

Cheryl Lund

From: Joe G
Sent: Thursday, April 27, 2017 6:29 AM
To: planning@cityofgearhart.com; chadsweet@cityofgearhart.com;
mayorbrown@cityofgearhart.com; councilorsmith@cityofgearhart.com
Subject: Subject: Support for Proposed Zone Code Text Amendment File #17-005ZTA.

I'm writing to offer my support for proposed Zone Code Text Amendment File #17-005ZTA.

My family owns property at 815 S. Ocean Avenue in Gearhart, Oregon. I add my voice to those concerned about the risk of fire from the vegetation that has grown in the dunes during my lifetime. As a child in the 1980's, I witnessed the power and speed of a large dune fire that started close to the northern end of Ocean Ave and spread down the dune to nearly in front of our home. Thanks to dry weather and a steady north wind, the fire spread rapidly, but was contained before property damage occurred, thanks to the fact that there was only beach grass growing in the dunes at that time. Had there been the high fuel-load currently in place in the dunes with the added height the flames would reach with burning trees, I believe the outcome would have been much worse. As this forest has grown in such a short time, removal and restoration to the original beach grass is the simplest way to ensure the control and prevention of fires and the safety of firefighters and property owners along our beautiful coast.

Thank you for your service to the community.

Joe Gregoire
Warwick, NY
914-391-6395
jmg10990@gmail.com

5 Linden Pl
Warwick NJ 10990

Cheryl Lund

From: hoardm@comcast.net
Sent: Thursday, April 27, 2017 7:18 AM
To: planning@cityofgearhart.com; chadsweet@cityofgearhart.com;
mayorbrown@cityofgearhart.com; councilorsmith@cityofgearhart.com
Cc: Michael Hoard; Linda
Subject: Support for Proposed Zone Code Text Amendment File #17-005ZTA.

Hello Gearhart City Planning,

I attended the City Planning Forum in January and spoke with several of you at the time. I mentioned that my Grand Mother, Mother and Aunts were in many of the photos you showed at the meeting. My Mom was in you first photo, the young lady in the bathing suite.

For Five Generations, our extended family has been coming to our Beach House at 815 S. Ocean Avenue in Gearhart, Oregon, since the early 1930s. I am one of the owners of the property.

I'm writing to offer my support for proposed Zone Code Text Amendment File #17-005ZTA.

I appreciate your effort to address the risk of fire from the vegetation that has grown in the dunes during the last decade especially. My family and I are also very active bird watchers, so we are very glad how you are approaching the issue. This is a real issue for the city to address, since we could potentially see a very large fire sweep through literally blocks of the city, as we have seen on the news in California for several years in a row. The risk is too great to wait and do nothing. We can not think that this could not happen here. Please keep up your good work and please address this with a long term management plan.

Thank you for your service to the community.

Michael Hoard
13095 Princeton Court
Lake Oswego, OR 97035
hoardm@comcast.net
Cell 503-407-0728

Cheryl Lund

From: Chad Sweet
Sent: Thursday, April 27, 2017 9:33 AM
To: Cheryl Lund
Subject: Fwd:

----- Forwarded message -----

From: ralph amato <ta7102@msn.com>
Date: Thu, Apr 27, 2017 at 9:20 AM
Subject:
To: chadsweet@cityofgearhart.com <chadsweet@cityofgearhart.com>

Chad,

I am in support of clearing and cleaning the safety lane for fire and police access to Little Beach.

Ted Amato

Pacific Terrace 443.

--

Chad Sweet | City Administrator
City of Gearhart
698 Pacific Way | Gearhart, Oregon 97138
Office: (503) 738-5501 | Fax: (503) 738-9385
chadsweet@cityofgearhart.com

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Cheryl Lund

From: Chad Sweet
Sent: Thursday, April 27, 2017 9:38 AM
To: Cheryl Lund
Subject: Fwd: Letter from Jack Delaney to Gearhart City Council for May 3, 2017 Meeting

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Bonnie Delaney <bludelaney@hotmail.com>
Date: Wed, Apr 26, 2017 at 11:49 PM
Subject: Letter from Jack Delaney to Gearhart City Council for May 3, 2017 Meeting
To: chadsweet@cityofgearhart.com <chadsweet@cityofgearhart.com>, mayorbrown@cityofgearhart.com <mayorbrown@cityofgearhart.com>, gailcomo@cityofgearhart.com <gailcomo@cityofgearhart.com>

To the Gearhart City Council:

A recent letter to the Gearhart Planning Commission suggested the newly formed *Gearhart Sand Dune Advisory Committee* consider all stakeholders as they propose guidelines for dune management. Shouldn't there be an effort to engage representatives of all such groups on this committee? I certainly question the inclusion of committee members who neither live nor own property in Gearhart. Seaside residents who enjoy our dunes but have no tax burden for Gearhart dune maintenance should be required to yield their positions to Gearhart property owners.

Further, it is clear from previous meeting commentary, letters to the Planning Commission and posts on social media that the bulk of the current committee has already voiced opinion that no action for dune management is necessary. I am pleased to be a newly appointed member of the citizen group and believe a broader perspective is needed if we are to craft recommendations based on the wishes of the majority of Gearhart property owners. I encourage the City Council to seek additional representatives of varied stakeholder groups to assure a balanced committee open to considering all possible guidelines for dune management.

For the public meeting on May 3, 2017, I submit my family's support for work necessary to restore full access to a safety lane for emergency vehicles and to halt the rampant growth of noxious plants identified by the state, Clatsop County and multiple conservation groups.

Sincerely,

Jack Delaney

Full time resident

Surfside Condominium #217

PO Box 2187

Gearhart, OR 97138

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Chad Sweet | City Administrator
City of Gearhart
698 Pacific Way | Gearhart, Oregon 97138
Office: (503) 738-5501 | Fax: (503) 738-9385
chadsweet@cityofgearhart.com

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Cheryl Lund

From: Chad Sweet
Sent: Thursday, April 27, 2017 9:41 AM
To: Cheryl Lund
Subject: Fwd: Letter from Bonnie Delaney to Gearhart City Council for May 3, 2017 Meeting

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Bonnie Delaney <bludelaney@hotmail.com>
Date: Wed, Apr 26, 2017 at 11:33 PM
Subject: Letter from Bonnie Delaney to Gearhart City Council for May 3, 2017 Meeting
To: chadsweet@cityofgearhart.com <chadsweet@cityofgearhart.com>, mayorbrown@cityofgearhart.com <mayorbrown@cityofgearhart.com>, gailcomo@cityofgearhart.com <gailcomo@cityofgearhart.com>

To the Gearhart City Council:

As full time residents of Gearhart, my husband and I are fully in favor of allowing the City Council to act on the professional advice of the City's police and fire chiefs who both state the emergency access lane that once ran from 10th St. to the estuary has become impassable for emergency vehicles. We also believe the noxious weeds that have grown up in the dunes should be addressed immediately. The window of time for attacking invasive plants is small & imminent. A current City ordinance requires private land owners to eliminate problem plants. The City should be held to the same standard or another year will go by fostering even more invasive growth to be eradicated.

It is important to remember the dunes are the unnatural product of human intervention. Jetties at the mouth of the Columbia and invasive species of dune grass and, incredibly, scotch broom, installed for human benefit, continue to impact the breadth and height of the active dunes. That we have been slow to address the development of what is now a welcoming habitat for birds and beasts does not mean we should allow the growth to continue unchecked. What was once an open path to the beach is now a protective thicket for elk and transient campers alike. We, too, have walked the path in question only to round a bend and find ourselves in the middle of the elk herd. These are massive, wild animals; it is only a matter of time before such an encounter results in a serious injury. As for campers, one need only heed the growth of the homeless population in Astoria to know any protected area is a target for shelter. As cities become more hostile to transients, those transients surely migrate to areas of diminished supervision.

