wildlife supported by this type include 117 bird species, 28 mammal species including 2 marine mammals, and 5 reptile species. Species that are closely associated with the type include the following:

Birds: Black-bellied Plover, Snowy Plover, Wandering Tattler, Sanderling, Western Sandpiper, Western Gull, Caspian Tern.

Mammals: Raccoon and harbor seal.

Reptiles: Garter snake.

(No amphibians are closely associated with this type.)
Open Water. Includes Lake Marie and a small pond located east of the Coast Guard Museum. Rated value 1. This type is limited in extent in the region. Lake Marie is noteworthy as one of few coastal dune lakes in Oregon that remains in high quality condition. This type is also highly protected under state and federal laws. Wildlife supported by this type include 115 bird species, 23 mammal species, 5 reptile species and 17 amphibian species. Species that are closely associated with this type include the following:

**Birds:** Common Loon, Western Grebe, Great Blue Heron, Wood Duck, Cinnamon Teal, Ring-necked Duck, Harlequin Duck, Osprey, Belted Kingfisher, Tree Swallow.

**Mammals:** Western Small-footed Myotis, Townsend’s Big-eared Bat, American Beaver, Mink.

**Reptiles:** Western Pond Turtle, Painted Turtle.

**Amphibians:** Northwestern Salamander, Long-toed Salamander, Great Basin Spadefoot, Western Toad, Red-legged Frog, Northern Leopard Frog.

Riparian Forest Wetlands. Includes early and mid-seral forested wetland plant communities that occur in a few ravines and lowlands among upland forested areas. Rated Value 2. These are comparatively small areas, yet integrally connected to surrounding large expanse of second growth conifer and hardwood forest habitat described below. Also subject to wetland fill and removal laws. Wildlife supported by this type include 145 bird species, 69 mammal species, 16 reptile species and 24 amphibian species. Species that are closely associated with this type include the following:

**Birds:** Great Blue Heron, Wood Duck, Harlequin Duck, Ruffed Grouse, Band-tailed Pigeon, Belted Kingfisher, Willow Flycatcher, Red-eyed Vireo, Tree Swallow, Yellow Warbler.

**Mammals:** Pacific Shrew, Yuma Myotis, Mountain Beaver, Dusky-footed Woodrat, White-footed Vole, Northern River Otter, Fisher, Mink.

**Reptiles:** Western Pond Turtle, Common Garter Snake.

**Amphibians:** Northwestern Salamander, Cope’s Giant Salamander, Pacific Giant Salamander, Western Toad, Red-legged Frog.

Herbaceous Wetlands. Includes several undifferentiated wetland communities that occur on the deflation plain. Rated Value 2. Subject to wetland fill and removal laws. Wildlife supported by this type include 150 bird species, 55 mammal species, 7 reptile species and 14 amphibian species. Species that are closely associated with this type include the following:

**Birds:** Western Grebe, Great egret, Green Heron, American Wigeon, Redhead, American Coot, Short-eared Owl, Marsh Wren, Common Yellowthroat, Red-winged Blackbird.
**Mammals:** American Beaver, Meadow Vole, Muskrat, Raccoon, Northern River Otter.

**Reptiles:** Red-eared Slider Turtle, Painted Turtle, Western Pond Turtle.

**Amphibians:** Rough-skinned Newt, Western Spadefoot, Pacific Chorus (Tree) Frog, Oregon Spotted Frog, Long-toed Salamander.

**Mixed Conifer and Hardwood Forests.** This general type is described below by occurrences in three seral stages that coincide to a large degree with landscape features. Wildlife supported by this general type include 120 bird species, 72 mammal species, 14 reptile species and 26 amphibian species.

**Late Successional Forest:** Includes late successional forest communities that occur on stabilized dunes south and west of Lake Marie. Rated Value 1. This type is comprised of five very rare and high-priority forest communities that are reportedly the most significant ecological features in the planning area. Few late successional forests of this type remain in the coast range. Species that are closely associated with this type include the following:

**Birds:** Hooded Merganser, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Band-tailed pigeon, Northern Pigmy Owl, Hairy Woodpecker, Western Flycatcher, Common Raven, Brown creeper, Winter Wren, Varied Thrush.

**Mammals:** Big Brown Bat, Black Bear, Northern Flying Squirrel, Porcupine.

**Amphibians:** Pacific Giant Salamander, Rough-skinned Newt, Pacific Tree Frog.

(No reptiles are closely associated with this type.)

**Mid-Successional Forest.** Includes mid-seral forest communities that occur north, northeast, east and southeast of Lake Marie, mostly on consolidated marine sedimentary formations and to some extent on the contiguous stabilized dunes. Rated Value 2. This type comprises a large contiguous block of forest habitat that, with appropriate management, could reportedly recover late successional forest characteristics in a relatively short time. These forest communities are contiguous to the late successional forest communities discussed above. The fact that these forests have been mostly eliminated from the south central Oregon Coast makes their value for restoration more significant. Species that are closely associated with this type include the following:

**Birds:** Coopers Hawk, Mourning Dove, Varied Thrush.

**Mammals:** Shrew Mole, Grey Fox, Roosevelt Elk, Western Grey Squirrel.

**Reptiles:** Southern Alligator Lizard.

(No amphibians are closely associated with this type.)
**Early Successional Forest.** Includes early seral forest and shrubland communities that occur predominantly on the deflation plain, and a few isolated early seral forest communities that occur north and east of Lake Marie.

Rated Value 3. This habitat type is very common and typically includes significant populations of non-native species. Species that are closely associated with this type include the following:

**Birds:** Ruffed Grouse, Vaux’s Swift, Allen’s Hummingbird, Scrub Jay, Bushtit, American Robin, Hutton’s Vireo, Orange Crowned Warbler, Spotted Towhee.

**Mammals:** Coast Mole, Coyote, Ringtail, Spotted Skunk, Black-tailed Deer.

**Reptiles:** Northern Alligator Lizard, Western Terrestrial Garter Snake.

**Amphibians:** Clouded Salamander, Western Toad, Pacific Tree Frog.

**Open Dunes.** Includes dunes that are unvegetated or that are vegetated predominantly with European beach grass. Unvegetated dunes are located mostly eastward of the deflation plain. These areas do not provide significant wildlife habitat. The foredune is mostly vegetated with beach grass. Some wildlife species that use the beach also use the adjacent foredune.

Rated Value 4. Generally low habitat value, unless determined to be viable for Snowy plover recovery. (See discussion under the section of this chapter titled “Species of Concern.”)

**Developed or Graded.** Includes areas where most natural habitat values have been lost or replaced due to development or land alterations.

Rated Value 4. Few remaining natural habitat values. The species that use such areas vary depending on the kind of development that has replaced natural habitat. In general, wildlife that use such areas include 149 bird species and 76 mammal species. Species that are closely associated with these areas include the following:

**Birds:** Western Gull, Rock Dove, House Finch, American Crow, European Starling.

**Mammals:** Virginia Opossum, Big Brown Bat, Eastern Grey Squirrel, Eastern Fox Squirrel, Deer Mouse, House Mouse, Raccoon.

(No reptiles or amphibians.)

**SPECIES OF CONCERN**

**PLANTS**

There are no records that indicate the presence of plant species in the planning area that are listed as “endangered” or “threatened” under state or federal Endangered Species Acts (ESA) or that are candidates for such listings. There were also no such species found during the on-site inventories conducted for the master plan.

**WILDLIFE**

The ocean beach in the planning area was once used by coastal populations of snowy plover (Charadrius alexandrinus nivosus), which are listed as “threatened” under federal and state ESAs. A planning process is currently underway for the entire Oregon Coast to identify suitable beach areas
where habitat management could contribute to the recovery of this species. At this stage of that planning process, this section of beach has not been identified as an area where snowy plover recovery will be emphasized.

The brown pelican (Pelecanus occidentalis) is known to use the tidal area in the triangle between the south and training jetties. This species is listed as “endangered” under federal and state ESAs. Neither the current or proposed uses in the planning area pose a threat to this species.

There are no records that indicate the presence of Marbled murrelet (Brachyramphus marmoratus) or northern spotted owls (Strix occidentalis caurina) in the planning area, nor were these species observed in the wildlife assessments completed for the master plan. Both of these species are listed as “threatened” under federal and state ESAs. However, surveys for these species in the planning area have been limited in scope. The late successional forests south and west of Lake Marie may potentially provide habitat for these species. Because suitable habitat may be present, the federal ESA requires that new development projects in and around the potential habitat area be preceded by a determination of habitat suitability. If suitable habitat is present, the federal ESA requires that mitigation specified by USFW be incorporated into the development, unless a survey carried out in accordance with ESA requirements is conducted and concludes that the species are not present.

A population of white-footed vole (Arborimus albipes) is known to exist about three miles north of the planning area. This species may be present in riparian areas within patches of coniferous forest. This species is extremely uncommon throughout its range, which is limited to western Oregon and northwest California. It is considered a sensitive species in Oregon due to its rarity, and is identified under the federal ESA as a “species of concern.” The proposals in this master plan do not affect the riparian areas where this species could potentially exist.

**CULTURAL RESOURCES**

The significant cultural resources in the planning area that have been investigated and documented are in the lighthouse and Coast Guard station historic area. The lighthouse and the former Coast Guard administration and maintenance buildings are listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

Several other sites in the planning area have been documented as being potentially significant for their cultural resource values. These are sites where historic or prehistoric human activities are known to have occurred, where investigations for the presence of artifacts are needed prior to any activities that could potentially disturb the sites. In order to prevent looting of these sites, they are not disclosed to the general public. However, these sites have been considered in the selection of proposed development sites described in the “Development Concepts” chapter of this master plan.

The County and interested citizen groups have produced a planning document, titled “Umpqua River Lighthouse and Coast Guard Museum Master Planning Study”, that addresses the potential for enhancing the cultural resources and visitor accommodations in the lighthouse historic area. The County and citizen groups, with the help of consultants, have done a commendable job of describing the cultural history and resources of the Reedsport/Winchester Bay area in producing that document.
SCENIC RESOURCES AND RECREATION SETTINGS

The assessments of scenic resources and recreation settings that were completed for the master plan are illustrated by the map titled “Scenic Resources and Recreation Settings.”

Those who recreate in the planning area enjoy outstanding outdoor recreation settings and views of a number of unique resources. The key views that should be considered in planning for this area include:

- Views from the lighthouse area.
- Views from the ocean shore and river shore.
- Views of and across Lake Marie.
- Views from roads and trails.
- Views across the open sand dunes and of the lighthouse area from the deflation plain.

VISIBILITY FROM MAJOR USE AREAS

The scenic resource assessment for the planning area included an assessment of the visual impacts that would occur with development or other major modifications. Areas were mapped according to their relative visibility from major recreational use areas. The following summarizes the findings of this assessment:

- The ocean beach, foredune and river shore areas are highly visible to those who recreate in these areas.

- Areas that are highly visible from the lighthouse historic area include the developed areas within the historic area, the open sand dunes immediately to the west, and the ocean shore, river, jetties, and open ocean in the distance. The forested deflation plain as seen from the lighthouse area is also visible, and visual impacts from development in this area could be reasonably mitigated only if many trees could be preserved around and within development areas.

- Motorists on Salmon Harbor Drive enjoy views of the river and catch glimpses across the open sand dunes and of the lighthouse.

- Some ATV riders appreciate the scenic setting of the dunes, while others are primarily interested in the challenging riding terrain.

- Lake Marie, its shoreline, and the campground and day use area are highly visible to the visitors who recreate in these areas.

- The interior second and late successional forest areas of the state park and the DSL land are well hidden from the major use areas unless major clearing of trees occurred.
RECREATION SETTINGS
OPRD classifies its properties according to their uses and settings. Under the property classification scheme, Umpqua Lighthouse State Park is classified as a “state park” because of its range of recreational opportunities within a large scenic setting.

OPRD has adopted methodology for assessing different recreational settings. Known originally as Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (ROS), the methodology was first developed by the US Forest Service and was later adapted by OPRD to address the somewhat different range of settings that are present outside of the federal lands in Oregon. The methodology is documented by OPRD in the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP), 1994-1999.

Using OPRD’s adapted ROS methodology, the settings in the planning area are best described, although not perfectly, by the following ROS classifications:

- Urban within Open Space: Applies to the existing state park campground and day use area and the developed facilities in the lighthouse area. This ROS setting describes largely developed areas with heavy interaction and visitor controls, within an open space context.

- Rural: Applies to the area along Salmon Harbor Drive between Half Moon Bay and Salmon Harbor. This ROS setting describes substantially modified areas with road access and moderate facility development and social interaction, within an open space context.

- Roaded Modified: Applies to the deflation plain and beach area. This ROS setting describes areas with road access and limited facility development and moderate social interaction where modifications to the natural environment are obvious, within an open space context.

- Roaded Natural: Applies to the heavily forested areas of the DSL land and the state park. This ROS setting describes areas with road access and limited facility development and moderate social interaction where modifications to the natural environment are not obvious, within an open space context.
VI. FUTURE LAND MANAGEMENT

AREAS OF INTEREST

In the master planning process, OPRD considers relationships between the state park and adjacent or nearby properties to determine whether the other properties might be important for future recreational uses, for the protection of important resources, or for the protection of current or future uses in the state park. Any areas considered to be important are called “areas of interest.”

In this planning area, the existing pattern of public land ownership and management was one of the primary reasons for initiating the master planning process. OPRD and Douglas County both recognized a need to explore the merits of consolidating land ownership and/or management under fewer agency authorities in order to better manage the recreational uses that occur across the multiple jurisdictions in the planning area. For that reason most of the lands that would normally be addressed as “areas of interest” have been included in the “planning area.” The “interests” in the lands discussed in this master plan include other agencies’ interests as well as OPRD’s interests. A total of six public agencies own land in the planning area, including OPRD, Douglas County, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), the Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE), the US Coast Guard, and the Division of State Lands (DSL). In addition, the US Forest Service (USFS) administers the adjacent Dunes National Recreation Area, and as such, has a direct interest in how lands in the planning area are managed and vice versa.

AGENCY INTERESTS

As discussed above, there are seven agencies with direct interests in the planning area. Of these seven agencies, there are three agencies that manage lands for public recreation. The recreation agencies are OPRD, the County and USFS. The interests of all seven affected agencies are discussed below. The advantages and disadvantages of two land management consolidation scenarios are discussed in the “Management Consolidation Scenarios” section that follows.

OPRD INTERESTS:

As a statewide recreation provider, OPRD has a dual mission of “protecting” and “providing” outstanding natural, cultural and scenic resource sites for public enjoyment and education. A prime example of OPRD’s mission and role is found in Umpqua Lighthouse State Park’s high quality dune forest and coastal lake setting, in addition to the resources associated with the ocean shore. The natural resource values of the lake and adjacent late successional forest have prompted the Oregon Natural Heritage Information Center to recommend that this area be dedicated as a Natural Heritage Conservation Area (NHCA).

In addition to retaining jurisdiction over the ocean shore, OPRD is interested in retaining ownership of the eastern portion of the state park and managing it in accordance with OPRD’s mission. This portion of the park includes the lake, the high value forest habitat and the campground and day use facilities. The proposed NHCA is within this area.

OPRD is interested in transferring the management of state park land located on the open dune and deflation plain to Douglas County or the US Forest Service in order to help facilitate consolidated
management of ATV activity. ATV riders have long used the open dune area of the park even though ATV use has never been an authorized activity in the park. OPRD management of this area has been difficult because of its position between two areas where ATV use has been allowed, i.e., between the Dunes NRA to the south and the County land to the north. This area would be better managed by either the Forest Service or the County, since these agencies both have active roles in supporting ATV use. As described in the “Development Concepts” chapter, this area could be considered for development of an ATV campground and day use parking and staging area. The County has expressed an interest in developing these facilities. OPRD would offer to transfer the management of this land to the County for purposes that are consistent with the intent of this master plan. OPRD would want the area of open dune directly west of Lake Marie to be managed for non-motorized use to help buffer the sound impacts of ATV recreation on the Lake Marie area and to allow for separation between ATV riding and non-motorized trail access across the open dune to the ocean shore.

