

Oregon Parks and Recreation Commission

September 20, 2023

Agenda Item:	5e	Information
Public Comment Allowed:	Yes	
Topic:	Brian Booth – McKenzie River Trust	
Presented by:	Ladd Whitcomb, Property Agent	

Comprised of Ona Beach, Beaver Creek State Natural Area and more recently acquired property, Brian Booth State Park is located eight miles south of Newport and includes approximately 1,200 acres of wetland, floodplain, creeks, estuary, former pasture, and forested uplands. Current development largely consists of a visitor center, day use area, non-motorized boat launch and hiking trails on the north side of Beaver Creek.

Although Lincoln County Planning Commission and the Board of Commissioners had previously approved the draft park master plan, the zone change required for expanded park development was denied in late 2019. While build-out of the envisioned campground and trails on the south side of Beaver Creek may be delayed, the need for proactive management and protection of the land and resources is ongoing.

McKenzie River Trust, based near Eugene, works with willing landowners to protect and care for land in western Oregon. They were asked to accept a parcel of private land adjacent to the state parks southern boundary and ultimately transfer the donated property to OPRD for addition to Brian Booth State Park.

The primary benefits of this property are buffer to residential development to the west, and road access to existing parkland that is former conifer plantation, but currently not accessible by road due to steep drainage. The 2019 draft park master plan called out the need to manage former plantations to promote healthy succession and improve conditions for desired recreation setting in combination with habitat improvements. This access will greatly improve the department's ability to effectively manage this isolated area of the park, including fire control.

Prior Action by Commission: None

Action Requested: None

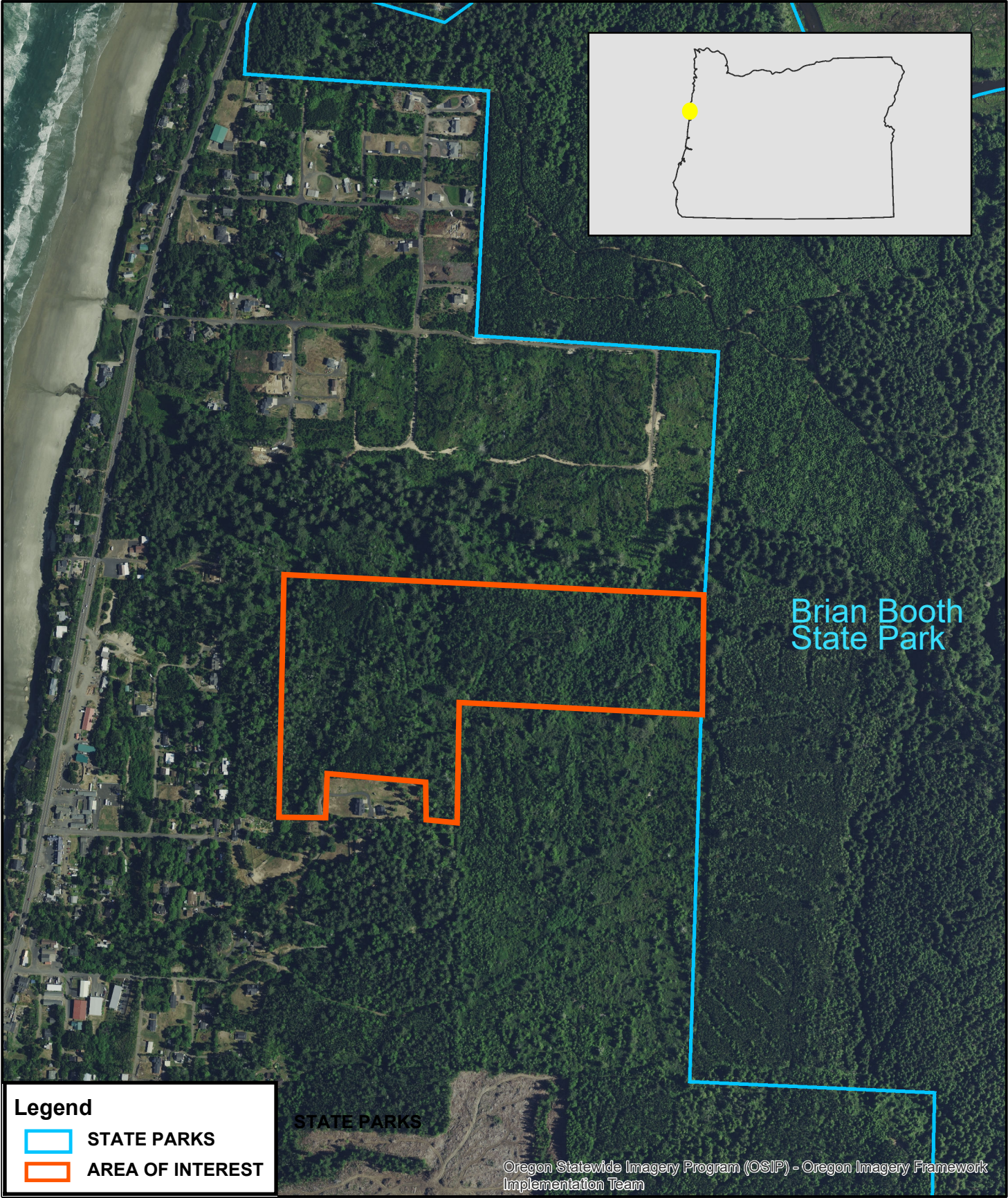
Attachments: 5e - Attachment A - Map

Prepared by: Ladd Whitcomb



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Map exhibit 1 of 1



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