In reading through recent correspondence to the Planning Commission, we were struck by the amount of misinformation or misunderstanding that drove expressed opinions. Concerns for "clear cutting" swaths from 90 to 160 feet wide and "opening land for development" have spurred unwarranted opposition. It will be important for Council members to consider the actual parameters of

the proposed work and heed the advice of their professional police and fire personnel. The Gearhart Sand Dune Advisory Committee is assigned to formulate recommendations for a long term management plan but such a plan should never protect invasive species like scotch broom. Attention to noxious weeds and the restoration of the safety lane is work that cannot wait!

Sincerely,

Bonnie Delaney

Surfside Condominium #217

PO Box 2187

1250 N Ocean Ave

Gearhart, OR 97138

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Chad Sweet | City Administrator
City of Gearhart
698 Pacific Way | Gearhart, Oregon 97138
Office: (503) 738-5501 | Fax: (505) 738-9385
chadsweet@cityofgearhart.com

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Cheryl Lund

From: Chad Sweet
Sent: Thursday, April 27, 2017 5:54 PM
To: Cheryl Lund
Subject: Fwd: Gearhart Dunes

----- Forwarded message -----

From: <easterc@aol.com>
Date: Thu, Apr 27, 2017 at 2:34 PM
Subject: Gearhart Dunes
To: <chadsweet@cityofgearhart.com>
Cc: <mayorbrown@cityofgearhart.com>, <gailcomo@cityofgearhart.com>

Chad,

We are sending a quick opinion on the Gearhart Dune Ordinance (formerly Clatsop Plains).

My wife and I have owned a Surfside Condo with limited ocean views for the past five years. During these few years we have seen the growth of dunes through the process of blowing sand collected by non native dune grasses. In just five years we have also the seen the dramatic spread and growth of pine forests in soil changed by scotch broom and non native plants.

We come to Gearhart to enjoy both the residential and vacation communities that are present. We purchased property specifically because of its proximity to the ocean, and the views that go with the location.

Gearhart today reminds me of Long Beach Washington where my parents took my family on many vacations 60 years ago. Long Beach in that era had already been affected by faster dune growth than the Oregon Coast due to blowing sand dredged from the Columbia River. We hiked through the dunes to the ocean, but there were very few pine trees. Now there are forests of pine trees in front of homes that formerly had ocean views. Many of those homes now have no views of dunes or ocean, and the walk through the forests range from a few hundred yards up to one half mile. If Gearhart Council Members have not been to Long Beach in recent years, a visit would be advisable.

We hope that Gearhart city leaders will take this opportunity to work on a comprehensive plan for the former Clatsop Plains in accordance with Oregon State law. The plan should include tree growth and spread, non native plants, and crest height of beach side dunes (28 feet) in accordance with state law. While it will never be possible or advisable to turn the clock back to 1900 or even 1970, it should be possible to retain some of Gearhart's ocean side roots for future generations.

Sincerely,

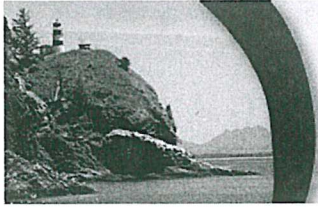
Clark Cumpston
Karyl Fox
Surfside Condo # 207

(503) 358-5636

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Chad Sweet | City Administrator
City of Gearhart
698 Pacific Way | Gearhart, Oregon 97138
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chadsweet@cityofgearhart.com

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Beach pines cut for fire safety

Despite wet climate, forested dunes ripe for wildfires

Natalie St. John •

Published on April 26, 2017 9:34AM



NATALIE ST. JOHN/NSTJOHN@CHINOOKOBSERVER.COM

Washington Conservation Corps members cleared brush at a site in Ocean Park on April 20.

Washington C
20. The corps
season this m

PENINSULA — On April 20, a group of Washington Conservation Corps members listened attentively as their crew boss explained the finer points of using a chainsaw.

A few minutes later, a handful of the volunteers were felling trees in an overgrown patch of land in Ocean Park that stood between the beach and a private property. Others bucked logs and hauled out the brush they'd cut earlier in the week.

Washington State Parks Forester David Cass, who is overseeing the crews, said their work is part of a multi-agency campaign to prepare the Peninsula for fire season. Their efforts should reduce the risk of wildfire on the Peninsula — and limit the damage if one does occur, Cass said.

Spreading the word, not spreading fire

Conservation crews recently began clearing overgrown State Parks properties that are within 100 feet of homes and businesses. The work will continue through May, Cass said. Meanwhile, Pacific County Fire District No. 1 (PCFD) is reaching out to private property owners near the State Parks sites to offer them help preparing for fire season, Chief Jacob Brundage said on April 20.

"A lot of people don't think we have a wildfire risk," Brundage said. "It rains a lot, we're at the beach, it's foggy. But we do have a risk."

So far, Brundage said, homeowners have been receptive to their outreach efforts. In recent years, wildfires have become "bigger, more intense," Brundage said, and that has many people feeling "very concerned."

In summer 2015, drought conditions contributed to one of the worst fire seasons in Washington and Oregon history. More than 1,500 fires burned more than a million acres in Washington alone, according to the U.S. Forest Service.

In the aftermath of a season that exhausted Washington's firefighting resources, the state legislature dedicated some money to fire prevention. Fire departments all over the state began looking for ways to use this money to make their own communities safer, Brundage and Cass said. That led to the collaboration between Parks, the fire district and other agencies.

Creating 'defensible spaces'

Brundage and other local experts agree that the Peninsula badly needs more "defensible spaces" — cleared areas that separate buildings from the surrounding vegetation. These slow the spread of fires. They also give firefighters a safe place from which to fight a fire. Brundage contacted Parks, and the agencies worked out a plan to create defensible spaces and do public education in the Peninsula's areas of highest risk.

Many of these are in the unincorporated parts of the Peninsula served by PCFD, including Seaview, Klipsan, Ocean Park and Surfside, Brundage said. They tend to be places where development is more dense than it used to be, and vegetation has not been maintained.

Following guidelines from the National Fire Protection Association's "Firewise Communities" program, the corps members are clearing overgrown brush and removing the lower limbs from trees. Cass explained that these measures slow the spread of brush fires and prevent them from climbing "ladder" branches into the crowns of trees.

Last Thursday, the crews were also cutting down a few young trees that had been marked with blue spray paint. When there is a greater distance between trees, a fire is less likely to jump from crown to crown, Cass said. None of the felled trees had any timber value, Cass said. The crews planned to run them through a chipper later in the week.

Risk is real

In early June 2016, dry, windy weather caused a Surfside dune fire to consume about 12 acres in under three hours. The fire threatened 10 homes, with an estimated value of \$1.6 million. With some help from residents who ran garden hoses and mowed dune grass, firefighters from several local agencies extinguished the fire in time to save the homes.

That incident illustrated the local need for more defensible spaces, Brundage said. Peninsula wildfires often start in the dunes, where abundant dry grass provides an exceptionally hot, fast-burning fuel. These fires are relatively easy to extinguish, Brundage said — unless they spread to the small pines that grow at the edge of the dunes. With abundant pitch, the trees ignite quickly, and can act as kindling for house fires.

This year, the focus is on identifying and clearing the areas that need immediate attention. But the fire district is also creating "home defense kits," which it plans to distribute to police officers and selected property owners, Brundage said.

Creating a defensible space around every vulnerable home will likely take more than one season, he said, because the north end of the Peninsula has a high number of part-time residents, as well as some people who are not physically able to mow and clear brush and trees.

How to prepare

According to Brundage, citizens often want to prepare their properties, but aren't sure where to start, or what they're allowed to do. He said a good first step is to mow a 30-foot-wide break around homes and other structures. Emergency preparedness websites, such as www.ready.gov recommend other steps homeowners can take. These include cleaning roofs and gutters, removing firewood or debris stacked

against the sides of buildings, cutting down branches that overhang buildings and clearing out firewood or other flammable items from underneath porches. It's also a good idea to make sure garden hoses are in working order and review insurance policies to be sure that they are current and adequate.