OPRD’s mission also involves acquiring key properties that contribute to the state park resource base and recreation opportunities. In this planning area, OPRD has an interest in assuming the management of the DSL-owned forest land located north of, and contiguous to, the state park. OPRD would manage this area for its habitat values and for the development of non-motorized trails. As reported by the Oregon Natural Heritage Information Center in the completion of the master plan resource assessments, the DSL land could be managed in a manner that would enhance the succession of the forest plant communities toward late successional forest characteristics. (See the “Heritage Assessment” and “Natural Resource Management Guidelines” chapters.) Over time, management of this area by OPRD would expand and enhance the high value forest habitat that characterizes the Lake Marie setting. If OPRD management of this entire property is not an option, at a minimum OPRD would explore opportunities to provide non-motorized trails on the property that connect the state park with the area’s other recreation amenities in a manner that is compatible with other uses of the property.

As discussed below, the County is also interested in acquiring the DSL land for responsible forest management and recreational purposes. Potentially OPRD and the County, through negotiations with DSL, could enter into a partnership that serves mutual forest management and recreational objectives.

DOUGLAS COUNTY INTERESTS:
Douglas County provides recreation facilities under two entities, the County Parks Department and the Salmon Harbor Management Committee. County-wide, the Parks Department manages 5 parks with campgrounds, 47 day use parks including three recreational reservoirs, and the museum and visitor center at the former Coast Guard life boat station. In addition, the Parks Department manages a 1000-acre park and resource conservation area that includes day use facilities, a historic homestead and school house, pastured grasslands and oak and madrona woodlands, and second growth coniferous forest. The Salmon Harbor Management Committee manages the boat moorage and camping facilities within the confines of the harbor and its shorelands.

The County is interested in consolidating its management of the lands north of the Dunes NRA in order to uniformly manage this entire area for multiple uses. In general, the County’s intentions are: to consolidate, simplify and improve the public land management; add to the County’s recreation land base and provide facilities to accommodate recreational growth and expand the tourism economy; develop quality tourist facilities at the former Coast Guard station; expand camping
opportunities; manage ATV activity and provide better ATV facilities. The County has demonstrated a strong commitment towards meeting these objectives by taking various actions. These actions have included: planning for enhancement of the historic area resources; pursuing the acquisition of Coast Guard, BLM and ACOE lands; amending the comprehensive plan to enable development of facilities; and strengthening regulation and enforcement of ATV activities.

The County wants to acquire the remaining Coast Guard reservation in order to enhance the historic resources and tourist attractions currently managed by the County, as described in the County’s “Umpqua River Lighthouse and Coast Guard Museum Master Planning Study.” The proposals in the County’s “Master Planning Study” include the relocation of the Coast Guard staff housing currently located at this site.

The County’s “Master Planning Study”, in its preferred alternative, also proposes that an adjacent portion of the state park be used for the development of a parking lot to support tourism development in the Coast Guard historic area.

On the open dune and deflation plain, the County is taking steps to acquire all of the BLM land and the southern portion of the ACOE land. The County is also interested in acquiring the state park land in this area. These acquisitions would support the County’s interests in managing the ATV activity, in developing the ATV facilities described in this Master Plan, and in managing the view and sound sheds of the lighthouse historic area.

The County’s acquisition interests also include the rest of the state park, including the proposed NHCA site and the existing campground and day use facilities.

In addition, the County is interested in acquiring the DSL-owned forest land that abuts the north boundary of the state park for expansion of the County’s recreational land base and responsible management of the associated forest resources. The County is particularly interested in preventing problems associated with windfalls, disease and wild fire hazards, as well as managing the aesthetic value of the forest buffer that abuts the harbor area. This forest land, which was formerly owned by the County, was transferred to DSL ownership in 1970 in exchange for tidelands that were filled for the construction of Salmon Harbor. The DSL-owned riverfront, currently leased by the County, is also of interest to the County for acquisition.

**US FOREST SERVICE INTERESTS:**
The US Forest Service manages the Dunes NRA lands that abut the southern boundary of the state park. Most of the ATV riding area is within the Dunes NRA boundary. As such, the Forest Service is the primary provider of ATV riding opportunities. Management of ATV use and other authorized activities in the Dunes NRA are guided by the “Management Plan for the Oregon Dunes National Recreation Area.”

The Forest Service is not interested in acquiring additional lands for inclusion in the Dunes NRA at this location or in developing or managing additional camping or day use facilities. However, this agency has a direct interest in the affects of adjacent land management on the Dunes NRA and vice versa. The Forest Service is interested in working with the neighboring public land managers to assure that the provision of ATV facilities is based on due consideration of issues related to public need, safety, riding area capacity and the quality of recreation experience, and to establish consistency between ATV management policies and rules.
BLM INTERESTS:
The BLM has no active recreation management role or facilities in the planning area. The BLM is cooperating with the County to facilitate the transfer of its land in the planning area to the County in support of efforts to consolidate land ownership and management on the open dune and deflation plain. Pending the completion of this transfer, the BLM’s interests center around public safety and resource management issues associated with dispersed use of this land. (The federal legislation proposing the transfer of this land to the County is H.R. 514.)

ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS INTERESTS:
The ACOE also has no active role as a recreation provider in the planning area. This agency’s interests center around periodic work on the jetties and dredging of the river and harbor. Disposal of dredged materials was formerly considered at this site, however, the ACOE is now looking for a more favorable disposal site outside of the planning area. The jetties are of particular concern with regard to uses proposed in the vicinity. It is the policy of the ACOE to discourage and/or prohibit public access or recreational use on the jetties. Further, any development on neighboring lands which restricts occasional work on the jetties would be unacceptable. The ACOE holds easements to enter through the adjacent lands to carry out work related to these structures.

The majority of the ACOE-owned land is not available for acquisition. The County and the ACOE have recently signed a lease agreement for County management of the Ziolkowski Beach access. In addition, the County is pursuing acquisition of the ACOE land south of the beach access road. The ACOE has also expressed a willingness to cooperate with interested agencies on proposed development and management of recreational uses on the ACOE land to the extent that such activities do not interfere with ACOE responsibilities and authorities.

US COAST GUARD INTERESTS:
The Coast Guard has no role as a recreation provider. Much of the land and facilities that were part of the original Coast Guard reservation have been transferred to Douglas County. The remaining Coast Guard ownership includes the lighthouse and several barracks that house Coast Guard staff. The automated lighthouse is maintained by the Coast Guard.

In addition to maintaining the lighthouse, the Coast Guard’s primary interest is in the County’s proposal to remove the barracks. In particular, the County’s proposal would necessitate the replacement of the barracks with acceptable housing in the Winchester Bay area.

DSL INTERESTS:
The DSL has no active recreation management role in the planning area. (Douglas County manages the crabbing pier and associated parking and day use area on the DSL-owned waterfront.) In general, the DSL manages its lands to generate revenue for public schools.

Both OPRD and the County have expressed an interest in managing the DSL forest land that abuts the north boundary of the state park. DSL representatives have not yet indicated this agency’s intentions for this property, but have indicated a willingness to discuss the matter with OPRD and the County.
MANAGEMENT CONSOLIDATION SCENARIOS

One purpose of this master plan is to examine options for consolidating land management in the planning area. Two land management consolidation scenarios are discussed below by their advantages and disadvantages. Scenario 1 reflects the County’s interest in acquiring the entire state park. Under Scenario 1, the County would be the only public recreation provider in the entire planning area north of the Dunes NRA, aside from OPRD’s jurisdiction over the ocean shore. Under Scenario 2, OPRD would transfer the management of land on the open dune and deflation plain to the County, but retain management of the state park’s core area including Lake Marie and the surrounding stabilized dune forest, as well as the ocean shore. The County would then be the only recreation provider on the open dune and deflation plain north of the Dunes NRA.

Assumptions regarding the other public lands are the same between the two scenarios. The DSL land has been intentionally left out of the analysis of the two scenarios because DSL has not yet been involved in this discussion or otherwise indicated whether this land would be available under any scenario.
The table below shows the differences in the land managers and recreation providers between the two scenarios, relative to existing conditions, for the open dune and deflation plain as compared to the area overall.

Note: OPRD’s jurisdiction over the ocean shore is not reflected in this table or in the discussion of advantages and disadvantages that follows. OPRD would retain the ocean shore jurisdiction under any scenario.

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**SCENARIO 1: COUNTY ASSUMES MANAGEMENT OF THE ENTIRE STATE PARK, BLM LAND, COAST GUARD LAND AND SOUTHERN PORTION OF ACOE LAND.**

Under this scenario, OPRD would transfer the entire state park to the County. In the area overall, there would be one less land manager and one less recreation provider than under Scenario 2. On the open dune and deflation plain, the number of land managers and recreation providers would be the same as Scenario 2.

**Advantages compared to Scenario 2**
- Except on the open dune and deflation plain, there would be one less public land manager than under Scenario 2, which would go farther in simplifying overall land management, reducing the potential for confusion among members of the public, and making it easier to achieve consistency in policies and rules. Interagency partnerships may be easier to achieve with one less agency involved.
Except on the open dune and deflation plain, there would be one less recreation provider than under Scenario 2. This could help simplify recreation management, make it easier to achieve consistency in recreation policies, rules and fees, and reduce the potential for confusion among the recreating public.

There would be no need for a law enforcement agreement between OPRD and the County.

The County would gain the revenue generated by the existing state park facilities.

Disadvantages compared to Scenario 2

- Funding and staffing new facilities and programs as outlined in the master plan may be more difficult with fewer participating recreation agencies.

- OPRD would no longer have a presence in Douglas County as a provider of state park camping facilities.

- The gap between coastal state park campgrounds in this vicinity would widen to 29 miles, between Honeyman and Tugman State Parks. (The distance from Umpqua Lighthouse to Honeyman is 22 miles, and to Tugman is 7 miles.)

- OPRD would lose the revenue generated by the existing state park facilities.

- The County’s mission and roles as a land manager and recreation provider do not include management of high value natural resource areas in the manner prescribed for OPRD’s management of such areas.

**SCENARIO 2: OPRD RETAINS THE EASTERN PORTION OF THE STATE PARK. COUNTY ASSUMES MANAGEMENT OF A WESTERN PORTION OF THE STATE PARK, BLM LAND, COAST GUARD LAND AND SOUTHERN PORTION OF ACOE LAND.**

Under this scenario, OPRD would retain the lake, the existing campground and the high value forest area of the state park, but transfer management of land on the open dune and deflation plain to the County. A small area located adjacent to the Coast Guard historic area would also be transferred to the County for development of the historic area parking. The boundary between County and OPRD management areas would be defined mostly by topography and differences in landscape character and recreation settings. In the area overall, there would be one more land manager and one more recreation provider than under Scenario 1. On the open dune and deflation plain, the number of land managers and recreation providers would be the same as Scenario 1.
Advantages compared to Scenario 1

- Retaining the existing number of public recreation agencies in the overall area could help maximize financial resources and staff expertise to implement master plan proposals in a timely fashion to serve the public interest. Law enforcement could be strengthened through the pooling of multi-agency resources. Diversified funding and revenue from multiple jurisdictions could help protect against budget shortfalls.

- OPRD would retain its presence in Douglas County as a provider of state park camping facilities.

- The gap between coastal state park campgrounds in the vicinity would not increase.

- OPRD would retain the revenue generated by the existing state park facilities.

- High value natural resource areas in the state park would continue to be protected and managed under OPRD’s mission, rules and programs.

Disadvantages compared to Scenario 1

- Except on the open dune and deflation plain, there would be one more public land manager than under Scenario 1, which would not go as far in simplifying overall land management, reducing the potential for confusion among members of the public, or making it easier to achieve consistency in policies and rules. Interagency partnerships would need to involve OPRD.

- Except on the open dune and deflation plain, there would be one more recreation provider than under Scenario 1. There could remain some potential for public confusion and inconsistencies in recreation policies, rules, procedures and fees. Interagency partnerships to overcome such issues would need to involve OPRD.

- An agreement between OPRD and the County would continue to be needed for the provision of law enforcement services at the state park.

- The County would not gain the revenue generated by the existing state park facilities.

OPRD’S PREFERRED FUTURE LAND MANAGEMENT SCENARIO

OPRD supports a future land management scenario that meets the intent of Scenario 2. OPRD believes that the advantages of coordinating multiple agency roles, programs, expertise and funding to provide for the area’s highly diverse recreation and resource management needs outweigh any disadvantages of having one additional agency (OPRD) involved in managing recreation lands and opportunities in the area. Further, the ATV management issues on the open dune and deflation plain, and the management consolidation objectives for this area, would be addressed equally under both scenarios.

The intent of Scenario 2 is also consistent with OPRD’s public trust duty to ensure that areas established as state parks are managed to a level that meets that trust responsibility. The state policies embodied in statute charge OPRD with the responsibility to provide those outdoor recreation areas, facilities and opportunities that are clearly the responsibility of the state to provide, relative to the
respective roles of other recreation providers. In addition, OPRD is mandated to work in concert with other recreation providers in a cooperative and coordinated manner to assist in providing for the overall recreation needs of the public.

This master planning process has included an analysis of the resource and recreational values of Umpqua Lighthouse State Park to determine whether any part of the park resources or recreation opportunities are outside of the state’s role. The analysis has shown that, in addition to the ocean shore, most of the eastern portion of the park clearly falls under OPRD’s role. In contrast, most of the western portion of the park fits better under the roles of the US Forest Service or Douglas County.

The eastern portion of the state park is characterized by a high quality coastal lake and forest habitat that are of regional and statewide significance. The predominantly late successional forest south and west of the lake, and the lake itself, are of such quality and rarity as to merit a proposal for dedication as a Natural Heritage Conservation Area under the Oregon Natural Heritage Plan. OPRD is well known for its role in providing for such sites and owns and manages dozens of them around the state. The campground near the lake has the attraction of this resource setting together with a range of camping amenities that are characteristic of state park camping opportunities. It is also the only example of state park camping in Douglas County.

Much of the western portion of the park is characterized by low value habitat and areas that attract recreational activities that are largely outside of OPRD’s role. ATV riding areas are generally provided by the federal government, counties and some private enterprises. There are currently no official ATV riding areas on OPRD lands, except for one or two trail connections from state park campgrounds. The US Forest Service is the primary provider of ATV riding opportunities, in the Dunes NRA south of the state park. North of the park, the County owns and manages recreation lands and campgrounds that support ATV use. While either of these agencies are suited to manage the state park lands where ATV use has been occurring, the County has expressed a specific interest in doing so.

In summary, OPRD believes it is in the State’s interest for OPRD to retain the park’s high value forest areas, Lake Marie and associated camping and day use facilities. Further, it is in the State’s interest to offer to transfer the management of lands on the open dune and deflation plain to the County to be used for purposes that are consistent with the intent of this master plan, for improved management of ATV activity and development of related facilities in particular. In doing so, OPRD recognizes both the County and the Forest Service as important partners with OPRD in providing for the larger recreational needs of the County and the State.

Changes in State Park Acreage Resulting From Scenario 2

Under Future Land Management Scenario 2, roughly 107 acres of land would be transferred to county management, including roughly 12 acres that would remain as ocean shore jurisdiction. Roughly 230 acres would remain within the state park boundary west of Highway 101.
VII. RECREATION NEEDS AND OPPORTUNITIES

The master planning process includes an assessment of recreation needs and opportunities. Recreational uses that occur in, or that are suitable for, the planning area, and that fit the roles of the area’s participating recreation providers, are considered as appropriate in the conceptual placement and design of related facilities as described in this master plan.

SCORP

OPRD has recently updated the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP) which provides statewide and regional information on trends in participation in various outdoor recreation activities. The master planning area is in SCORP Region 4 which encompasses Curry and Coos Counties and the coastal area of Douglas County. In the master planning process, the SCORP data are reviewed together with other indicators of the need for recreation opportunities and facilities. The following are indicators of participation trends in Region 4 for some of the activities that occur in the planning area.

Between 1987 and 2002:

- ATV riding increased by 144.6%. (Note: No distinction is made between different types of ATV riding, e.g. trail riding versus riding in open dunes.)

- Beach activities increased by 38.5%.

- Nature & wildlife observation activities increased by 74.8%.

- RV & trailer camping increased by 130.8%.

- Car camping with tents decreased by 4.5%.

- Day hiking decreased by 45.4%.

(Note: The SCORP data for Region 4 do not include information on trends in participation in several other activities that occur in the planning area, for example, dispersed ATV camping. The SCORP document does include some information on the current use levels of such activities in the region, however, no historic data for these activities are reported in previous SCORP documents, so no trend analysis is possible.)

Key recreation issues are also reported in the SCORP. The key issues identified for Region 4 include the following:

1. Funding for major rehabilitation of existing outdoor recreation facilities is a high priority. Rapid deterioration results from the coastal climate.
2. Funding for park improvements on historic properties is a high priority.
3. Funding for the preservation or acquisition of coastal access and viewsheds is a high priority, with emphasis on high-value coastal properties that provide public beach access or natural coastal settings for the enjoyment of the visitors.

LOCAL INDICATORS

In assessing recreation needs, OPRD relies substantially on anecdotal information provided by park staff and other recreation providers. Umpqua Lighthouse State Park, like other coastal state parks, is generally used to its full capacity during the summer season. While visitation may vary on a year-to-year basis, influenced by other factors such as economic conditions, the long term trend in coastal outdoor recreation in general is expected to continue upward. In recent years OPRD has taken steps to encourage more off-season use by providing alternative camping facilities, such as the yurts and camper cabins that have been added to Umpqua Lighthouse State Park.

The local community planning efforts to enhance and add to the cultural resource attractions and support facilities in the Reedsport/ Winchester Bay area are expected to draw more tourist activity. This is evident in the market analysis summarized in the locally sponsored “Umpqua River Lighthouse and Coast Guard Museum Master Planning Study.”

The Winchester Bay area has long been recognized for two popular outdoor activities that attract visitors: ocean fishing and ATV riding in the dunes. While ocean fishing activity has varied, depending heavily on the vitality of fish populations, ATV activity is limited primarily by the availability of riding areas. The participation trends in ATV riding in the dunes near Winchester Bay are generally consistent with the trends reported in the SCORP for Region 4. Both indicate that ATV riding is increasing substantially in popularity.

Historically a significant amount of primitive camping associated with ATV use has occurred in undesignated areas on lands owned by the County, BLM and ACOE. The County has expressed an intent to discontinue this undesignated camping and redirect it to developed camping facilities. Reportedly as many as 50 undesignated campsites are active in these areas during peak use periods. This suggests that an equal number of developed campsites would be needed to accommodate the displaced ATV campers.

In addition, the County has expressed an intent to discontinue the undesignated day use parking and staging associated with ATV use that has been occurring on County and BLM lands and redirect it to a developed parking and staging area. The amount of day use parking and staging that would be displaced has not been quantified.

The USFS is also taking actions to manage ATV use in the Dunes NRA. A ban on alcoholic beverages in the DNRA was recently implemented, which may have caused some ATV campers to seek primitive campsites on the neighboring public lands. The USFS is also proposing to contain primitive ATV camping in the DNRA within specific areas, and to limit the numbers of campers per site. Reportedly, however, this proposal will not reduce the primitive camping capacity in the DNRA below the current level of peak use. No currently pending actions by the USFS are expected to displace ATV day use or camping.
VIII. SUITABILITY ASSESSMENTS

RESOURCE INVENTORIES

OPRD prepares resource inventories and assessments as a basis for development and management decisions. The inventories and assessments are summarized in the “Heritage Assessment” chapter. Detailed mapping of key resources is completed as part of the inventory and assessment process. The resource maps and reports are not published in the master plan document. Rather, they are available for viewing at the OPRD headquarters office in Salem. The maps are also available for viewing at the OPRD Area 3 office located at Honeyman State Park in Florence.

The following resource inventories and assessments and related maps were completed for this master plan:

- Plant Communities and Conditions
- Habitat Types and Values
- Water Features and Hazards
- Scenic Resources and Recreation Settings
- Cultural Resources
- Protected Species (none of which were found to occur in the planning area)

RESOURCE SUITABILITY ASSESSMENTS AND COMPOSITE SUITABILITY

OPRD uses a method of resource assessments that is represented by four levels of resource suitability in order to characterize the resource areas by their relative values for protection versus development. Suitability Class 1 represents areas that have the highest value for resource protection and the greatest constraints to development. Suitability Class 4 represents areas that have the lowest value for resource protection and the least constraints to development.

The Suitability Classes are determined based on the assessment of each of the resource types listed above. The key resources that affect suitability in the planning area are rated using a similar 1-through-4 classification scheme, then sieved to derive the “Composite Suitability” map for the planning area. For this planning area, the “Composite Suitability” map was derived by rating and sieving the first three of the resource inventory maps listed above: Plant Communities and Conditions; Habitat Types and Values; and Water Features and Hazards. The resulting “Composite Suitability” map for the planning area is included at the end of this chapter.

The other two resource inventory maps – the Scenic Resources and Recreation Settings map and the Cultural Resources map– are also factored into the decision-making process. Commonly, these types of resources are considered separately in the final analysis because the constraints associated with these resources can often be mitigated. All five of the mapped resource types were considered in producing the proposed alternatives for the development projects that are described and illustrated in the “Development Concepts” chapter.
IX. ISSUES

The issues summarized in this chapter were compiled with input from an advisory committee, a stakeholder group, Douglas County Commissioners and staff, OPRD staff and members of the general public. The summary represents comments made at meetings with these groups and correspondence received during the written comment periods. Some of the issues that can be addressed through a master planning process are reflected in the master plan goals, development concepts and/or resource management guidelines. Not every issue identified in this chapter is determined to be appropriate as a master plan goal, development concept or management guideline, therefore, the reader should not assume that all of the issues are addressed as such. Other issues that cannot reasonably be addressed in the master planning process are noted and passed on for consideration in other appropriate OPRD programs.

TYPICAL ISSUES RELEVANT TO OPRD MASTER PLANS

- Natural, cultural and scenic resource management
- Recreational uses and facilities
- Major partnership opportunities
- Property ownership recommendations

ISSUES GENERALLY NOT ADDRESSED IN OPRD MASTER PLANS

- Routine facility maintenance and rehabilitation
- Park fees and budgets
- Park rule enforcement
- General park administration
- Project costs and funding
- Park naming

ISSUE SCOPING SUMMARY

Note: Geographic areas that are discussed in some sections of the following narrative are identified on the map at the end of this chapter titled “Issue Areas.”

BEACH ZONE (See “Issue Areas” map)
Motorized uses are prohibited within the beach zone along this area of the coast. Unauthorized ATV use has been occurring within the beach zone, originating from both jetty roads, from Half Moon Bay along the training jetty, and from the first beach access parking lot (known as Ziolkowski Beach access). Some of the unauthorized ATV use may also originate at the second and third beach access parking lots in the Dunes NRA.

The inland extent of the beach zone is defined by the vegetation line within the state park, and the statutory vegetation line outside of the state park. The statutory line is marked by survey points that are documented in the state statutes. Where the line extends north from the state park, it generally
follows the vegetation line to the south jetty, then extends inland along the south jetty road to its 
junction with the training jetty / watch tower road, then extends to the training jetty along that 
road. (The beach zone boundary is illustrated on the “Development Concept” map in the 
“Development Concepts” chapter.)

1ST BEACH ACCESS  (See “Issue Areas” map)
The first beach access parking area (known as Ziolkowski Beach access) is designated for non-
motorized day use recreation associated with the ocean shore under the terms of a lease now held by 
Douglas County. The Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) is the land owner. Formerly, the lease was 
held by the US Forest Service, who administers the Dunes NRA. This beach access is popular for 
surfing and various other ocean shore activities. During the annual dune festival event, this lot is 
used for ATV camping and staging under a special use permit.

There is strong support for continuing the prohibition on motorized recreation, ATV staging and 
camping at this lot, and for continuing its non-fee status. There is both support and opposition to 
the use of this lot to support the annual dune festival event. The surfers would like some area near 
this beach access to be available for non-fee, non-motorized primitive camping. Some are concerned 
that even the non-motorized uses could overcrowd the area if more use is encouraged with the 
development of facilities nearby. Surfers report incidents of vehicles being vandalized and gear being 
stolen, and prefer to park on the foredune where vehicles are visible from the water. Better law 
enforcement is needed. Sanitation is also an issue, as there are no restrooms.

JETTY TRIANGLE AREA  (See “Issue Areas” map)
The jetty triangle tidal area is leased for a private oyster growing operation. This business relies on 
the jetty roads for access, using a slow moving farm tractor and long trailer. The owners are 
concerned about maintaining the access, about the increased risk of theft and vandalism if recreation 
access to this area is improved, and about the potential increase in traffic on the county road. It was 
recommended that the jetty roads not be improved, that public access to this area not be encouraged 
and that camping in this area not be permitted. The Coast Guard watch tower is also located near 
the jetty triangle. Road access to the watch tower must also be maintained.

HALF MOON BAY  (See “Issue Areas” map)
The beach on the west shore of Half Moon Bay is popular for day use activities. This area has also 
been used for undesignated camping. There are currently no parking or restroom facilities. Any 
development in this area must take into consideration the ACOE’s need for periodic maintenance of 
the jetties, including the need for offloading equipment and materials at Half Moon Bay.

BLM AND ACOE DEFLATION PLAIN  (See “Issue Areas” map)
Two federal agencies, the BLM and ACOE, own the forested deflation plain west of Salmon Harbor 
Drive, south of the river and north of the state park. Undesignated camping and ATV use has been 
occurring along the jetty roads and numerous other service roads and trails that cross these lands. 
These uses are not prohibited, but are not managed, on the federal lands.

The County is taking steps to acquire the BLM land and the southern portion of the ACOE land to 
help consolidate the County’s management of ATV activity. The County is interested in replacing 
the undesignated camping that occurs on the federal lands with a new campground. Two possible 
locations are being considered by the County, one on the BLM land, and another on state park land.
Most people who commented on the campground alternatives prefer the state park land alternative because it is farthest south and more removed from the historic area viewshed, the non-motorized beach access, and the private lands. Some conservation groups are opposed to any ATV use or related facilities occurring on the state park land.

The BLM has no active role as a recreation provider in the planning area. The BLM is cooperating with the County to facilitate the transfer of its land in the planning area to the County. Pending the completion of this transfer, the BLM’s interests center around public safety and resource management issues associated with dispersed use of this land. It was suggested that the County’s acquisition of the BLM land should be through a fair land trade rather than through a congressional transfer of the federal land to the County. Any future use or management of the BLM land, or the ACOE land, would be subject to easement restrictions. The ACOE needs continued access for jetty maintenance, the Coast Guard needs access to the watchtower, and a private business needs access to the tidelands in the jetty triangle for oyster culture.

The ACOE also has no active role as a recreation provider in the planning area. The ACOE’s interests center around periodic work on the jetties and dredging of the river and harbor. The ACOE’s policy is to discourage and/or prohibit public access and recreation on the jetties. Any development on neighboring lands which restricts occasional work on the jetties would be unacceptable. The ACOE holds easements to enter through the adjacent lands to carry out work related to these structures. Most of the ACOE land is not available for acquisition because it is needed for jetty maintenance operations. Disposal of dredge spoils was formerly being considered at this site, however, the ACOE is looking for a more favorable disposal site outside of the planning area. The County is working with the ACOE to acquire the ACOE land south of the beach access road. The ACOE has also expressed a willingness to cooperate with interested agencies on proposed development and management of recreational uses on the ACOE land to the extent that such activities do not interfere with ACOE responsibilities and authorities.

**COUNTY, BLM AND STATE PARK OPEN DUNE** (See “Issue Areas” map)
The open dune that extends from Discovery Point to the Dunes NRA is owned by the County at its north end, by BLM in the area west of the Coast Guard historic area, and by OPRD in the area west of Lake Marie and north of the Dunes NRA. For years this open dune has been used for ATV riding and access between Discovery Point and the DNRA. Undesignated ATV staging has been allowed on the county land. The County has also allowed ATVs to access the open dune from Windy Cove and Salmon Harbor campgrounds via the shoulder of Salmon Harbor Drive. Federal land policies have allowed ATV use to occur unmanaged on the BLM land. As discussed above, the BLM is working with the County to transfer this land to the County. On the state park land, ATV use has never been authorized, except under a special use permit during the annual dune festival event.

The County is interested in discontinuing ATV use on the County and BLM-owned open dune in order to provide greater separation between ATV use and the existing and planned uses at the historic area. OPRD is interested in discontinuing the ATV use on the state park open dune located directly west of Lake Marie in order to reduce the sound impacts on the camping and day use activities at the lake and to provide a non-motorized connection between the lake area and the ocean shore. OPRD is exploring the merits of transferring the management of state park land on the open dune and deflation plain to either the County or the Forest Service, since both of these agencies are in a better position that OPRD to provide management and enforcement of ATV use. With the
closure of the northern open dune area, the County is considering developing a new ATV staging area on the state park land next to the area where ATV riding would be allowed.

The County and BLM-owned open dune where riding would be disallowed is roughly 20 acres. The adjacent OPRD-owned open dune where riding would be disallowed is roughly 12 acres. These areas total roughly 32 acres where riding would be disallowed. South of the closed area, roughly 32 acres of OPRD-owned open dune where ATV use was never before authorized would be open to riding. This 32 acres adjoins roughly 1500 acres of DNRA open dune where riding is allowed.

There is both support for, and opposition to, closing the northern open dune to ATV riding. The closure is supported by many advocates of the proposed Coast Guard historic area development, and by neighboring private landowners and non-motorized recreation advocates who are bothered by the ATV activity. It is also supported by those who simply believe that a better balance, and separation, is needed between motorized and non-motorized uses. Some conservation groups advocate disallowing ATV use entirely on all of the OPRD land in order to reclaim the non-motorized coastal character of the state park. These groups strongly disagree with the proposal to transfer a portion of the state park land to County management as a means of supporting ATV management.

Opposition to the dune closure is generally from the ATV riders and some ATV support service providers. Comments pointed out that ATV activity is rapidly growing while riding areas are shrinking, and that further restrictions on riding areas should be avoided. Others suggested that better enforcement of existing noise and speed regulations, abatement of other related problems, and sound studies to fairly evaluate the extent of noise issues should be explored before resorting to a closure of riding area. Reportedly the area between Discovery Point and the Dunes NRA is important to inexperienced riders who are not ready for the more challenging terrain of the DNRA. The state park open dune is important for dune festival activities. Maintaining direct dune access from Discovery Point is of particular interest to the business owners and permanent and semi-permanent residents of this private resort. This business owner submitted several petitions with hundreds of signatures opposing the closure.

The County is interested in developing an alternate ATV access route to replace the open dune access that would be closed to riding. The alternate access would bring ATVs to the authorized riding area from Discovery Point along a speed-regulated route located on the deflation plain westward of the open dune. There is both support for and opposition to this proposal. Some see this as a workable solution that would reduce conflicts while continuing to provide for ATV access from the northern area. Some comments emphasized that the access route would need to be designed and maintained for safety. Others believe that restricting access to a narrow corridor would be unsafe for inexperienced riders. Some are concerned that the riding time to reach the open riding area from Discovery Point would effectively discourage use by the very young riders. The length of the access corridor from Discovery Point to the open riding area would be less than one mile. The time required to ride this distance would be less than 2 ½ minutes at a speed of 25 mph, and less than 4 minutes at a speed of 15 mph, not counting any delays at road crossings. Instead of a controlled access corridor, one comment suggested creating another open riding area that would connect Discovery Point to the Dunes NRA and replace the dune area that would be closed.