Brundage encouraged people to get in touch with their local fire department if they're not sure what to do. He said PCFD staff can help residents of the district make plans for their properties.

"If they have questions, we will come out and help them identify the risk," Brundage said.

No work on private land

Cass said some citizens have expressed concerns about conservation crews going on to private property. There have also been a few spots where homeowners and Parks officials disagreed about the location of property boundaries.

The crews are using GPS units to make sure they don't stray onto private property, Cass said. They have been instructed to politely move on if a homeowner asks them not to work in a particular area.

Property owners who are concerned that the crews may be working on their land should share concerns directly with the crew, Cass said.

More information

Questions about the work can also be directed to Cape Disappointment State Park Manager Evan Roberts at 360-642-3078, or by emailing the Parks' stewardship program staff at stewardship@parks.wa.gov.

For advice about what to do in the event of a wildfire near your home, visit goo.gl/YXo5bc

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Astoria Warrenton Crab, Seafood & Wine Festival

Featured



The Healing and Unifying Power of Divine Love

Christian Science Church

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Featured

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CHINOOK  OBSERVER

BUILD OR RETROFIT YOUR HOME WITH NON-FLAMMABLE MATERIALS

Another line of defense to wildfire is the type of materials used on your home's exterior. Use the following guidelines to best protect your home:

- Use only Class A fire-resistant roofing materials tested in accordance with UL 790 or ASTM E 108.
- Box in the eaves, fascias, soffits and subfloors with fire resistant materials like fire retardant treated (FRT) wood to reduce the vent sizes.
- Apply 1/4" non-combustible screening to all vent or eave openings.
- Install spark arresters in chimneys.
- Enclose the undersides of decks with fire-resistant materials.
- Cover exterior walls with fire resistant materials like stucco, stone, or brick. (Vinyl siding can melt and is not recommended).
- Use double paned or tempered glass for all exterior windows.
- Make sure your address is visible from the street.

WHEN WILDFIRE THREATENS

- Become familiar with your community's disaster preparedness plans and create a family plan. Identify escape routes from your home and neighborhood and designate an emergency meeting place for your family to reunite if you become separated.
- Put together an emergency kit that includes a three-day supply of drinking water and food you don't have to refrigerate or cook, plus first aid supplies; a portable NOAA weather radio; a wrench and other basic tools; a flashlight; work gloves; emergency cooking equipment; portable lanterns; fresh batteries for each piece of equipment; clothing; blankets; baby items; prescription medications; extra car and house keys; extra eyeglasses; credit cards and cash; important documents, including insurance policies.

PROTECT YOUR HOME AGAINST WILDFIRE DAMAGE

A well prepared home has the greatest chance of surviving a wildfire. This brochure contains just a few of the design criteria we recommend, but for more information, visit our website at www.ibhs.org or contact IBHS at (813) 286-3400 x241.

The Institute for Business & Home Safety has similar information about a variety of natural perils, the damage they can cause and methods to strengthen your home against each. Visit www.disastersafety.org to learn how to make your home safer.

Insurance Information Service of Oregon & Idaho (ISOI)

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Portland, OR 97239

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Toll Free: 800-457-8713

Fax: 503-241-3649

www.insuranceoregon.org

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Business &
Home Safety®**

The Institute for Business & Home Safety, a national organization supported by insurance and reinsurance member companies, works to reduce social and economic losses caused by natural disasters.

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While no home is fireproof, there are precautions that you can take to lessen the likelihood of damage and loss from wildfire. This brochure presents tips for preparing your home and yard to better survive a wildfire.

The information and suggestions presented in this brochure range from simple weekend tasks to involved projects that may require professional assistance. Before starting on any activity, make sure you are comfortable with the required skill level. If you are uncertain, contact a professional engineer, architect, or building contractor.

GIVE YOUR HOME A SURVIVABLE SPACE THROUGH SMART LANDSCAPING

To wildfire, your property is a fuel source. Fire will only burn if fuel is present, such as your landscaping, woodpiles, decks, etc. To prevent your property from becoming a fuel source, you need to create a survivable space, which can slow down wildfire and possibly even direct it around your home. To create your survivable space, take the following steps within 30 feet of your home, 50 feet if you live in a heavily wooded area or 100 feet if your home is on a hillside.

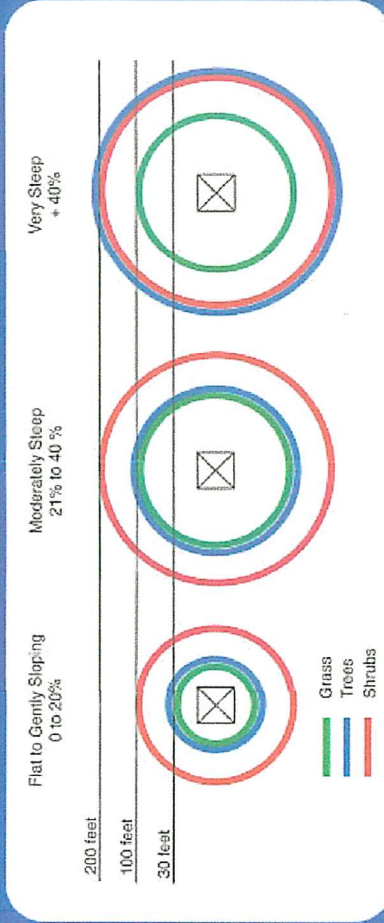
TIP: Work involving your home's structure may also require a building contractor, or a registered design professional such as an architect or engineer.

- Plant vegetation that is native to your region
- Space trees at least 10 feet apart.
- Remove dead or dying trees and shrubs.
- Keep trees and shrubs pruned. Branches should be a minimum of 6 feet from the ground and shrubs under trees should be no more than 18 inches high.
- Mow your lawn regularly and dispose promptly of cuttings and debris.
- Maintain your irrigation system.
- Clear your roof, gutters and eaves of debris.
- Trim branches so they do not extend over roof or near the chimney.
- Move firewood and storage tanks 50 feet away from home and clear areas at least 10 feet around them.
- Store flammable liquids properly.
- Do not connect wooden fencing directly to your home.

TIP: If you're handy with a hammer and saw, you can do much of the work yourself. Before making any structural changes to your home, check with your local building officials to be sure what you're doing complies with local building codes.

SURVIVABLE SPACE* - Recommended Distances Based on Steepness of Slope

- First, find the percent slope which best describes your property.
- Next, find the type of vegetation which best describes the wildland plants growing on or near your property.
- Finally, locate the number of feet corresponding to your slope and vegetation. This is your recommended survivable space distance. Also, consider larger setbacks away from the slope.



GRASS is defined as wildland grasses (such as cheatgrass), weeds and widely scattered shrubs with grass understory.

SHRUBS include shrub dominant areas such as sagebrush, gambel oak and piñonjuniper.

TREES include forested areas. If substantial grass or shrub understory is present use the values described above.

* A defensible space is an area where the potential for fire has been reduced by removing or pruning combustible vegetation.



Wildfire

May 2, 2017

City Council of Gearhart
698 Pacific Way
PO box 2510
Gearhart, Oregon 97138

Re: Planning@City of Gearhart.com

Dear Council Members,

It is my understanding that there will be a meeting Wednesday evening addressing vegetation/growth issues in the dunes. My biggest concern is the growth of pine trees in the dune areas and what that means with regards to fire danger. Please note I am not a property owner in Gearhart. But I feel other property owners may be affected by decisions you make. I have some thoughts and photos of areas in Surf Pines and Pinehurst I would like to share with the Council.

In 1951 my parents moved into the first house in Surf Pines. Barney Lucas, the SP developer was one of my Dad's best friends. In the spring of 1951, Barney, Dad, Jim Lucas and I started planting pine trees around the SP roads. I have enclosed a picture taken from my parent's driveway in 1958. We planted the trees on the lower road (Ocean Drive). Have any of you seen the growth of the pine trees lately-and how they have moved west of the existing houses on Ocean Drive?