**OTHER ATV MANAGEMENT ISSUES**

Many comments were made about the noise and general aggravation with ATV riders, safety, sanitation issues and littering, riding in areas where ATV use is not allowed, and lack of adequate
regulations and enforcement. With no curfew on riding in the Dunes NRA, ATV noise reportedly affects the neighbors during all hours. There is a concern about the effects of ATV noise on the viability of tourism development planned for the Coast Guard historic area. Some pointed out that noise from nearby private lands where ATV use occurs is as much a nuisance as the riding on the public lands. A couple of people asked what laws are currently in place to regulate the noise impacts and who is responsible for enforcement. The County has no noise abatement ordinance, and DEQ rules regarding noise are only enforced through civil actions. ATVs on the County Road shoulder often travel faster than the speed limit, stirring up dust and spraying gravel, and causing safety hazards and aggravation for pedestrians and motorists.

In defense of ATVs, it was pointed out that ATV use provides substantial benefits to the local economy, and only a minority of the riders cause problems. While some of the neighbors and visitors may complain about the ATVs, others are not bothered by this activity. Some visitors enjoy watching the ATVs.

Management of ATV activity across multiple jurisdictions is also viewed as a primary issue. Regulations on ATV activity are inconsistent across the multiple jurisdictions where riding occurs, adequate enforcement is lacking, and enforcement roles are not well coordinated. ATV riders are typically unaware of the jurisdictional boundaries.

A number of comments alluded to the need for planning to balance ATV activity with other uses, recognizing that the different uses can co-exist and benefit the community. Some recommend that ATV riding be allowed only within or near the Dunes NRA at an adequate distance from the lighthouse and private lands. Some believe that all ATV staging should occur at the second and third parking lot in the Dunes NRA. Some people are concerned that developing more ATV facilities will increase ATV use and exacerbate management problems, while others believe that providing facilities will accommodate some of the activity that already exists. Some mentioned that ATV staging and camping facilities should be designed so that ATVs do not cross the road to access riding areas. This would require major realignment of the road, which would substantially increase the cost of development. One comment suggested that regulation of ATVs should be adaptable to allow for changes, for example, restrictions might be relaxed as ATV manufacturing produces quieter machines in the future.

There is also some interest in providing a place for ATV rider safety training. In addition, the Winchester Bay Fire District is currently looking for a location to permanently site a building for dune emergency response operations. Several comments supported the idea of providing these facilities in close proximity to the area where open riding will be allowed.

**ATV RIDING AREA CAPACITY**

Comments were made about the need for better information on the carrying capacity of the dunes and the need to impose limits on ATV use, given that ATV use is growing in popularity. There is concern that the safety threshold for ATV use should be determined before it is reached. There is also concern about the impacts of over use on the dune ecosystem. Some people believe that without limits on dispersed use, there is no way to effectively assess the need for facilities to accommodate use and no way to control the total number of users. One person suggested that the SCORP data is not directly relevant to recreation needs in the dunes, and that a survey should be designed and conducted for that specific purpose. The Forest Service is currently working on an assessment of carrying capacity for the Umpqua riding area of the Dunes NRA. The Forest Service wants to be
sure that planning for ATV facilities on the neighboring lands takes into consideration the effects that could result in the Dunes NRA. Some recommended that the Dunes NRA management plan be evaluated to determine what has worked or not.

Some believe that providing more ATV facilities will attract more use rather than accommodating some of the existing use. Others believe that better management will occur with the provision of the right facilities in the right places despite increases in use. Suggestions were made for controlling use through the fee structure, registration booths, off-road permits, or a reservation system. People recognize that such solutions would need to be supported by the Forest Service policies for management of the Dunes NRA.

COAST GUARD HISTORIC AREA (See “Issue Areas” map)
Much of the land and facilities that were part of the original Coast Guard reservation have been transferred to Douglas County. With the help of volunteers, the County operates a small museum in one of the historic buildings and conducts tours of the lighthouse. The remaining Coast Guard ownership includes the lighthouse and several barracks that house Coast Guard staff. The County is taking steps to acquire the remaining Coast Guard reservation as part of a plan to enhance the historic resources and tourist attractions at this site. The plan includes historic reconstructions, museum expansion and tourist support facilities. The County’s plan involves removal of the Coast Guard housing to enhance the cultural resource experience and scenic views associated with this site. In addition to maintaining the lighthouse, the Coast Guard wants to assure that acceptable replacement housing can be provided somewhere in the Winchester Bay area.

Also included in the County’s plan is a proposal to use a portion of the adjacent state park for development of a parking lot for the historic area development. OPRD is proposing to transfer the management of a small piece of the state park property to the County to support the County’s plan.

There is substantial local support for the historic area plan. Several people asked how OPRD’s planning for the state park would relate to local planning efforts for those facilities. It was explained that the state park plan, which will likely include recommended strategies that affect surrounding public lands, will support and complement the County’s plan for the lighthouse area. Some people who commented in support of the County’s plans emphasized the need to balance the different tourist and recreation activities, manage ATV use and minimize impacts on the view and sound shed of the historic area and whale watching station. There is concern that planned uses at the historic area would be affected by noise from ATVs on the adjacent BLM open dune.

STATE PARK FACILITIES (See “Issue Areas” map)
The Lake Marie setting is valued for its serenity and small scale camping and day use opportunities. ATV noise that reaches the Lake Marie facilities is objectionable to some visitors, but is buffered somewhat by the topography. The hiking trail around the lake and to the open dune is very popular.

A few people questioned whether the amenities offered with the deluxe yurts at Lake Marie are appropriate in this setting, and concerns were expressed about the yurts creating unfair competition with lodging in the Winchester Bay vicinity. There is also a concern about the compatibility of deluxe yurts with zoning regulations.

There is a need for rehabilitation of existing facilities at Lake Marie, in particular, to replace restrooms in A loop, C loop and in the picnic area. Currently the restrooms are not ADA accessible.
There is also a need to upgrade the electrical service and replace sewage pumps. Phone service could be considered at the host sites. A few of the campsite pads could potentially be enlarged to accommodate larger vehicles. Parking for extra vehicles in the campground is lacking. The host site in the yurt area has no sewer hookup. OPRD is contemplating adding a few more yurts to the yurt area. There is little if any room to expand the capacity of the existing campground and day use area at Lake Marie without encroaching on valuable natural resource areas.

**PROPOSED NATURAL HERITAGE CONSERVATION AREA** (See “Issue Areas” map)

Lake Marie, and the forested area south and west of the lake, are highly regarded as an area that should be protected and managed for the native plant communities, habitat values, and the quality of the lake itself. This area has been recommended for dedication as a Natural Heritage Conservation Area (NHCA) by the Oregon Natural Heritage Information Center (ONHIC). There is substantial support for the proposed NHCA dedication.

The need to prevent ATV encroachment into the high value forest habitat of the proposed NHCA was mentioned during the issue scoping process. ATVs have occasionally found their way onto the hiking trail that connects the open dune with the Lake Marie trail. ATVs have also encroached into an area along the south boundary of the park that is characterized by a rare and sensitive forest plant community. State park staff have since taken action to correct these problems.

A couple of people questioned whether suitable habitat for northern spotted owls or marbled murrelet might be present in the proposed NHCA, suggesting that impacts from ATV noise on nesting birds should be considered. In consulting with the US Fish and Wildlife Service on this issue, OPRD staff have learned that ATV noise on the open dunes would not be regarded as a significant threat to these species, if they are found to occupy this area. The primary threat to nesting birds is from predator species such as crows and jays, which are attracted to human use areas. New development typically attracts these predators in greater numbers. Therefore, new development in and around potential owl or murrelet habitat must be preceded by a determination of habitat suitability. If the habitat is found to be suitable, development must be accompanied by mitigation measures specified by USFW, or preceded by a survey which finds that murrelets and owls do not occupy the area.

**DSL LAND** (See “Issue Areas” map)

OPRD is interested in acquiring the DSL land, located north of the state park, to manage it for its forest habitat values and to develop non-motorized trails. The County is also interested in acquiring this land as part of the County’s recreational land base. Some of the comments received during the issue scoping process supported OPRD acquisition of this land, while others supported County acquisition. DSL has not yet commented on either proposal.

**MULTI-JURISDICTION LAND MANAGEMENT**

Many comments were made about the multi-jurisdictional land management on the open dune and deflation plain, suggesting that management of the public lands should be consolidated to help address issues in a consistent and coordinated manner. There are currently six public agencies that own land in this area, counting the US Forest Service. Representatives of all six agencies that own land in this area have been involved in a stakeholder group to discuss master planning issues, including questions concerning land management consolidation. The interests expressed by the...
agency representatives that pertain to management consolidation, and the merits of two consolidation scenarios, are discussed in detail in the chapter titled “Future Land Management.”

Both OPRD and the County have recognized that the merits of consolidated management on the deflation plain under fewer agency authorities should be explored as a means of addressing issues related to the dispersed recreation that occurs in this area. This intent is reflected in a Memorandum of Understanding that was developed as a precursor to the joint OPRD and County planning process for the formulation of this master plan.

The County is interested in consolidating its management of the lands north of the Dunes NRA in order to uniformly manage this entire area for multiple uses. In general, the County’s intentions are to consolidate, simplify and improve the public land management, add to the Winchester Bay recreation land base, develop quality tourist facilities at the former Coast Guard station, expand camping opportunities, manage ATV activity and provide better ATV camping and staging facilities. The County has also expressed an interest in assuming the management of lands beyond the deflation plain to encompass the entire planning area east to Highway 101, including the entire state park and land owned by DSL.

OPRD wants to retain the eastern portion of the state park that encompasses the proposed NHCA, including the lake, high value forest habitat and campground and day use facilities. The western portion of the state park, on the open dune and deflation plain, is being considered for future management by the County as part of the effort to better manage ATV activity.

Those who commented on the future land management scenarios were divided on this issue. Some believe that OPRD should continue to own and manage the entire state park, while others believe that the entire park should be transferred to the County. Still others support OPRD’s proposal, that the eastern portion remain a state park and the western portion be transferred to County management.

**US FOREST SERVICE INTERESTS**

The Forest Service has an interest in the effects of adjacent land management on the Dunes NRA and vice versa, but does not intend to add lands to the Dunes NRA in this area or develop additional camping or day use facilities. The Forest Service wants to work with the neighboring land managers to assure that the provision of ATV facilities is based on consideration of issues related to public need, safety, riding area capacity and the quality of recreation experience, and to establish consistency between ATV management policies and rules.

**SANITATION**

Sanitation issues were raised by several people. There is currently a moratorium on new connections to the Winchester Bay Sanitary District sewer system that must be resolved through a study of needed treatment system improvements and upgrade of the system. The County is working closely with the District to address the moratoria issues. The costs associated with the upgrade of the sewer treatment system will increase the fees for service. Some people mentioned that tourists add to the fiscal burden of providing sewer service without paying a fair share, while the majority of the cost is born by the local residents and businesses. It was suggested that the public recreation agencies should cover this cost. Sanitation issues also result from dispersed camping where no restroom facilities are provided, and there is some concern about impacts on water quality. Some believe that all camping
areas should have sewer service. There is also a general concern about management of litter and garbage in dispersed recreation areas.

USER FEES
A number of comments were made about the differences in user fees among the recreation providers and the effects on recreation planning and management. Dispersed camping is on the increase while designated campgrounds may be only half filled. This is caused in part by the comparative camping fees. The same principle applies to comparative fees for day use parking and staging as well as to other recreation activities. This can affect the economic viability of the developed facilities. Several people recommended that the recreation providers collaborate to adopt an equitable rate structure. Some suggested that the rates should also be consistent with those of the private sector providers.

TRAFFIC CIRCULATION
A few issues concerning traffic circulation were mentioned. Some traffic congestion occurs during peak use periods, mostly along Salmon Harbor Drive. There is a lack of adequate site distance where Salmon Harbor Drive turns sharply near its intersection with a road that serves the private lands. Several people expressed concerns about the hazards and aggravation associated with ATVs being driven on, across, and along the shoulder of Salmon Harbor Drive. Some emphasized the need to retain the two-way traffic circulation through the historic area along Lighthouse Road, contrary to one of the design alternatives in the County’s conceptual plans for this area. In addition, a few comments suggested that better signage on Highway 101 may be needed to orient visitors to the state park.

NON-MOTORIZED TRAILS
There is interest in providing more hiking trails in the state park and in providing a hiking trail connection from the beach to Lake Marie. A few people mentioned the possibility of developing trails on the DSL property for hiking and mountain biking. There is also interest in developing a trail along Lighthouse Road between Salmon Harbor Drive and the state park. These comments are consistent with statewide information provided by the SCORP. The need to separate motorized and non-motorized trail uses was also mentioned. One commenter mentioned that mountain biking, if allowed, might need to be restricted during wet weather to reduce trail wear.

OTHER NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ISSUES
Comments were submitted in support of protecting and managing important natural resources. There is support for managing the contiguous forest land north of the state park for its habitat values in conjunction with management of forests on the state park property. A few people mentioned the habitat value of the beach and dunes for snowy plover. In the planning process that is currently underway for snowy plover recovery, this area is not identified as an emphasis area for recovery efforts. The need to protect wetlands on the deflation plain from ATV encroachment was also mentioned. Other comments mentioned the need to maintain the forest vegetation that stabilizes the foredune and interdune area.

LAND USE REGULATIONS
Issues associated with the adoption and implementation of the master plan are being considered by the County. Constraints associated with state planning laws that affect development in dune and interdune areas must be overcome through the County’s land use approval process. Implementation
of some projects will also require expansion of the Winchester Bay Urban Unincorporated Area boundary to encompass existing and planned facilities that will have urban services.

OTHER COMMENTS
Various other comments were made about the planning area, the planning process, the master plan document and implementation of the plan. For example, a couple of comments recommended that the development of proposed facilities, and actions to change the pattern of recreational uses, should be implemented in phases. Comments were also made about the need to keep the master plan flexible and adaptable enough to accommodate changes in conditions.

All of the issues recorded in the issue scoping meetings, and the written comments received during the comment periods, are kept in the background files for the master plan.
EXISTING CONDITIONS

ATV USE OCCURRING

ATV USE ALLOWED
X. GOALS AND STRATEGIES

This chapter establishes OPRD’s goals and strategies for the development and management of the planning area. The goals and strategies are based on consideration of the land suitability assessments, recreation needs assessment, and evaluation of the issues conducted in the master planning process and summarized in this master plan.

These goals and strategies are intended to direct OPRD’s use and management of lands in the planning area that are, now or in the future, under OPRD’s management. To the other agencies that manage land in the planning area, the goals and strategies represent OPRD’s recommendations to those agencies for the use and management of the other lands. For any land where OPRD may transfer management responsibilities to another agency, the goals and strategies provide guidance to OPRD in formulating the terms of the transfer agreement.

GOAL: PROTECT AND ENHANCE OUTSTANDING NATURAL, CULTURAL AND SCENIC RESOURCES AND RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES

This master plan and its implementation will balance recreation needs and sound resource management. Important plant communities, wildlife habitats, wetlands, beaches and dunes, cultural resources and scenic views and settings will be protected and enhanced where appropriate. Public access will be provided to a variety of recreational pursuits that are appropriate for the planning area, considering the compatibility of the recreational activities with each other, with neighboring land uses, with important natural, cultural and scenic resources, and with the recreation setting.

1. Locate and design recreational uses and facilities to avoid significant impacts on important resources. The resource suitability assessments prepared for this master plan will serve as a guide for the selection of sites and design standards. Prepare and implement development plans that describe and illustrate the locations, sizes and types of proposed facilities and any related measures that are needed to enhance, protect or mitigate impacts on important resources.

2. Implement the guidelines for management of natural, cultural and scenic resources as described in this master plan in the chapters titled “Natural Resource Management Guidelines”, “Cultural Resource Management Guidelines” and “Scenic Resource Management Guidelines.”