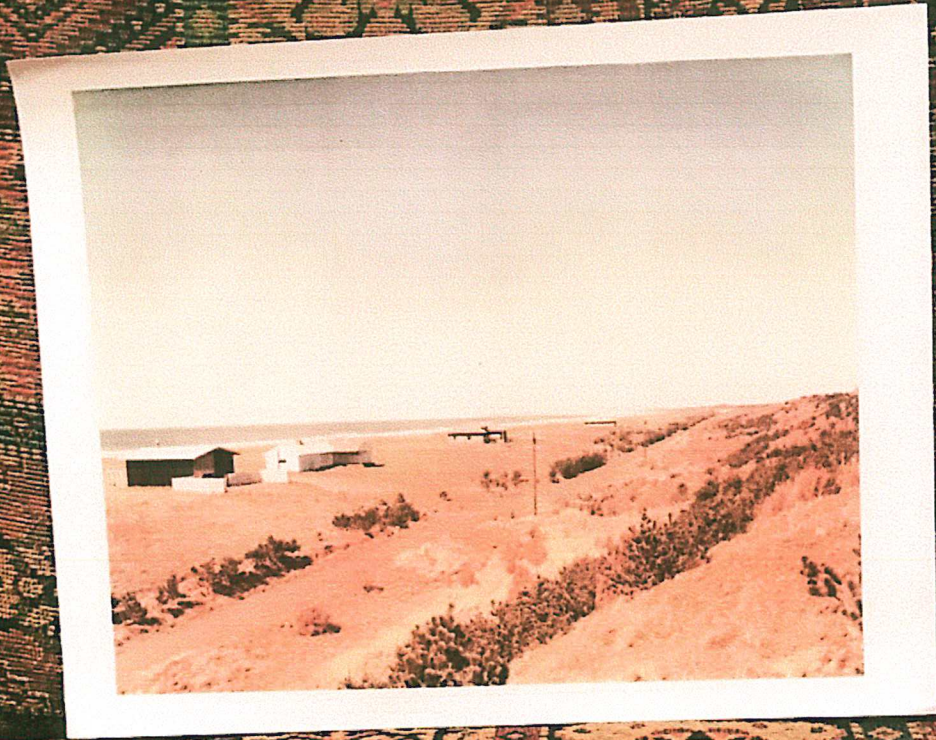
In 1989 I became part of a group trying to develop the ocean front land between the Del Rey Rd and Surf Pines (now known as Pinehurst Estates). At the time, the property had a restricted western building line which was put in place when the County did their comprehensive plan in the 1979-there is a wonderful article in The Oregonian dated 1/8/92 that describes how Leonard Palmer influenced the County's Comp Plan and moved a Clatsop Coastal Boundary without a hearing. The 1979 Comp Plan put numerous restrictions on ocean front properties. We were trying to get a building line that connected to the SP line and The Highlands. We hired several consultants and spent thousands of dollars. Our opponents were saying the dune area was unstable. That was our charge-we had to prove through science the dune area was stable. Our scientist surveyed all the plant life between SP and the Del Rey Rd- I have sent you copies of some of there work. They found lots of vegetation and plants which supported our position that the dune was stable. Twenty seven years later, with stable dunes, there are lots of pines trees in the dune areas up and down the coast line. If left to grow

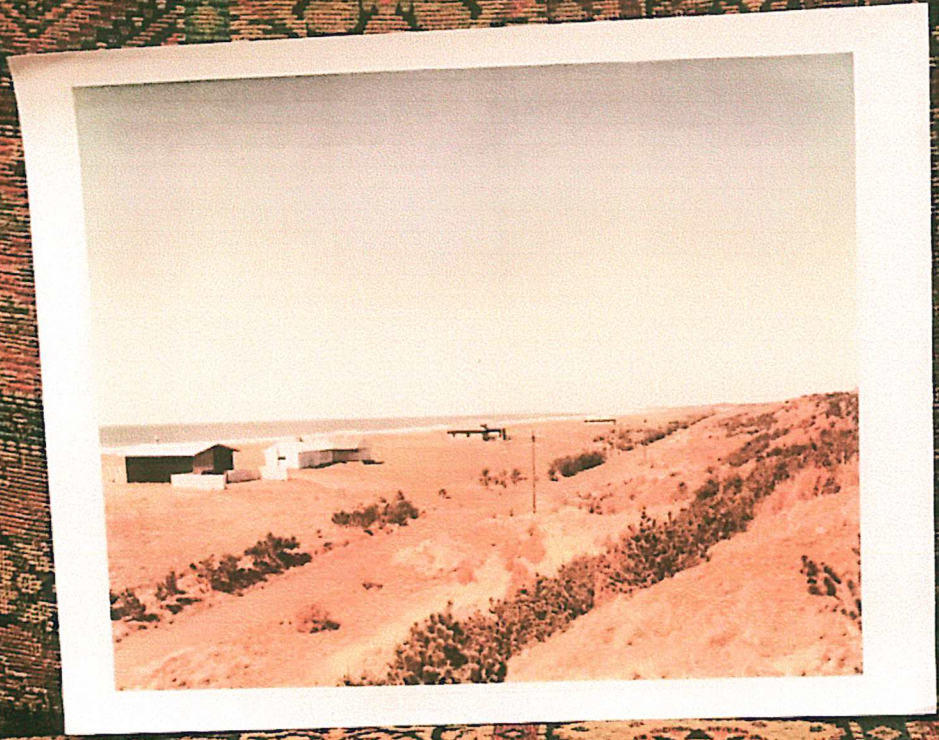
unchecked, in 50 to 60 years they will block lots of views and create numerous fire hazards. There must be a way for property owners to deal with unwanted trees. Not knowing anything about Gearhart's Comp Plan, it may be something you wish to review. If you want to explore that route, I strongly suggest calling Steve Pfeiffer, Perkin Coie.

Sincerely,

Richard T. Schroeder
89018 Manion Drive
Warrenton Oregon 97146
503 307 6173

Ps If you would like to review the studies we contracted for I can make them available