3. Camping at Lake Marie will be limited to areas that are already developed for camping or other areas that are identified by the resource suitability assessments as being suitable for such facility development. The camping facilities at Lake Marie will include a variety of camping amenities that are appropriate for the character of this setting. The majority of drive-in campsites will continue to be designed for camping in tents and small recreational vehicles. The parking pads at a few campsites may be enlarged if feasible to accommodate large recreational vehicles. Up to five additional camper yurts may be installed in the existing yurt area. These may be standard yurts or deluxe yurts with plumbing. As an alternative for completing the yurt area development, OPRD may consider adding only two more camper yurts and add a group yurt and/or kitchen shelter that would be used only by registered campers. Any new yurts or other facilities that would have municipal water or sewer service would only be permitted if included within the Winchester Bay boundary that allows these
services. Existing or planned yurts may be replaced with camper cabins of equal capacity. Designated walk-in campsites will continue to be provided with current or increased capacity as needed if compatible with the other goals and strategies of this master plan.

4. The existing picnic area and beach access at Lake Marie will be maintained at their current sizes. Additional picnic tables may be added in the picnic area as needed.

5. OPRD supports the implementation of proposals for historic reconstructions and expansion of museum and tourist facilities in the Coast Guard historic area as described in the "Umpqua River Lighthouse and Coast Guard Museum Master Planning Study." OPRD supports alternatives of that "Master Planning Study" that would retain the two-way traffic circulation through this area via Lighthouse Road. Recognizing that relocation of the Coast Guard housing is a key element of the plans for this site, OPRD supports relocation of the housing to a site that is determined to be suitable through coordination between the County and the Coast Guard.

6. OPRD will support the development of parking for the Coast Guard historic area on state park land, as proposed by the County, consistent with the chosen alternative from the "Umpqua River Lighthouse and Coast Guard Museum Master Planning Study." The parking will be located at the site of the existing storage yard west of the maintenance area. As needed, the parking may be shared with OPRD for trailhead parking in support of planned trails and extra vehicle parking for campers at Lake Marie.

7. OPRD recommends that the County develop a small day use parking area and restroom facilities on County-owned land on the west side of Half Moon Bay to support non-motorized recreation associated with this area. A group day use shelter should also be considered at this site.

8. OPRD supports the continued public use of the northernmost ocean beach access parking area on ACOE-owned land (known as Ziolkowski Beach) for non-motorized day use recreation activities associated with the ocean shore. OPRD recommends that the County, the leaseholder of this area, develop restroom facilities at this parking area, and that a group day use shelter at this location also be considered.

9. OPRD supports continuation of the existing prohibitions on motorized vehicles on sections of the beach and foredune and other areas in the Dunes NRA where such activities are currently prohibited.

10. OPRD supports the development of a campground in the planning area for ATV riders. Two possible locations have been considered, one on BLM land and the other on state park land that OPRD is willing to transfer to the County. OPRD’s preference is that only one campground be developed. Through the terms of the land transfer agreement, OPRD will ensure that not more than one campground will be developed in the planning area without OPRD’s consent.

11. The capacity of proposed ATV camping facilities, if developed on OPRD land, will be commensurate with the estimated peak level of camping activity that will be displaced from neighboring public lands through currently pending County actions. The County is taking
actions to eliminate undesignated camping that has historically occurred on County and BLM-owned lands in the planning area.

12. OPRD will support the development of one day use parking and staging area in the planning area for ATV riders. OPRD will offer land to the County for the development of this facility east of Salmon Harbor Drive and west of the open dune, where direct connection to the riding area can be provided, where the parking will be buffered by existing vegetation, and where wetlands will be avoided.

13. OPRD will support the development of a dune emergency response facility, as proposed by the County, on state park land in conjunction with the development of the proposed ATV staging area. This facility may include provisions for ATV rider training.

14. OPRD supports the proposed closure of the open dune on County and BLM land to ATV riding in order to reduce the sound impacts on the Coast Guard historic area, the Lake Marie area and neighboring private lands. OPRD also supports the County’s proposal to replace this open dune access with a speed-regulated ATV access corridor located west of the open dune that would provide riding access from Discovery Point to the open dune riding area to the south. OPRD will support the development of the ATV access corridor across state park land west of the open dune.

15. The open dune area on state park land located directly west of Lake Marie and adjacent to the BLM land will remain closed to ATV riding. The southern portion of the open dune on the state park land, totaling roughly 32 acres adjacent to the Dunes NRA, will be open to ATV riding. The north boundary of the riding area will be located along the south side of the natural dune ridge that extends westward from the approximate location of the existing trail to the open dune from Lake Marie. The intent will be to use this ridge to help buffer ATV sounds and to leave the existing trail connection to the open dune outside of the riding area. The connection between the staging area and riding area will be designed so that the northern portion of the riding area will serve as a transition zone where riding will mainly occur enroute from the staging area to and from the riding area to the south. Signage will be placed at the southern end of the transition zone that directs riders to and from the staging area and warns them of the riding closure to the north.

16. OPRD will pursue the development of additional non-motorized trails on lands that are under OPRD’s management and where agreements with other landowners for the development of trails are obtained. Through the design of trail systems and partnerships with other landowners and recreation providers, OPRD will strive to connect non-motorized trails between recreation areas and facilities. Where feasible, OPRD will design trails for access by the disabled. OPRD will pursue the development of a hiking trail that connects Lake Marie and the historic area with the ocean shore. OPRD will explore opportunities to expand the hiking trail system within the state park. OPRD will explore opportunities to develop a hiking trail loop on the DSL land that connects the state park with the Umpqua River waterfront, and explore the feasibility of allowing mountain biking on this trail. OPRD will also explore the feasibility of developing a hiking trail loop through the forested area south of Lake Marie, and explore the potential for extending this trail into the Dunes NRA through a partnership with the US Forest Service. Any trail development in this area must avoid significant impacts on the natural integrity of the proposed Natural Heritage Conservation Area and the species it supports.
17. OPRD recommends that the County pursue the development of a paved bike trail, preferably designed as a loop trail, that would connect the Ziolkowski Beach access with the Half Moon Bay day use area.

18. OPRD will work with the County and other qualifying recreation agencies and interest groups on grant proposals that support the development of planned recreational facilities.

GOAL: CONSOLIDATE AND COORDINATE THE MANAGEMENT OF RESOURCES AND RECREATION ACTIVITIES

For this planning area where recreational activities occur across multiple jurisdictions, strategies are needed to consolidate and coordinate the development, oversight and management of the recreation activities and facilities and the enforcement of pertinent laws and regulations. Consolidation and coordination of management roles can also contribute to the efficient and effective management of the natural, cultural and scenic resources that occur in the planning area. The pattern of land management should be guided largely by the geographic pattern of the natural, cultural, scenic and recreational resources. Generally, consolidation of land ownership is considered to be an efficient means of accomplishing this goal. Where ownership consolidation is not an option, could take a long time to accomplish, or is determined not to be the best management decision, management agreements between the affected land managers should be pursued and implemented. (The chapter on “Future Land Management” provides a summary of the interests of the affected land management agencies and an assessment of the advantages and disadvantages of two management consolidation scenarios.)

1. OPRD will work with the County and other agencies that manage neighboring public lands to identify the best management options and implement measures needed to achieve the development and land management objectives of this master plan including, but not limited to, the consolidation and coordination of management and enforcement roles.

2. OPRD will retain ownership and management of the forested areas within the state park lands west of Highway 101 and east of the open sand dunes, including Lake Marie, the existing campground and day use area and other related park facilities.

3. OPRD will negotiate with the County and DSL regarding the future ownership and management of the DSL land located immediately north of the existing state park boundary. Both OPRD and the County are interested in assuming the management of this land. (See the discussion of agency interests in the “Future Land Management” chapter.) These negotiations will include consideration of a potential management partnership that serves the mutual interests of OPRD and the County regarding forest management and non-motorized trail development.

4. OPRD is interested in transferring management responsibilities for state park land on the open dune and deflation plain to the County or the Forest Service. OPRD believes this land would be better managed by either of these agencies because of the integral relationship of this area to the resources and recreation activities that occur to the north and south, in particular, to help facilitate the consolidated management of ATV activity. The County has expressed an interest in acquiring the state park land. OPRD is willing to transfer the management of state park land on the open dune and deflation plain, together with the
proposed historic area parking site, to the County to be used for purposes that are consistent with the intent of this master plan. Fee simple transfer of title is the preferred method. OPRD will retain all development rights to this property, except sites proposed for County development of an ATV parking and staging area and parking for the historic area. By retaining development rights, OPRD will retain the authority to review and sign-off on the County’s uses of the property, including all development plans.

5. OPRD recognizes the Army Corps of Engineers’ (ACOE) interests in retaining ownership of most of its property in the planning area as needed to fulfill its management responsibilities which are ordinarily related to jetty maintenance and dredging activity. OPRD recommends that the ACOE work with the County to locate a dredge spoils disposal site that meets the needs of the ACOE in a location outside of this planning area. In order to help the other affected agencies achieve the objectives of this master plan, OPRD recommends that the ACOE allow the development and management of recreational uses in particular areas of its land as proposed in this master plan through agreements with the interested agencies to the extent that these projects do not interfere with ACOE responsibilities and authorities. OPRD also recommends that the ACOE work with the other agencies to formulate an agreement for coordinated management of resources, regulation of recreation activities and enforcement of regulations.

6. OPRD recommends that the US Forest Service work with the other affected agencies in the planning area to formulate an agreement to coordinate the provision of recreation opportunities and support facilities, the management of resources, regulation of recreation activities and enforcement of regulations.

GOAL: PROVIDE FOR ADEQUATE MANAGEMENT, MAINTENANCE, REHABILITATION AND PARK OPERATIONS

Recreational activities and facilities will be managed, maintained, rehabilitated and operated as needed for the safety, satisfaction and enjoyment of the visitors and local citizens.

1. In allocating state park operational and facility investment funds, OPRD will put a high priority on the maintenance and rehabilitation of existing buildings, roads, trails and utilities, and on providing an adequate level of oversight and enforcement in the state park.

2. OPRD will work with the affected local public service providers to assure that these providers are fairly compensated for the costs of providing services to the state park. OPRD will work with the County to formulate or update an agreement for the provision of law enforcement services.

3. Through the administration of OPRD-managed grant programs, OPRD will support other recreation providers in the preparation and review of qualifying grant applications for funding to assist in the management, maintenance and rehabilitation of recreation facilities. Grants will be awarded through the approval processes required by each grant program.
GOAL: PROVIDE FOR SAFE, EFFICIENT, IDENTIFIABLE AND PLEASANT ACCESS AND CIRCULATION

The development of recreation facilities will include a system of vehicular and trail circulation and access that is safe, efficient, identifiable and pleasant to the visitors.

1. OPRD designs vehicular circulation with separated access to different types of recreation use areas. Access roads are designed to avoid routing day use traffic through camping areas.

2. OPRD will explore ways to enhance the visual appearance and identity of the state park at the park entrances using appropriate signage, native vegetation and possible reconfiguration of road intersections if needed.

3. OPRD will install directional signs where needed to direct vehicular traffic to recreational use areas and facilities within the state park.

4. OPRD will plant native vegetation where needed to beautify roads and parking areas and provide visual buffers within the state park.

5. OPRD will design trails that separate incompatible trail uses. Trails will be separated from roadways where feasible, and crossings will be kept to a minimum. Trail signage will be installed at trailheads, trail crossings and other key locations indicating the types of trail uses that are allowed and disallowed.

6. OPRD encourages the County to apply strategies similar to those described under this goal in the design of the circulation system that will serve the development projects described in this master plan. Careful consideration should be given to vehicular and trail safety in the design of ATV staging and camping areas. ATV traffic should be routed to minimize impacts on other recreational activities and neighboring land uses. The boundaries of ATV riding areas should be clearly defined with signage and barriers where needed. Any road crossings needed for ATV or non-motorized trails should be located and designed for optimal safety. Realignment of Salmon Harbor Drive should be considered in the design of ATV staging areas and campground facilities as needed to minimize crossings, provide adequate sight distance and address other safety concerns. The cost of road realignment and available funding will be major considerations in the project designs. ATV grant funding may be available to offset a portion of this cost.

GOAL: PROMOTE PUBLIC AWARENESS, UNDERSTANDING, APPRECIATION AND ENJOYMENT OF THE RECREATION SETTING THROUGH RESOURCE INTERPRETATION

The public awareness, understanding, appreciation and enjoyment of the natural and cultural landscape will be promoted through the provision of interpretive signs, materials and seasonal programs.

1. OPRD supports the local community’s plans for interpretive facilities and programs that will be part of the development proposed for the Coast Guard historic area.

2. OPRD will complete an interpretive plan for the state park that includes interpretive themes and recommended interpretive sites, materials and services. This state park is a “Level 2”
interpretive park according to the OPRD Interpretive Strategic Plan. Level 2 parks generally provide self-guided opportunities such as interpretive signs and trail routes. Seasonal staff are sometimes provided to support camp talks or events. These staff usually serve the Level 2 parks from the OPRD management unit park.

3. Possible topics for an interpretive plan may include the following:
   a. The history of the state park.
   b. The proposed Natural Heritage Conservation Area and its natural values.
   c. Efforts to provide for diverse recreational uses in the planning area.

**GOAL: FORM PARTNERSHIPS AND AGREEMENTS TO AID IN ACHIEVING GOALS**

The preceding goals refer to areas where interagency agreements may be needed to implement the strategies listed under the goals. OPRD will play a lead role in initiating and completing agreements related to the use or expansion of the state park, and participate in discussions regarding other agreements.
XI. DEVELOPMENT CONCEPTS

Conceptual designs are prepared for OPRD master plans to show the appropriate location, layout, size and type of proposed recreation facilities. This chapter describes and illustrates the facility development concepts.

The master plan illustrates the development proposals conceptually. Reasonable flexibility to make changes in completing final designs is expected. Preliminary and final project designs will be reviewed in cooperation with the local land use approval authority as needed to ensure compliance with the intent of the master plan.

OPRD is dedicated to proposing facilities that are needed to support outdoor recreation and that are appropriate for the setting and the roles of the recreation provider. Proposed park facilities are selected, located and designed to avoid causing significant impacts on important resources, as identified in the resource suitability assessments prepared for the master plan. The proposed facilities are also selected, located and designed to avoid causing significant conflicts between incompatible recreation uses or impacts on surrounding land uses.

GENERAL PARAMETERS FOR DESIGN

Various general parameters are considered in completing the development concepts in state park master plans. These include the following:

- Balancing recreation needs and avoiding or minimizing conflicts between recreation uses;
- Providing good access and circulation for vehicles and non-motorized travel within the planning area;
- Locating and designing facilities, roads and trails in a manner that is understandable by the public in navigating through the planning area;
- Avoiding significant impacts on important natural, cultural and scenic resources within or adjacent to the planning area;
- Taking advantage of scenic views and resource interpretation opportunities;
- Presenting an appearance that is harmonious with the setting and the region;
- Providing choices for visitors who may have different desires for recreation amenities and settings;
- Clustering development to keep most of the park undeveloped;
- Avoiding or mitigating conflicts with local services and neighboring land uses;
- Achieving compliance with regulatory requirements including the state land use goals, local comprehensive plans, building codes, resource laws, etc.;
- Providing opportunities for access by visitors with disabilities and different economic and cultural backgrounds.
DEVELOPMENT CONCEPTS FOR UMPQUA LIGHTHOUSE PLANNING AREA

The development concepts for the planning area are described and illustrated in this chapter. Project descriptions are provided in a matrix format, separated into three categories and corresponding matrices as summarized below. A single concept drawing which follows the three development concept matrices illustrates projects in all three categories.

1. Projects described in the matrix titled “Proposed OPRD Projects” are those projects that OPRD intends to implement.

2. The second matrix, titled “Other Projects Proposed On OPRD Lands”, describes other projects that are proposed within the current state park boundary that are intended for implementation by another recreation provider, most likely Douglas County. OPRD will offer state park land to the County for development of these projects.

3. The third matrix, titled “Other Projects Proposed On Other Public Lands”, describes projects that are proposed on public lands that are outside of the current state park boundary that are intended for implementation by another recreation provider, most likely Douglas County. The project descriptions in this matrix, and the corresponding illustrations, represent OPRD’s recommendations to the affected agencies regarding these projects. These descriptions and illustrations are not intended to be directive to the affected agencies.
# Proposed OPRD Projects

(Intended for implementation by OPRD)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Project Description</th>
<th>Development Objectives &amp; Standards</th>
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</table>
| **Lake Marie Campground & Day Use Improvements**                                    | • Design restrooms & other structures to be visually subordinate to the setting through use of appropriate location, architectural design, materials, colors and native vegetation.  
  • Exterior lighting will be hooded to minimize glare and preserve night sky viewing.  
  • If yurts are replaced with cabins, the replacement cabin capacity must not exceed the yurt capacity.  
  • Group yurt max. size 30’ diameter, may include kitchenette and bathroom, but no sleeping accommodations. Cooking shelter max. size 24’ diameter, open-sided, with BBQs, and may include a sink. For use only by registered campers. |
<p>| (Not illustrated on the concept drawing.)                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Development approval by County.                                                          |
| <strong>Rehab or replace existing restrooms and other facilities and utilities at the camping and day use area as needed. Include accommodations for ADA access. Sanitary facilities and utilities may be redesigned, relocated or expanded as needed to accommodate the camping and day use capacities expressed in this master plan. Showers may be added with replacement of restrooms in “A” loop.</strong> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Extension or increased use of municipal water or sewer requires County revision of UUA boundary to encompass affected facilities. |
| <strong>Enhance park identity &amp; orientation through improved signage, possible reconfiguration of road entrances &amp; related landscaping as needed.</strong> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Development will be preceded by appropriate research to determine if marbled murrelets or spotted owls, or suitable habitat for these species, are present in the state park. If so, development will be in accordance with a protocol specified by the US Fish and Wildlife Service. |</p>
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| **Unpaved Hiking Trails**                                                         | • The trail to Ziolkowski Beach from Lake Marie and the historic area will be routed to avoid passing through the ATV open riding area, with a reasonable distance buffer between the trail and the riding area.  
• OPRD trails through areas classified as Class 1 or 2 Suitability will be designed with minimal grading in a manner that provides adequate drainage and prevents erosion while providing for optimum trail alignment that minimizes impacts on natural habitat. Removal of mature native trees will be avoided. Except as may be needed for ADA accessible trails, unnatural surfacing other than gravel, crushed rock or wood chips will not be used unless needed to stabilize the trail or prevent erosion. Boardwalks will be constructed at any crossings over natural wetlands. There will be no filling of natural wetlands except with boardwalk pilings.  
• Trail to the beach would be partially on ACOE land. Trail to the riverfront would be on DSL land. Agreements with affected agencies needed.  
• Boardwalk over wetland, if needed, requires DSL approval.  
• Development will be preceded by appropriate research to determine if marbled murrelets or spotted owls, or suitable habitat for these species, are present in the state park. If so, development will be in accordance with a protocol specified by the US Fish and Wildlife Service. |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
## OTHER PROJECTS PROPOSED ON OPRD LAND

(INTENDED FOR IMPLEMENTATION BY ANOTHER AGENCY, MOST LIKELY DOUGLAS COUNTY)

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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Parking for Historic Area &amp; Trailhead</strong></td>
<td>- The footprint of this project is illustrated by the concept drawing. Flexibility in the layout of the project within the footprint is allowed.</td>
<td>• On OPRD land to be offered to the County. Ownership transfer preferred. Transfer agreement with OPRD needed.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Paved parking.</td>
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<td>- Parking capacity commensurate with the historic area development alternative chosen from the County’s “Umpqua River Lighthouse and Coast Guard Museum Master Planning Study”.</td>
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<td>- Design restrooms to be visually subordinate to the setting through use of appropriate location, architectural design, materials, colors and native vegetation.</td>
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<td>- Design exterior lighting, if any, to minimize glare and preserve night sky viewing, i.e., hooded lighting.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>ATV Campground (See Appendix “A” for detailed illustration)</strong></td>
<td>- Must be consistent with the land transfer agreement.</td>
<td>• On OPRD land to be offered to the County. Ownership transfer preferred. Transfer agreement with OPRD needed.</td>
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<td>- The footprint of this project is illustrated by the concept drawing. Flexibility in the layout of the project within the footprint is allowed.</td>
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Umpqua Lighthouse
State Park Master Plan, 2004
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<tr>
<th>Project Description</th>
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| County, if consistent with the land transfer agreement. (This agreement will require OPRD consent if more than one campground is to be developed on the planning area deflation plain.) May extend onto ACOE land as shown on concept drawing. May be designed primarily in a group camping configuration with central parking areas and clustered tent areas. Should include self-serve registration area. Parking spaces should be various lengths with some large enough to accommodate large vehicles with trailers, and should include some pull-through spaces. Include one or more host sites. May include a small group shelter. Should include extra vehicle parking. Include one or more centrally located restroom buildings, possibly one with showers. Should include an RV dump station. Provide facilities for refuse & recycling including motor oil recycling. | project within the footprint is allowed.  
- Campground capacity up to the equivalent of 50 individual campsites, but may be configured to accommodate groups. Intended to replace an equivalent number of undesignated campsites to be eliminated from neighboring public lands.  
- Central parking areas should accommodate longer vehicles with pull through spaces 40'-75' long and 12'-15' wide, as well as shorter vehicles with spaces 20'-30' long and 10' wide.  
- Roads & parking may be gravel or paved.  
- Group shelter size to accommodate registered campers only. May be open sided or enclosed. May have sink & fireplace. May have restrooms attached.  
- Install fencing to prevent ATV use from encroaching on the foredune and beach zone jurisdiction.  
- Save existing trees where feasible and plant native trees & shrubs where needed to help buffer visual impacts and shield against wind.  
- Install barriers as needed to control where ATV staging & riding occurs between the campground and open riding areas to minimize safety hazards and protect vegetated areas.  
- Design structures to be visually subordinate to the setting through use of appropriate location, architectural design, materials, colors and native vegetation. | agreement with OPRD needed. May extend onto ACOE land as shown on concept drawing, requiring agreement with ACOE.  
- County revision of UUA needed for municipal water or sewer service.  
- County revision of Beach and Dune overlay zone needed.  
- Prior to development, OPRD will request a determination from USFW regarding owl & murrelet habitat suitability in the state park & any related mitigation requirements.  
- Development plan review and sign-off by OPRD.  
- Development approval by County. |
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Hooded exterior lighting to minimize glare &amp; view impacts.</td>
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<td>• Realignment of Salmon Harbor Drive to avoid ATV crossings is encouraged (not illustrated in concept drawing). Any ATV crossings should be well designed for safety.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Locate ATV riding area access trails to avoid encroachment into wetlands on state park land.</td>
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**ATV Day Use Parking/Staging Area**

Allow construction of an ATV day use parking and staging area located east of Salmon Harbor Drive and south of the beach access road. May extend onto ACOE land as shown on concept drawing. Parking spaces should be various lengths with some large enough to accommodate large vehicles with trailers, preferably pull-through spaces. A few spaces should be reserved for exclusive use by ATV rental businesses. Provide restroom facilities. Provide facilities for refuse & recycling including oil recycling.

• The footprint of this project, including the dune emergency response facility described below, is illustrated by the concept drawing. Flexibility in the layout of the project within the footprint is allowed.

• Max. 40 spaces for ATV day use parking & staging (not counting emergency response facility parking, discussed below), unless capacity increase is approved by OPRD.

• Design the ATV access so that ATV traffic is directed southward to the riding area.

• Parking spaces should be 12’ wide & 30’- 75’ long.

• Paved or gravel parking.

• Design restrooms to be visually subordinate to the setting through use of appropriate location, architectural design, materials, colors and native vegetation.

• Design exterior lighting, if any, to minimize glare & view impacts, i.e., hooded lighting.

• On OPRD land to be offered to the County. Ownership transfer preferred. Transfer agreement with OPRD needed. May extend onto ACOE land as shown on concept drawing, requiring agreement with ACOE.

• County revision of UUA needed for municipal water or sewer service.

• County revision of Beach and Dune overlay zone needed.

• Prior to development, OPRD will request a determination from USFW regarding owl & murrelet habitat suitability in the state.
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dune Emergency Response Facility</strong></td>
<td><strong>Locate so that the parking lot is visually buffered from viewpoints to the east and northeast by existing vegetation.</strong></td>
<td>park &amp; any related mitigation requirements.</td>
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<tr>
<td>In conjunction with the ATV parking and staging area, allow construction of a building for storage of ATVs and other equipment for dune emergency response operations, such as shown on the concept drawing. May include office space for County Deputy Sheriff. May also include classroom space for ATV rider training. If rider training space is included, parking should include a few spaces for vehicles with trailers in addition to adequate number of car-size spaces.</td>
<td><strong>Development plan review and sign-off by OPRD.</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Development approval by County.</strong></td>
<td><strong>County revision of UUA needed for municipal water or sewer service.</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Building size to accommodate uses related to dune recreation-related safety, enforcement and emergency response. May include storage of ATVs and other equipment for emergency response operations, one classroom for rider training, and office space for 1 or 2 sheriff deputies.</strong></td>
<td><strong>County revision of Beach and Dune overlay zone needed.</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>Paved or gravel parking. With rider training space included, 12-15 regular car/truck spaces and 2 or 3 long spaces. Parking for rider training could occur in the day use parking and staging lot during non-peak hours.</strong></td>
<td><strong>Prior to development, OPRD will request a determination from USFW regarding owl &amp; murrelet habitat suitability in the state.</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Locate so that the facility is visually buffered from viewpoints to the east and northeast by existing vegetation.</strong></td>
<td><strong>As shown on concept drawing, located on OPRD land to be offered to the County. Ownership transfer preferred. Transfer agreement with OPRD needed. May be developed on adjacent ACOE land, requiring agreement with ACOE.</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Design building to be visually subordinate to the setting through use of appropriate location, architectural design, materials, colors and native vegetation.</strong></td>
<td><strong>County revision of Beach and Dune overlay zone needed.</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Design exterior lighting, if any, to minimize glare &amp; view impacts, i.e., hooded lighting.</strong></td>
<td><strong>Prior to development, OPRD will request a determination from USFW regarding owl &amp; murrelet habitat suitability in the state.</strong></td>
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| **ATV Open Riding Area** | Designate an open dune area for ATV riding adjacent to the DNRA. Mark the open riding area boundary in the approx. location shown on the concept drawing using adequate signage & barriers where needed. Define a transition zone in the northern portion of the riding area using signage that directs riders to and from the staging area and warns them of the riding closure to the north. | - park & any related mitigation requirements.  
- Development plan review and sign-off by OPRD.  
- Development approval by County. |
|                     | As shown on the concept drawing, locate the northern boundary of the riding area along the south side of the natural dune ridge that extends westward from the approx. location of the existing trail to the open dune from Lake Marie. The intent will be to use this ridge to help buffer ATV noise, and to leave the existing trail connection to the open dune outside of the riding area.  
As shown on concept drawing, mark the south end of the transition zone with signage that directs riders to and from the staging area and the riding area to the south, and warns them of the riding closure to the north. The intent will be to encourage riders to use the transition zone only to enter and exit the staging area.  
Locate the west boundary of the open riding area at least 50’ from the wetlands on state park land.  
Boundary signage large enough with signs in close enough proximity to be clearly visible to riders for the entire length of the boundary. Sturdy to withstand vandalism. Should include reflectors for night visibility. | - On OPRD land to be offered to the County. Ownership transfer preferred. Transfer agreement with OPRD needed.  
- Development plan review and sign-off by OPRD. |
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<tr>
<td>ATV Riding Area Access Trail</td>
<td>• Install barriers where needed to discourage ATVs from venturing outside of the authorized riding area.</td>
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<td>• Intended for slow speed, 25 MPH max.</td>
<td>• On OPRD land to be offered to the County. Ownership transfer preferred. Transfer agreement with OPRD needed.</td>
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<td>• Up to 40’ wide.</td>
<td>• Development plan review and sign-off by OPRD.</td>
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<td>• Barricades along any segments of the trail where ATV riders may otherwise tend to venture from the trail corridor into areas where riding is discouraged.</td>
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<td>• Aligned so that the trail is visually buffered from viewpoints to the east by existing vegetation.</td>
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<td>• Trail surface should be sand. Should be groomed regularly as needed for rider safety.</td>
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OTHER PROJECTS PROPOSED ON OTHER PUBLIC LANDS

(INTENDED FOR IMPLEMENTATION BY ANOTHER AGENCY, MOST LIKELY DOUGLAS COUNTY)

Note: The project descriptions in this matrix and the corresponding illustrations represent OPRD’s recommendations to affected agencies regarding these projects. These descriptions and illustrations are not intended to be directive to the affected agencies.

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| Half Moon Bay Day Use Area | Construction of a small day use parking area on the west side of Half Moon Bay to support non-motorized recreation in this area. Include restroom & refuse facilities. May include picnic tables & BBQ or fire pits. May include a picnic shelter. | • Paved or unpaved parking.  
• Approx. 20 short spaces & 4 long spaces recommended.  
• Shelter size approx. 1200 sq. ft. recommended. May be open sided or enclosed. May have sink & fireplace.  
• Restrooms & other structures should be designed to be visually subordinate to the setting through use of appropriate location, architectural design, materials, colors and native vegetation.  
• Exterior lighting, if any, should be hooded to minimize glare & view impacts. | • On County land.  
• Agreement with ACOE needed to address access for jetty maintenance.  
• County revision of UUA needed for municipal water or sewer service.  
• County revision of Beach and Dune overlay zone needed.  
• Development approval by County. |
| Ocean Beach Access Day Use Area (Ziolkowski Beach) | Construction of a day use picnic shelter and restroom facilities near the existing beach access day use parking lot behind the foredune to support non-motorized recreation. | • Shelter size approx. 1800 sq. ft. recommended. May be open sided or enclosed. May have sink & fireplace.  
• Structures should be designed to be visually subordinate to the setting through use of appropriate location, architectural design, materials, colors and native vegetation.  
• Exterior lighting, if any, should be hooded to minimize glare & view impacts. | • On ACOE land leased by County. Must be consistent with lease agreement. |
<table>
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<th>Project Description</th>
<th>Development Objectives &amp; Standards</th>
<th>Reviews/Approvals Needed</th>
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<td>recreation in this area. May include picnic area with tables &amp; BBQ or fire pits.</td>
<td>subordinate to the setting through use of appropriate location, architectural design, materials, colors and native vegetation. • Exterior lighting, if any, should be hooded to minimize glare &amp; view impacts.</td>
<td>• County revision of Beach and Dune overlay zone needed. • Development approval by County.</td>
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**ATV Riding Area Access Trail (not illustrated)**

Development of an ATV access trail that connects the open riding area to Discovery Point. The purpose of the access trail is to provide controlled ATV access to the open riding area to replace the existing open sand access on BLM and County land. The southern portion of this trail, located on OPRD land, is discussed under the section of this chapter titled “Other Projects Proposed On OPRD Land.”

- The trail should be located at an optimum distance from the private lands and the lighthouse historic area to reduce noise impacts on these areas. Optimally, the trail should be located along the east side of Salmon Harbor Drive to avoid the need for crossings. Realignment of the road near Discovery Point, as shown on the concept drawing, would help to accomplish both of these objectives. A riding area access trail from the County-proposed campground on BLM land (not illustrated) would cross Salmon Harbor Drive and connect with this access trail. Any road crossings should be minimized and well designed for safety. • Intended for slow speed, 25 MPH max. recommended. • Should be barricaded along any segments of the trail where ATV riders may otherwise tend to venture from the trail into areas where riding is discouraged. • Trail should be wide enough for optimum rider safety. • Trail surface should be sand except where it may follow an existing unpaved road. Should | Location may involve lands currently owned by County, BLM, ACOE (& OPRD at southern extension, discussed separately). Agreements with affected agencies needed.
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|                     | be groomed regularly as needed for rider safety.  
  • Locate to avoid encroachment into the beach zone jurisdiction. |                          |
| Paved Bike Trail    | Surface should be pavement or similarly hard and stable material.  
  • Should be separated from roadways except where a bike lane along a roadway is necessary due to lack of adequate space and at necessary road crossings.  
  • Road crossings should be minimized and well designed for safety. | As shown on concept drawing, would involve lands owned by County, BLM & ACOE.  
  Agreements with affected agencies needed.  
  • Permit from OPRD needed for trail development in the beach zone in the jetty triangle area.  
  • Development approval by County. |
SUGGESTED DEVELOPMENT PHASING ON THE DEFLATION PLAIN

PHASE 1

- County acquisitions, leases or management agreements for use of lands owned by OPRD, BLM & ACOE, as needed.