**A STUDY OF THE DUNE VEGETATION
AT DEL REY BEACH,
CLATSOP COUNTY, OREGON**

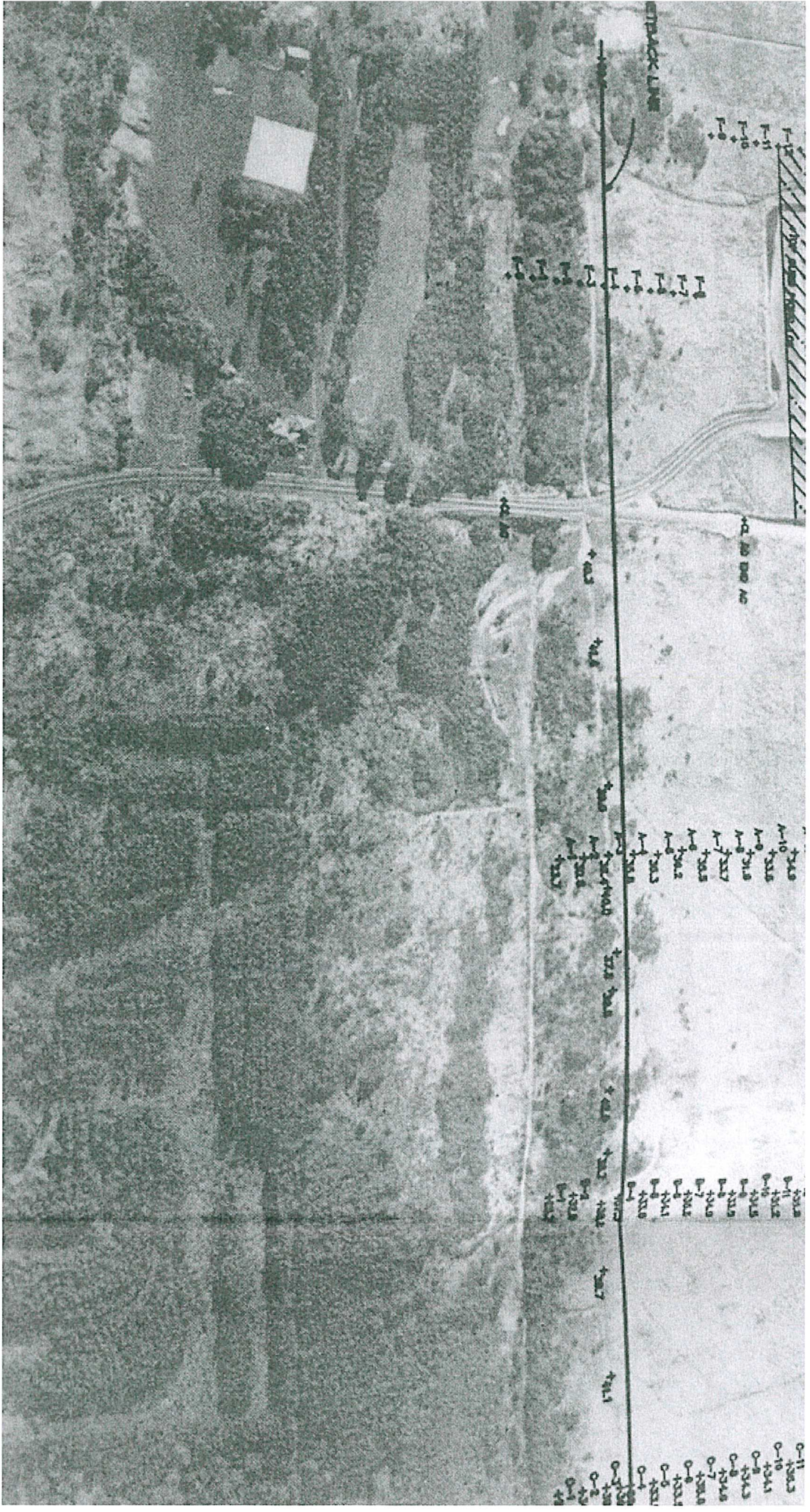
Prepared For:

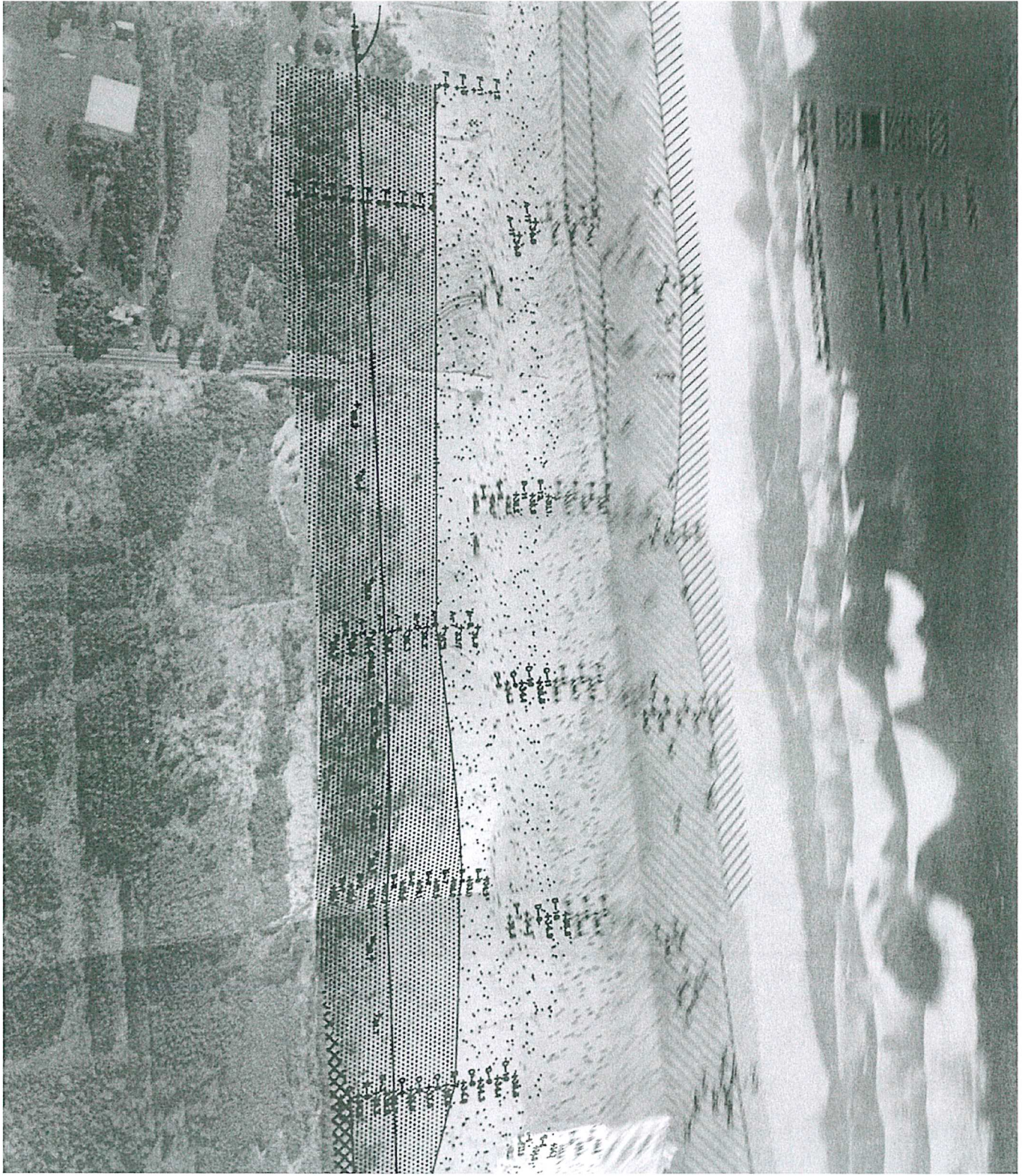
NORTHWEST GENERAL, INC.