- Detailed site planning for deflation plain area.
  (County project.)

- Grant application for engineering & construction of Ziolkowski Beach restrooms.
  (County project.)

- Grant application for engineering & construction of ATV staging area & related county road safety improvements, riding area access trail & riding area boundary signage/fencing.
  (County project.)

- Grant application for engineering & construction of emergency response facility.
  (County & Winchester Bay Fire District project.)

PHASE 2

- Ziolkowski Beach restrooms: 1) plans/ specs 2) permitting 3) construction.
  (County project.)

- ATV staging area & related county road safety improvements: 1) plans/specs 2) permitting 3) construction.
  (County project.)

- Emergency response facility: 1) plan/specs 2) permitting 3) construction.
  (County project.)

- ATV access trail: 1) plans/specs 2) permitting 3) construction.
  (County project.)

- ATV riding area boundary signage/fencing: 1) plans/specs 2) permitting 3) construction.
  (County project.)

- Hiking trail from Lake Marie to Ziolkowski Beach: 1) plans/specs 2) permitting 3) construction.
  (OPRD project.)

- Grant application for engineering & construction of ATV campground & related county road safety improvements.
  (County project.)
PHASE 3

• ATV campground & related county road safety improvements: 1) plans/specs 2) permitting 3) construction.  
  (County project.)

• Grant application for engineering & construction of Half Moon Bay day use area.  
  (County project.)

• Grant application for engineering & construction of Ziolkowski Beach group shelter.  
  (County project.)

• Grant application for engineering & construction of bike trail.  
  (County project)

PHASE 4

• Half Moon Bay day use area: 1) plans/specs 2) permitting 3) construction.  
  (County project.)

• Ziolkowski Beach group shelter: 1) plans/specs 2) permitting 3) construction.  
  (County project.)

• Bike trail: 1) plans/specs 2) permitting 3) construction.  
  (County project)
XII. NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

OPRD NATURAL RESOURCE POLICY

As stewards of the natural resources entrusted to the Oregon Parks and Recreation Commission, it shall be the policy of Oregon Parks and Recreation Department to:

1. Proactively manage the natural resource base for its contribution to the regional landscape, as well as, its function within a site specific planned landscape.

2. Actively cooperate and communicate with our public and private neighbors to promote compatible programs and practices.

3. Inform, involve and educate the public in significant planned management actions, including the scientific and practical aspects of current management techniques and strategies.

4. Consider the significant ecological, recreational and aesthetic qualities of our resources to be the highest priority.

5. Develop and follow management programs and action plans which exemplify excellence in resource stewardship, fulfill the agency mission, are guided by the management intent of our property classification system and meet or exceed federal, state and local laws and regulations.

OPRD NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES

OPRD’s natural resource management guidelines for a state park are based on system-wide objectives, on the detailed mapping of the vegetation, protected species and wildlife habitat completed for the state park master plan, and on ecosystem patterns. A summary of the natural resources in the planning area can be found in the Heritage Assessment chapter. Detailed resource mapping for the planning area is available for viewing at the OPRD Salem headquarters office, or the OPRD Area 3 office in Florence.

The following objectives have been established by OPRD to guide natural resource management decisions for OPRD's properties statewide. These general objectives were considered in combination with the particular resource conditions in the planning area to determine specific objectives for Umpqua Lighthouse State Park and any surrounding properties that OPRD may manage in the future as an outcome of this planning process. The statewide objectives are:

1. Protect all existing high value, healthy, native Oregon ecosystems found within OPRD-managed properties. (Based on Oregon Natural Heritage ecosystem types and OPRD definition of high quality.)
a. Allow successional processes to proceed without intervention except as may be needed in particular circumstances.
b. Identify and monitor existing high quality ecosystems for the presence of threats to desired ecosystem types or conditions. Determine whether there are changes desired in ecosystem types or conditions based on consultation with Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, the Oregon Natural Heritage Program, the Oregon Department of Agriculture Protected Plants section, county resource groups and any applicable federal resource management agencies.
c. Manage the resources to eliminate any unacceptable threats or to attain desired ecosystem conditions and types.
d. Following a natural or human-caused catastrophic event, such as a major fire, windthrow, landslide or flooding, determine what management actions are needed, if any, to attain a desired ecosystem condition or type.

2. Where appropriate, restore or enhance existing low quality resource areas to a higher quality or desired ecosystem types or conditions based on consultation with natural resource agencies as to what a desired ecosystem should be for the planning area and for the region. Retain some low quality areas for future recreational use and development, as identified in the park master plan.

3. Manage all OPRD properties to protect existing occurrences of state or federally listed or 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, in consultation with natural resource regulatory agencies, determine how best to manage for protected species recovery and related desired ecosystem types and conditions.

4. Manage all OPRD lands and uses to minimize erosion, sedimentation, and other impacts on important resources.

5. Identify and acquire additional lands, or enter into management partnerships with landowners, to provide long term viability for important natural resources within OPRD-managed properties, as needed.

6. In areas of high quality ecosystems or habitats, endeavor to provide opportunities for the public to experience the following:
   a. Sights, sounds, smells and feeling of ecosystems representative of Oregon and the region;
   b. Understanding of the ecosystem structure, composition and function;
   c. Larger views of the landscape of which the ecosystem is a part.

7. In selected areas of low quality natural resources, manage for:
   a. Popular or attractive native plants or animals that are appropriate to the local ecosystem;
   b. Desired views or settings;
   c. Desired cultural landscape restorations for interpretation.
8. Locate, design and construct facilities that provide public access to high quality ecosystems or habitats in a manner that avoids significant impacts on the ecosystems.

9. For those OPRD properties or sites which are historically significant and which have been identified by the Department as 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. Manage OPRD natural resources to protect visitors, staff, facilities and neighboring properties from harm.

11. Manage OPRD natural resources to protect them from threats from adjacent or nearby properties or their use.

12. 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.

NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES FOR THE UMPQUA LIGHTHOUSE PLANNING AREA

FOREST MANAGEMENT

Descriptions of forest associations that occur in the planning area are provided in the “Natural Heritage Assessment” chapter, and illustrated on the “Plant Communities and Conditions” map prepared as background information for the master plan. The forests in the eastern portion of the planning area consist of mostly mid-seral coniferous forest associations, with significant late successional forest communities occurring south and west of Lake Marie. The northeastern area consists of second growth Sitka spruce and western hemlock in fairly good condition. Generally the same associations in similar condition occur in the southeastern area. In the extreme southeastern corner of the planning area, populations of Port Orford cedar represent the northernmost native populations of this species. The area south and west of Lake Marie has a number of diverse stabilized dune forests dominated by Douglas fir, shore pine, western hemlock and Sitka spruce that represent exceptional examples of rare and important communities known only from the central Oregon coast. The forest on the deflation plain in the western portion of the planning area is of generally low value, dominated by early seral communities of shore pine and Sitka spruce with understory populations of mixed native and non-native species.

Forested areas will require appropriate levels of on-going management to ensure that growth progresses toward a healthy, mature forest. The OPRD forester will prepare a detailed plan for long term management of areas within the state park. The management actions outlined in the forest management plan for the state park will address the following park-wide objectives:

- Maintaining a healthy forest structure and species composition over time.
- Specific sites within the forest where views are desirable will require intensive management toward screened views through mature forest over time.
- Riparian corridors will be managed for retention and enhancement.
Developed recreation areas will require management to retain grassy open space with shade trees where desired and screening vegetation where needed. Hazard tree management will be needed to protect park visitors and facilities.

Any thinning operations in the park will be planned to keep to a minimum the threat of windthrow.

Forest management will be planned to accomplish effective forest fire fuel control as needed within the park.

The forest will be managed to retain an appropriate level of woody debris and snags for habitat.

Suitable habitat for protected bird species will be investigated to determine if such species are present. Where such species are identified, OPRD will consult with USFW and/or ODFW and follow any necessary management protocol in accordance with the requirements of state and federal Endangered Species Acts.

Selected stands of second growth forest in the state park will be thinned for enhancement toward a more mixed-age, healthy forest and enhancement of understory vegetation. If OPRD assumes the management of the adjacent DSL property through an agreement with DSL as proposed in this master plan, thinning will also occur in similar stands on that property. Currently the stands in these areas are overstocked and have reached a point where the trees will begin to show signs of poor health if not thinned. The composition of these stands is even-age, single layer, dense canopy of primarily Sitka spruce. Minimal understory vegetation is present due to the dense canopy. These stands have the potential to attract a broader variety of wildlife if the stand characteristics could be altered to include a mix of age classes and species. Thinning of Sitka spruce would accelerate the growth of residual trees, including Douglas fir and western hemlock, which would not be harvested. Thinning would also allow more sunlight to penetrate the canopy, which would enhance the diversity of the understory vegetation. The result would be greater diversity in the stands, a more mixed-age forest, accelerated succession of the stands toward late successional forest characteristics, and more diverse habitat for wildlife. Areas proposed for thinning are depicted on the “Ecosystem Management” map included in this chapter.

PROPOSED NATURAL HERITAGE CONSERVATION AREA
Stabilized dune forests south of Lake Marie are reportedly the most significant ecological features in the planning area. Five very rare and high-priority plant communities are found on two adjacent north-south dune ridges that slope northward toward Lake Marie. The lake itself is also significant as a coastal dune lake that remains in good condition despite the presence of the adjacent small campground and day use area along its north shore. The lake is a high-priority and unfilled cell from the Oregon Natural Heritage Plan. Staff from the Oregon Natural Heritage Information Center has recommended that this entire area be dedicated as a Natural Heritage Conservation Area (NHCA) under the Oregon Natural Heritage Act. OPRD supports this recommendation and will work with the Natural Heritage Information Center to initiate this action. The proposed NHCA is depicted on the “Ecosystem Management” map.

LAKE MARIE
No additional development or clearing will occur along the shore of Lake Marie. The lake riparian area and adjacent upland forest will be maintained with the retention of native vegetation to protect the lake water quality and natural habitat and to maintain the visual character of the lake setting. Removal of native trees will be limited to the necessary removal of hazard trees along the trail and in...
developed areas, except in second growth stands where thinning is prescribed as discussed above and as illustrated on the “Ecosystem Management” map in this chapter. As needed to maintain the lake trail, pruning of tree limbs and shrubs along the trail will occur seasonally. As discussed under the “Scenic Resource Management Guidelines”, some pruning of tree limbs and shrubs may be desirable to maintain views of the lake at a few existing viewpoints along the trail. Pruning will be kept to the minimum necessary to accomplish trail maintenance and viewpoint management objectives, and carried out in a manner that minimizes impacts on the values of the riparian area for wildlife habitat and protection of water quality and visual character.

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT
Except for non-motorized trails, the development proposals in this master plan are located to avoid encroachment into important wildlife habitat areas identified as Suitability Class 1 or 2 by the resource assessments and “Composite Suitability” map prepared for the master plan. (see the “Suitability Assessments” chapter). Non-motorized trails in Suitability Class 1 or 2 areas will be located and designed to prevent significant impacts on habitat values.

OPRD’s resource assessments for the planning area, conducted by the Oregon Natural Heritage Information Center (ONHIC), included an inventory of protected species known to occur in the area or identified during site visits in the assessment process. “Protected species” are species that are listed as “threatened” or “endangered” under state or federal Endangered Species Acts (ESA). The study also included an assessment of suitable habitat for protected species. No occurrences of protected species have been previously documented, and none were identified during site visits. However, the study identified areas that have at least some of the habitat conditions needed to support certain protected species. The protected species of interest are the snowy plover, northern spotted owl and marbled murrelet.

SNOWY PLOVER
The western snowy plover is listed as “threatened” under federal and state ESAs. The beach and foredune within the planning area were once used by coastal populations of snowy plover. A planning process is currently underway for the entire Oregon Coast to identify suitable beach areas where habitat management could contribute to the recovery of this species. At this stage of that process, this section of beach has not been identified as an area where plover recovery will be emphasized. This is because the threats from existing human activities would likely hinder recovery efforts at this location in comparison to other areas of the coast. If any restrictions or management actions are required as an outcome of that planning process, these would take precedent over any conflicting proposals in this master plan.

NORTHERN SPOTTED OWL
The northern spotted owl is listed as “threatened” under federal and state ESAs. Suitable forest structure for the owl may exist in the late successional forest areas located south and west of Lake Marie, within the proposed NHAC. The owl can generally be detected quite easily. ONHIC staff found no owls during their site visits while mapping plant communities and habitat conditions for this master plan. Although suitable forest structure may be present, the size of this forest is believed to be too small to support the owl. Further evaluation of potential owl habitat will occur in conjunction with an evaluation of potential marbled murrelet habitat, discussed below.
**MARBLED MURRELET**

The marbled murrelet is also listed as “threatened” under federal and state ESAs. The late successional forest structure in the proposed NHCA may also provide suitable habitat for this species. No murrelets were detected during the ONHIC site visits, however, this species is not as easily detected as spotted owls. Factors such as exposure to winds are likely to discourage murrelets from using this area, and it is unusual for this species to nest this close to the ocean shore. Nevertheless, where suitable habitat may be present, the federal ESA requires a process to address the question of murrelet habitat and mitigate impacts if needed.

Where new development, including trails, is proposed within or close to potential murrelet nesting habitat, the federal ESA requires an evaluation of habitat suitability. If the habitat is determined to be suitable, one of the following courses of action must be followed prior to implementing the project. 1) A survey which takes up to two years would be conducted to determine whether murrelets nest in the area. If they are found to nest in the area, mitigation measures approved by USFW would be incorporated into the project implementation. 2) In lieu of conducting a survey, the proponent of the project may choose to assume that murrelets use the area for nesting and implement mitigation measures approved by USFW.

Since OPRD is proposing trail development in the late successional forest area, OPRD staff consulted with USFW regarding the possibility of murrelets using this forest. According to USFW, virtually all of the new development projects proposed in this master plan are close enough to this forest to potentially impact murrelet nesting, if nesting occurs. The primary threat from these projects is the predation on murrelet nests from species such as crows and jays that are attracted to human use areas. New development tends to attract these predators in greater numbers, thereby increasing the threat of predation on nearby nests. (Brian Cox and Rich Szlemp, USFW, personal communication.)

OPRD will request that USFW staff determine whether this forest has suitable nesting habitat for marbled murrelets. OPRD will ask that this determination be made prior to April, 2004. The findings of USFW will be shared with other agencies with interests in the planning area that may be affected by the federal ESA requirements. If habitat is found to exist, OPRD will follow the required protocol set out in the ESA, either by conducting the survey or by assuming murrelet occupancy, and implement any required mitigation measures in conjunction with proposed state park projects. Questions regarding spotted owl habitat and any related ESA requirements will also be addressed through the involvement of USFW and subsequent state park project implementation.

**OTHER WILDLIFE ISSUES**

The park has the potential for attracting cougar and bear. OPRD will implement its cougar and bear education program for park visitors. If conflicts arise, OPRD will work with ODFW to determine appropriate actions. In general, OPRD’s policy is to educate visitors on how to avoid conflicts.

**SENSITIVE PLANT SPECIES MANAGEMENT**

An open dune ridge extends into the southern portion of the proposed NHCA from the adjacent Dunes NRA. The shorepine-kinnikinnik plant association that occurs at the forest edge that borders the dune ridge is reportedly one of the rarest forest associations in Oregon. This association has been invaded somewhat by non-native species and is being threatened by ATV use that encroaches into the forest edge from the open sand dune. Management of this association to prevent further
degradation from ATV use may be difficult due to its remote location. OPRD is working with the US Forest Service to implement measures to discourage continued ATV encroachment into this area from the DNRA. (Management of exotic species in the area is discussed below.)