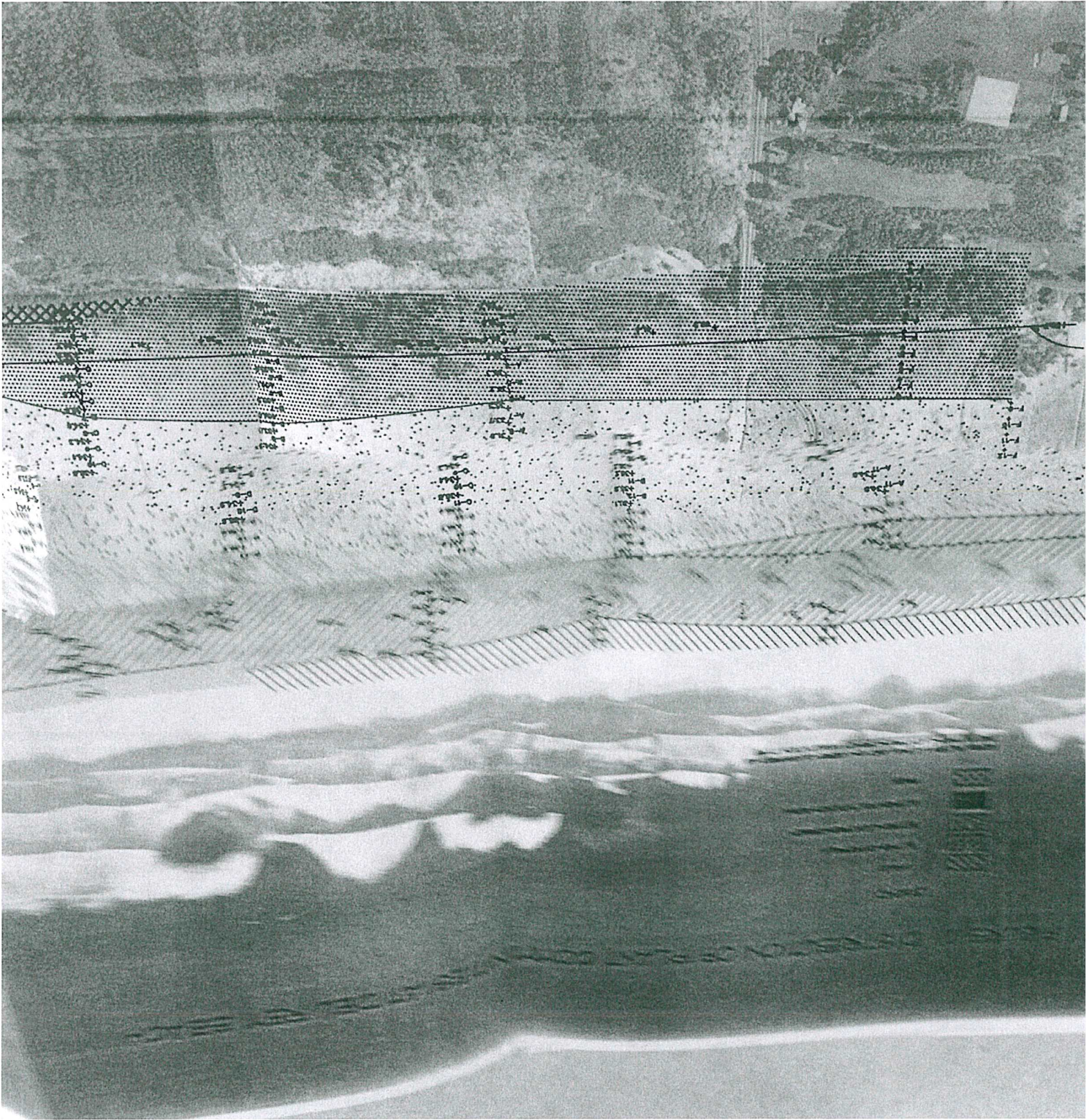
Prepared By:

**Edward R. Alverson and Thomas Duebendorfer
DAVID EVANS AND ASSOCIATES, INC.
2828 SW Corbett Avenue
Portland, Oregon 97201**

15 February 1991







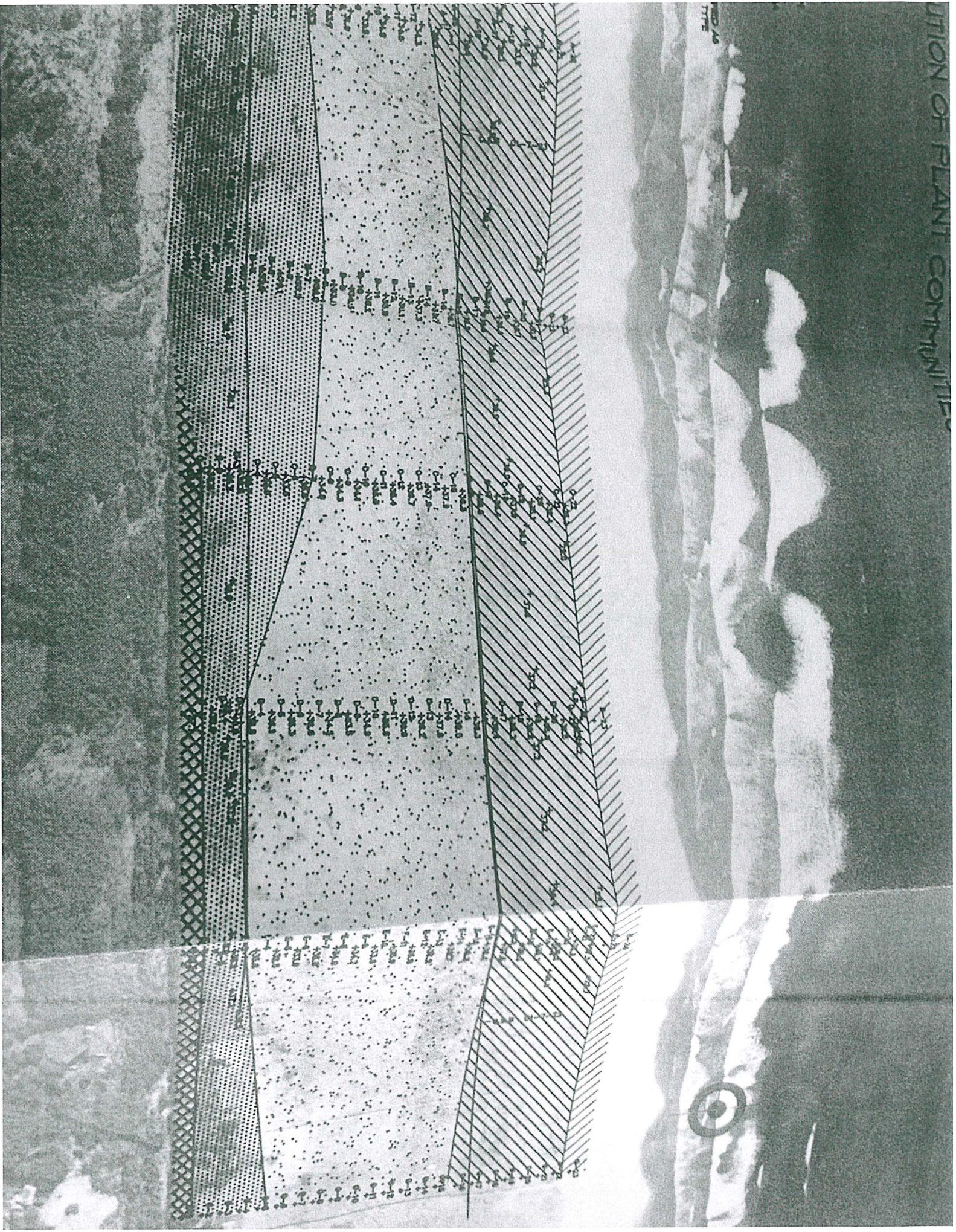
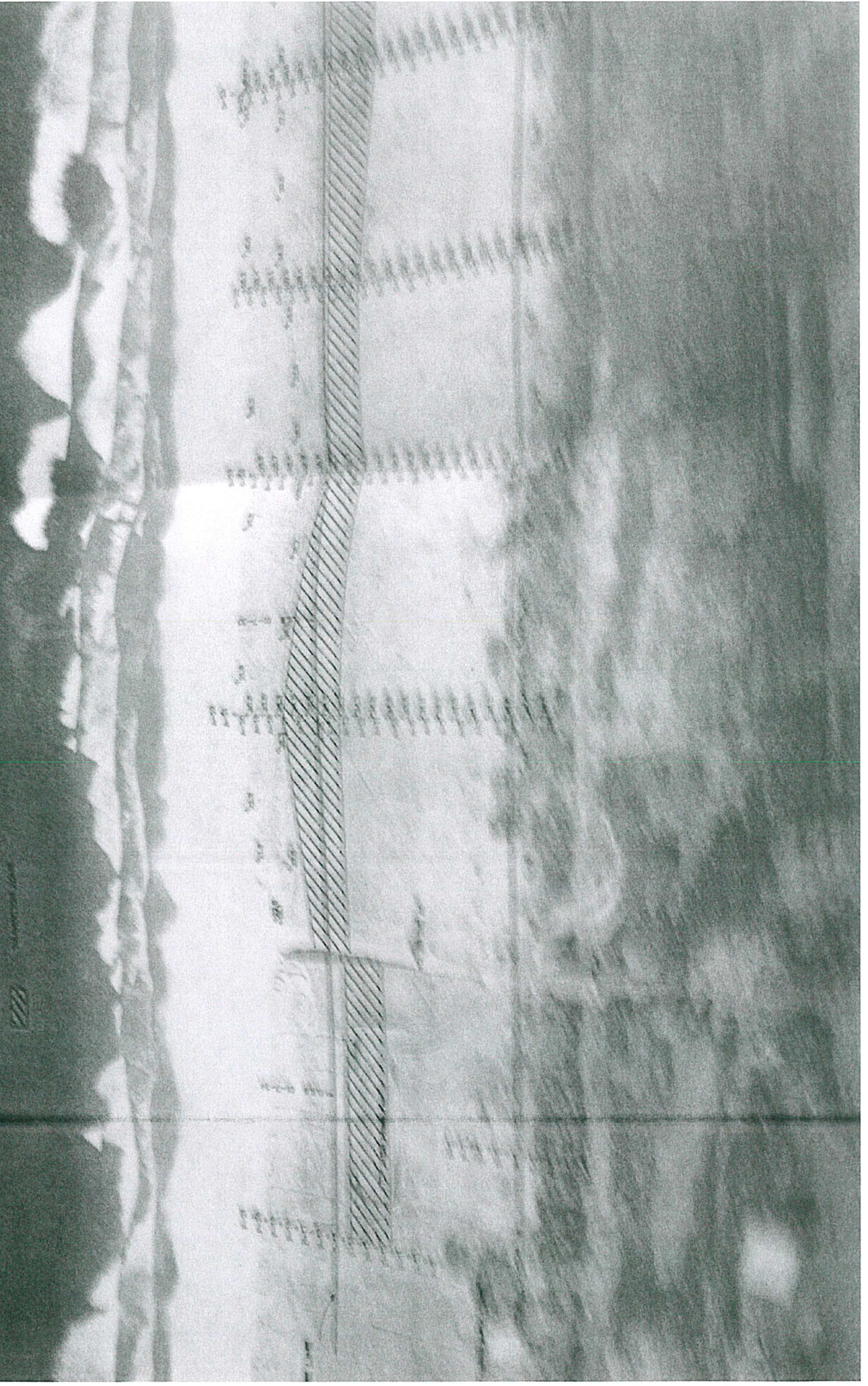


FIGURE 6. DUNE STABILITY AND VEGETATION PATTERNS AT DELRAY BEACH

1950
1955



DEL REY BEACH PROPERTY
CLATSOP COUNTY, OREGON
REVISED RESOURCE INVENTORY MAP,
COMPREHENSIVE PLAN MAP AMENDMENT,
AND
DISTRICT BOUNDARY CHANGES

For:

Northwest General, Inc.
2630 116th Avenue N.E., Suite 200
Bellevue, Washington 98005

By:

David Evans and Associates, Inc.
2828 S.W. Corbett
Portland, Oregon 97201

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Moffatt & Nichol, Engineers
Northwest Geological Services
Stoel Rives Boley Jones & Grey
Wave Beach Grass Nursery

May 10, 1990
Corrected: May 17, 1990

Cheryl Lund

From: Richard Schroeder
Sent: Tuesday, May 02, 2017 3:36 PM
To: Cheryl Lund
Subject: Fwd: Pinehurst CC&Rs View Restrictions

Cheryl. Please pass this along to your City Council. Thanks Rich

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Richard Schroeder <schroederrts@gmail.com>
Date: May 2, 2017 at 3:34:28 PM PDT
To: "Richard T. Schroeder" <schroederrts@gmail.com>
Subject: Pinehurst CC&Rs View Restrictions

Ask the Expert



4.4 View Restriction. In the event any tree, shrub or other vegetation blocks or substantially obscures scenic vistas from any residence or is otherwise a nuisance or inharmonious with Pinehurst Estates, the owner of such impacted lot may petition the Architectural Committee to require the trimming, topping or removal of such tree, shrub or other vegetation. Upon receipt of such petition, the Architectural Committee shall investigate the matter and determine in its sole discretion whether said view is a significant view of an amenity and determine whether the objected to trees, shrubs or other vegetation is a nuisance or substantially inharmonious with the adversely impacted lot(s). If the Architectural Committee so determines, in its sole discretion, then the offending tree, shrub or other vegetation shall be trimmed, topped or entirely removed to restore the view or otherwise satisfy the objection to the satisfaction of the Architectural Committee. The owner of the offending tree, shrub, or other vegetation shall be entitled to elect within ten (10) days after receipt of written notice of the Architectural Committee's determination, as to whether the offending tree, shrub or other vegetation shall be trimmed, topped or removed, so long as such choice shall resolve the issue to the satisfaction of the Architectural Committee. In any event, the reasonable cost of trimming, topping and removal shall be the responsibility of the petitioning lot owner. The decision of the Architectural Committee may be appealed to the Board of Directors of the HOA by written notice to the President or Secretary of the HOA within 30 days after the decision of the Architectural Committee is reduced to writing and either hand delivered or mailed regular first class mail and certified mail, return receipt requested to the owner of the lot where the objected to view obstruction was located and to the objecting lot owner(s).

4.5 Landscaping Materials. The use of native material for landscaping is encouraged. The Architectural Committee shall review all landscaping designs as planned or as allowed to remain in its pre-existing condition, for purposes of compatibility, promoting fire protection for the lot on which landscaping exists and the surrounding lots in order to promote compatibility of all landscaping and to discourage spread of fire resulting from the landscaping materials. The authority of the Architectural Committee shall be subject to the following.

4.6 Fences and Hedges. No fences or hedges shall be installed upon any portion of the lot unless written application is made and written approval is obtained from the Architectural Committee which specifies the height, material, color or type of vegetation to be used for the fence or hedge. That application shall also designate location and maximum height and width in order to

Sent from my iPhone



Sand Dune Vegetation Committee
Meeting Minutes
Gearhart City Hall April 24, 2017 5:00-6:15PM

Next Meeting: Saturday May 6th 10:00-11:30AM. Location: Gearhart City Hall.

At this meeting the

In Attendance: Jim Furnish, Reita Fackerell, Sharon Kleopfer, Mike Brackenbrough, Kerry Smith, Jan Lund, Bill Corti, Janet Ottem, and Margaret Marino

Committee meetings are open to the public.

- I. Introductions
 - a. Committee members and audience members introduced themselves.
- II. Purpose of the Committee
 - a. The purpose of the committee is to help the City identify a strategy to manage the vegetation on the dunes throughout Gearhart. This could include an update to City ordinance; specifically the Beach and Dune Overlay Zone.
- III. Review of Technical Information
 - a. Sayce and Schultz provided ecological reports regarding the natural history and current conditions of the dunes. With these reports, there is some conflicting information. Some of this could be because of semantics. The committee discussed the flammability of Scotch Broom and how it is unlikely that native vegetation, besides trees, would out-compete noxious weeds such as Scotch Broom. There was discussion about how fire was used to manage the landscape in the past.
 - i. Hannah will work on finding a method for a peer review of the reports and will report back at the next meeting.
 - b. The Woody Vegetation Matrix found in Sayce's report will likely be used in the future to align priorities with management strategies.
 - c. Other information presented at the January 2017 meeting was reviewed, including maps that were created by Clatsop SWCD.
- IV. Management Priorities
 - a. Committee members and audience members listed their priorities for managing the dune vegetation. Answers included:

Promote public safety	Represent all stakeholders	Manage vegetation growth and remove noxious weeds
No fire road (or any road)/ minimize fire road	Preserve life for animals	Limited grooming to maintain ocean views
Trim dead or dry vegetation	Maintain as much forest as possible, move fire road to preserve new forest	Eliminate Knot Weed and Scotch Broom
Minimum management of the dunes	No heavy equipment in the dunes	

May 1, 2017

To: Mayor Matt Brown
Gearhart City Council
Gearhart Planning Commission
Gearhart City Staff

From: Lisa Cerveney
524 F Street, PO Box 2368
Gearhart, Oregon 97138

This correspondence is in support of the Proposed Zone Code Text Amendment File #17-005ZTA.