**EXOTIC PLANT SPECIES MANAGEMENT**

The condition of several plant associations within the planning area is compromised by invasions of non-native plant species. OPRD will set priorities for restoration of these areas within the state park over time.

Some of the natural forests near Lake Marie are being invaded by English ivy, and small occurrences of holly are also present. Since these forests are rare and significant, actions to control these species should begin immediately. Scots broom and Himalayan blackberry occur in various places at these forest edges along roads and trails and other developed areas. Actions to control these species should also be implemented as soon as possible.

Exotic species are a significant problem in the dune and interdune habitats. European beachgrass, which was introduced to stabilize dunes, occurs throughout the area and cannot reasonably be controlled. Large populations of Scots broom, which is also found throughout the area, can generally be controlled only through the use of heavy equipment and repeated burning.

Listed below are areas of the state park where actions to control exotic species are important to protect the high value forest plant communities. Other affected areas are described in the report titled “An Inventory and Natural Areas Assessment of the Umpqua Lighthouse Study Area for Vegetation, At-Risk Species, Natural Area Values, and Wildlife Habitats” which was completed as background information for this master plan. The background report should be reviewed as a basis for setting priorities for implementing management actions to control exotic species.

- Shore pine / kinnikinnik: (Also discussed above under “Sensitive Plant Species Management.) This is reportedly one of the rarest plant associations in Oregon. It is located along the extreme southern edge of the state park, adjacent to an interior open dune ridge. Reportedly, the Scots broom in this area is quite large, although most is quite spindly. There does not appear to be much reproduction, and it could be fairly easily controlled.

- Shore pine – Douglas fir / wax myrtle – evergreen huckleberry: The areas of this forest association where exotic species are significant are located primarily on south and west-facing aspects east and north of the lighthouse. Scots broom and Himalayan blackberry occur next to the roads in these areas.

- Shore pine – Sitka spruce / evergreen huckleberry: This association is reportedly uncommon throughout its range. It is located immediately south and west of Lake Marie and east of the open dune. The edges near the road, the Coast Guard station and the open dune are somewhat weedy (species not reported).

- Western hemlock / Pacific rhododendron – evergreen huckleberry: Located north of Lake Marie and south of the park road between the campground and the picnic area. English ivy, holly and other introduced species are found mostly along the roads and trails.
- Douglas fir – red alder / salmonberry – salal: Located between the campground and Highway 101 and the intersection of the park road and the highway. Himalayan blackberry and Scots broom are found next to roads.

- Sitka spruce - western hemlock / salal: Located between the campground and the park road. Scots broom and Himalayan blackberry occur next to the roads.

- Sitka spruce – western hemlock / salal – evergreen huckleberry: Located adjacent to the east end of Lake Marie. Weeds such as English ivy and holly may occur next to roads and trails.

- Red alder / salmonberry: A small occurrence of this association is located adjacent to the park road near the campground entrance. Non-natives such as Himalayan blackberry and Scots broom occur next to the road.

DUNE STABILITY

Accretion of sand has steadily occurred along the ocean shore at the river mouth since the construction of the jetties. As a result, the ocean shore has steadily moved seaward over time, and dunes and interdune areas that have formed have become stabilized with beach grasses followed in succession by shrubs and trees. In some areas, the stabilizing grasses, shrubs, and trees were deliberately planted for this purpose. Today the back side of the foredune and the interdune area support early seral communities of shorepine and Sitka spruce and mixed native and non-native shrubs. Grasses occur mainly on the foredune and where trees and shrubs are less dense.

As illustrated in the “Development Concepts” chapter, several development projects are proposed in the interdune area behind the foredune. The design and development of these projects must take into consideration the long-term stability of the dune and interdune formations. Existing trees should be retained to the extent possible in the design of the facilities. Native trees and shrubs should be planted in any areas where trees and shrubs would be removed to the extent that the dune stability could be compromised. Encroachment on the foredune should be avoided except where hiking trails to the beach cross the dune. Trails over the foredune should be limited to a few designated beach access trails which are located, designed, and constructed in a manner that prevents erosion. Stabilized dune and interdune areas where stability should be maintained through the maintenance or planting of vegetation, and careful implementation of development plans, are depicted on the “Ecosystem Management” map in this chapter.

WETLANDS

The few wetlands that occur in the forested areas in the eastern portion of the planning area will be retained in their natural condition. Tree thinning for forest health will avoid thinning at or near the wetland riparian edges.

The several wetlands that occur on the deflation plain may be largely a product of road construction interfering with the natural drainage. These areas support wetland plant communities, which suggests that they may fall under the authority of wetland fill and removal laws, although no determination has been made. Development that would require fill or removal in these areas would need to involve consultation and possible permitting requirements by the DSL and ACOE. OPRD’s assessment of plant communities completed for this master plan indicates that these wetland plant communities are not of significant ecological value, although waterfowl may periodically use these
wetlands. Species that potentially inhabit this type of wetland under favorable conditions are reported in the “Heritage Assessment” chapter of this master plan. These areas are not extensive and can be avoided in the design of proposed facilities. The wetlands could be incorporated into project designs, which could potentially enhance the appeal of the development. The ecological values of the wetlands could also be enhanced by consolidating the wetlands through grading or by planting native vegetation where degradation has occurred as a result of ATV encroachment.

Generally, wetlands are avoided in the placement of development on state park lands except where trails may cross on boardwalk structures. OPRD will take appropriate steps to prevent the degradation of wetlands on state park lands from recreational development and use. This may involve installing signage or barriers at certain locations as needed to discourage ATV riding through wetlands.

THE BEACH
OPRD’s ownership extends to the water where the state park fronts on the ocean. OPRD also has management jurisdiction over all sandy coastal beaches up to the vegetation line or statutory vegetation line, whichever is farther inland. Within the state park, the beach zone is defined by the vegetation line. Outside of the state park, the beach zone is defined by the documented statutory line. The location of the beach zone boundary is illustrated on the “Development Concepts” map.

Motorized uses are prohibited within the beach zone along this area of the coast. OPRD will take appropriate steps to discourage ATV riding and other motorized uses from crossing the beach zone boundary. This may involve installing signage or barriers at certain locations.

MONITORING
Periodic monitoring will be needed at certain locations to assure that certain actions discussed in this chapter are successful in protecting resources. In particular, actions to discourage ATV riding in certain resource areas should be monitored and modified as needed to achieve success. The primary areas of concern are: 1) The beach zone; 2) The shorepine-kinnikinnik plant association on the dune ridge at the southern boundary of the state park; and 3) Wetlands that occur on state park property on the east side of Salmon Harbor Drive.

OPRD’s Area 3 staff will develop and implement a monitoring strategy for these areas in conjunction with actions to discourage ATV encroachment. The strategy will include scheduling of regular site visits to problem areas to monitor success and, where needed, identifying and implementing alternate measures where actions to discourage ATV encroachment are unsuccessful.
XIII. SCENIC RESOURCE MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

There is no formal policy on scenic resource management in state parks except for general guidance provided by OPRD’s mission statement and OPRD’s recreation setting definitions developed for the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan. The recreation setting definitions are applied in the master plan assessments. The department has a long history of exploring opportunities to acquire or establish agreements regarding the management of properties for scenic enjoyment, and continues that tradition in its management actions.

The planning area offers some outstanding views of the ocean, the river with its marine traffic and unique jetties, open sand dunes, the historic lighthouse and Coast Guard station, and the serene setting of Lake Marie. The affected land management agencies should take special care to preserve the scenic qualities of these resource areas.

LIGHTHOUSE AREA VIEW SHED

Views from the lighthouse and Coast Guard historic area and whale watching station should be paramount in making decisions that will affect areas that are within the view shed of these facilities, including decisions on the placement and design of other facilities and the management of vegetation. The primary view shed is to the west and northwest and includes the foreground of open sand, the middle ground of forested deflation plain, and the unique triangular jetty, river bar, north spit and open ocean in the distance. Most of this area is currently owned by the BLM and Army Corps of Engineers. The County is currently taking steps to acquire the BLM land. An agreement with the Corps of Engineers may be needed to address view impacts that could occur with the use of this land.

Views from the historic area would be impacted by any major development on the deflation plain that could not be adequately mitigated through the retention or planting of trees. Shore pine and Sitka spruce on the deflation plain have reached heights up to about fifteen feet. To effectively mitigate the visual impacts of campground development in this area would require that the development be located at an optimum distance and that many trees be incorporated into the design and placement of campsites. Dense campground development or a large parking area within this view shed would be highly visible from the historic area. Any proposed development within this view shed should be carefully studied and designed. Adequate numbers and spacing of trees should be incorporated into the design, structures such as restrooms or shelters should be low-profile and constructed with materials and colors that blend visually with the landscape, and exterior lighting should be hooded to reduce glare and impacts on nighttime views.

DEVELOPMENT ON OPRD PROPERTY ON THE DEFLATION PLAIN

Any development on the OPRD-owned land on the deflation plain, although farther removed from primary views from the historic area, should be designed with the same visual management principles discussed above. Major development in this area would be visible from the historic area,
although the somewhat greater distance and different direction from the historic area would likely make visual impact mitigation more effective.

ROAD AND TRAIL CORRIDORS

The visual experience of motorists and trail users should be considered in the placement of the roads and trails and the management of vegetation along these corridors. The existing forest vegetation should be retained along the travel corridors where it is desirable to buffer sections of road or trail from recreational facilities and vice versa. In certain areas where views from the corridors are desirable, the vegetation should be managed to retain or enhance the views. Such areas include places where openings in the vegetation offer views across the open sand dunes or toward the river from the roadway or trails. Potentially, glimpses of the ocean from the proposed bike trail where it would follow the shoreline in the jetty area may also be possible.

The affects of noise on the recreation setting should be addressed in the placement and management of ATV access trails. ATV trails should be located at optimum distances from areas where ATV activity is discouraged, and speed limits on the trails should be established and enforced. Vegetation along these trails can also help to abate noise impacts.

LAKE MARIE

Views across Lake Marie from a few existing viewpoints along the trail that follows the lakeshore should be maintained by careful pruning of the lower limbs of trees and maintaining the height of understory vegetation. The same type of view management practices may be applied to views of the lake from the campground, yurt area and picnic area. However, special care should be taken in maintaining these views in order to assure that the visibility of these facilities from the lake surface and from the opposite lakeshore remains adequately buffered with vegetation.
XIV. CULTURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

COAST GUARD HISTORIC AREA
The County and citizen groups that are involved with the local planning process for the lighthouse and Coast Guard station historic area will need to continue coordinating proposals for this area with the Douglas County Historic Resource Preservation Review Committee and the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) to assure that development of this area is consistent with its historic character. Any excavation within the historic area must be preceded by investigations to determine whether any artifacts at or below the ground surface may be present. Construction activities within this area must then be monitored for the possible detection of artifacts.

SUSPECTED CULTURAL RESOURCE AREAS
The presence of artifacts is also suspected in certain other areas in the vicinity of the lighthouse and Coast Guard historic area. These areas are not disclosed to the general public in order to prevent looting. Prior to the construction of any of the facilities proposed in this master plan, consultation with the Douglas County Historic Resource Preservation Review Committee and SHPO is needed to assure that such areas are either being avoided or are investigated prior to, and monitored during, construction activities.
XV. SUMMARY OF LAND USE APPROVAL REQUIREMENTS

Development of the park uses and facilities described in this master plan is governed by Douglas County under the provisions of the County’s comprehensive plan. The County’s comprehensive plan is acknowledged by the Land Conservation and Development Department Commission (LCDC) pursuant to the statewide land use goals, statutes and related administrative rules.

This master plan has been formulated through the master planning process described under OAR 736 Division 18 and OAR 660 Division 34. The master planning process includes procedures for coordinating with affected local governments to obtain local approval of the master plan.

COUNTY APPROVAL OF THE MASTER PLAN

Land use approval of the state park master plan by the County is required unless all of the planned state park projects are compatible with the existing provisions of the County’s comprehensive plan and ordinance. “Compatible” means that development permits may be approved for all of the projects planned for the state park without first amending the County’s comprehensive plan or ordinance.

This master plan includes a proposal for OPRD to transfer the management of the western portion of the state park property to Douglas County. The revised state park boundary that would result from this action is conceptually illustrated by the diagram titled “Future Land Management Scenario 2” in the “Future Land Management” chapter. The planned projects that are within this proposed new state park boundary may be compatible with the existing provisions of the County’s comprehensive plan and ordinance. If so, the County’s approval of this master plan is not required in order to pursue development permits for the planned state park projects.

The County intends to amend the comprehensive plan to enable the development of other projects described in this master plan that would not be state park projects. These other projects would be developed by the County. The projects are located on land that OPRD intends to offer to the County and lands that are currently under different public ownership. The amendments to the comprehensive plan will reflect new information on resource conditions and recreation needs compiled for the master plan as well as the development proposed by the master plan. The proposed amendments to the comprehensive plan include the following:

AMENDMENT TO THE BEACHES AND DUNES OVERLAY: The County intends to amend the boundaries of the Beaches and Dunes Overlay zone based on new information that was gathered as a basis for the suitability assessments for this master plan. The new information includes spatially explicit mapping of plant communities and their conditions, which indicates the stability of the dune formations.

AMENDMENT TO THE URBAN UNINCORPORATED AREA: The County intends to amend the boundaries of the Winchester Bay Urban Unincorporated Area to encompass new areas where urban sanitary services are needed to serve proposed recreational development.
AMENDMENT TO ACKNOWLEDGE THIS MASTER PLAN: The comprehensive plan amendments may include provisions that acknowledge this master plan as OPRD’s conceptual plan for the state park and the County’s conceptual plan for other proposed development in the planning area.

AMENDMENT TO DESIGNATE A DREDGED MATERIAL DISPOSAL SITE: The comprehensive plan amendments may also include designation of a site for dredged material disposal outside of the planning area.

DEVELOPMENT PERMITS FOR STATE PARK PROJECTS

Development permits are required for most of the projects described in the master plan. Prior to beginning construction of any project, the project manager is responsible for consulting with the County Planning Department and obtaining the necessary development permits. The specific requirements for obtaining development permits for a project, and the kind of local permitting process required, may vary from one project to another. The time required for completing the development permitting process may also vary, therefore, the project manager should consult with the County early enough to assure that the permitting process is completed prior to the target date for beginning construction. Prior to issuance of development permits for a project, the County will review the project plans and specifications through the County’s development review process to assure that the project proposed for construction is consistent with the design concept and description of the project in the master plan and with any applicable development standards in the County’s development ordinances.

VARIATIONS FROM THE MASTER PLAN

Under the provisions of OAR 736-018-0040, OPRD may pursue development permits for a state park project that varies from a state park master plan without first amending the master plan provided that the variation is minor, unless the master plan language specifically precludes such variation. Any specific project design elements that cannot be changed by applying the “Minor Variation” rule are indicated in the design standards for the projects in the master plan.

The OPRD Director must determine that a proposed variation from the master plan is “minor” using the criteria in OAR 736-018-0040. A minor variation from the master plan, which is approved by the Director, is considered to be consistent with the master plan, contingent upon the concurrence of the affected local government.

REHABILITATION OF EXISTING STATE PARK USES

State law allow OPRD to continue any state park use or facility that existed on July 25, 1997. (See ORS 195.125 and OAR 660-034-0030(8).) The law allows the repair and renovation of facilities, the replacement of facilities including minor location changes, and the minor expansion of uses and facilities. Rehabilitation projects are allowed whether or not they are described in a state park master plan. These projects are subject to any clear and objective siting standards required by the affected local government, provided that such standards do not preclude the projects.
Prior to applying for development permits for a project involving a minor location change of an existing facility or minor expansion of an existing use or facility, the OPRD Director must determine that the location change or expansion is “minor” using the criteria in OAR 736-018-0043. A determination by the Director that a proposed location change or expansion is minor is contingent upon the concurrence of the affected local government.
APPENDIX A

ATV Campground Concept

Please see following ATV Campground - Group Camping Concept illustration.