My husband and I live on F Street in the south end of Gearhart and have enjoyed our walks on Little Beach, and the south end of Big Beach for 19 years. In the past 10 years we have seen a marked change in the south end of the dunes. The trees are becoming a forest. The scotch broom and noxious weeds are vigorously taking over. The experience of the beach has been radically altered.

I understand that nature takes its own course, but my primary concerns are personal safety and fire hazard. Between random encampments and the surprise of hidden elk and their calves, the southern dunes have become challenging.

During a family reunion in 2001, two of our family's young children went missing on their way to the beach. They lost their way and I reassured their parents that Gearhart and the dunes were entirely safe and to not worry about them. Today I, personally, would be concerned.

I attended the Town Hall Meeting where Chief Eddy was in support of controlling the vegetation due to fire hazard and the safety of the dedicated team of firefighters who defend our community. It appears the forest is currently too close to the fire road for safe passage. If for no other reason than out of respect for these individuals and their personal safety, as well as the safety of the homes that front the dunes, please support this amendment.

Thank you for your attention to this issue.

Best,
Lisa Cerveney

Cheryl Lund

From: Carole Connell
Sent: Wednesday, May 03, 2017 7:58 AM
To: Cheryl Lund
Subject: FW: We love the birds in the dunes
Attachments: IPAC Consult Code 01EOFW00-2017-SLI-003.pdf; Re_ IPAC letter from FWS[7763].pdf; IPAC Ebird comparison species impact.xlsx; Daily Astorian Invasive Plants Taking Over Gearhart January 2017.pdf

These are the docs I referenced I the supplemental staff report

From: Margaret Marino [<mailto:MMMARINO@msn.com>]
Sent: Monday, May 01, 2017 5:57 PM
To: mrchadsweet@gmail.com; Carole Connell
Cc: Jack Delaney; Dianne Widdop
Subject: We love the birds in the dunes

I'll reference a series of documents that I believe shows acknowledgment of the bird wildlife in the dunes and means to ensure the city recognizes. I'll take you through the logic.

1. Letters from the Greens. February letter list of observed birds (on record)
2. April letter reinforcement of the first letter along with identification that the area under discussion has no bearing on the Western Snowy Plover (on record)
3. IPAC report generated by Kerry Smith on October 4, 2016 (enclosed)
4. Correspondence from FWD to Chad Sweet in regards to the IPAC report (enclosed)
5. Kathleen Sayce report, page 12 of 16 with recommendation of the timing of control methods to protect wildlife directed at fall and winter (on record)
6. CSWCD maps identification of crab-apple trees for preservation for songbird habitat within the noxious weed maps (on record)
7. A summary chart of the birds identified by the Greens in EBIRD report (let me know if you'd like me to change it around)
8. Daily Astorian article Town Hall Meeting January with quotes from the wildlife biologist.

I keep reminding myself that a zone code change does not tell you how, or when to do something. It tells you what you can and cannot do. These documents recognize a generalized report of endangered, threatened or candidate species. The only overlap from EBIRD and IPAC is the Western Snowy Plover. Fish and Wildlife and the Greens both recognize there will be no impact based on the current discussion.

I know I am erring on the side of too much information here. But it's important to understand the documents on which I draw my conclusions. Let me know if you come to the same conclusions.

I've not written a summary page.

My conclusion is there is no impact to any identified endangered, threatened or candidate species of birds.

There is recognition there are species of birds identified that rely on the wild crab-apple trees. There is recognition of the timing of any control methods to protect wildlife. Both of these items will be addressed when the city goes forward with an implementation plan.

Let me know your thoughts.



Elbert, Daniel <daniel_elbert@fws.gov>

Resend - FW: IPAC letter from FWS

Elbert, Daniel <daniel_elbert@fws.gov>

Wed, Dec 28, 2016 at 2:24 PM

To: Margaret Marino <mmmarino@msn.com>

Cc: Laura Todd <laura_todd@fws.gov>, Chad Sweet <citymgr@ci.gearhart.or.us>, Justin Parker OPRD <Justin.Parker@oregon.gov>, Herman Biederbeck <herman.h.biederbeck@state.or.us>

Hi Margaret,

I had a chance to touch base with Chad about the upcoming meeting. Chad and I discussed the general project description, removal of noxious weeds and woody vegetation, which is generally consistent with coastal dune restoration efforts. I described to Chad that snowy plovers would not likely to benefit directly from this project, unless the project also involves removal of European beachgrass. In a similar phone call that you and I had, you relayed some information about city ordinances (e.g., Goal 18). It was my understanding that these city ordinances require further discussion before removal of European beachgrass could be considered, and that those discussions were beyond the scope of the Gearhart restoration project and the town hall meeting.

Chad and I also discussed the IPAC letter, and how IPAC generates species lists based on county boundaries. Often times, IPAC, generates a species list with species that will not be impacted by a particular project because the project action area does not overlap with the areas that a species occurs, or the type of habitat that a species utilizes. Take short-tailed albatross and the proposed restoration project at Gearhart, for example. Short-tailed albatross are a pelagic species, meaning that the closest distance they come to the shore is about 12 miles. Short-tailed albatross will not be impacted by the Gearhart restoration project. Since the Clatsop county boundary extends into the ocean, however, and short-tailed albatross could potentially overlap with the county boundary, IPAC included short-tailed albatross in the species list for this project. IPAC functions as an initial step to help project proponents ensure that a project is in compliance with the Endangered Species Act, but it is also a very conservative approach. The species lists that IPAC generates always require further review of the project by the project proponents to determine whether the project may have an impact on a listed species. Chad and I discussed the species list generated for the Gearhart restoration project, and that is was a reasonable conclusion that this project would not impact any of the listed species in that letter.

Based on our discussion about the limitations of the project to benefit snowy plovers, and the reasonable conclusion that the project would not impact a federally listed species, Chad did not think that it was necessary for me to attend the the town hall meeting on January 5th, or that the town hall meeting was the best forum to move ahead with snowy plover recovery objectives at Gearhart. To that end, Chad and I did talk about future opportunities to collaborate on snowy plover recovery efforts (the Pulling Together Initiative is a great one), and discussed setting up a time that I could come up and meet with Chad and city councilors, and other interested parties. The Necanicum Spit is a key piece to the snowy plover recovery effort that we are trying to implement on the Oregon coast. I'm hoping that setting up a plover meeting in the near future will help us find some common ground to move forward with recovery efforts.

Chad also asked me about a recommendation for someone who might be able to provide additional guidance on local wildlife issues, and I suggested Herman Biederbeck, Wildlife Biologist with ODFW, CC'd here.

Thanks,
Dan

Daniel Elbert*Fish and Wildlife Biologist, Endangered Species
Newport Field Office, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
2127 SE Marine Science Drive, Newport, OR 97365
541-867-4558 x239 (office) | 541-207-5248 (cell)*

[Quoted text hidden]



United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Oregon Fish and Wildlife Office

2600 SOUTHEAST 98TH AVENUE, SUITE 100

PORTLAND, OR 97266

PHONE: (503)231-6179 FAX: (503)231-6195

URL: www.fws.gov/oregonfwo/Species/Lists/RequestList.asp

Consultation Code: 01EOFW00-2017-SLI-0003

October 04, 2016

Event Code: 01EOFW00-2017-E-00001

Project Name: Gearhart Dunes

Subject: List of threatened and endangered species that may occur in your proposed project location, and/or may be affected by your proposed project

To Whom It May Concern:

The enclosed species list identifies threatened, endangered, proposed and candidate species, as well as proposed and final designated critical habitat, that may occur within the boundary of your proposed project and/or may be affected by your proposed project. The species list fulfills the requirements of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) under section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act (Act) of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

New information based on updated surveys, changes in the abundance and distribution of species, changed habitat conditions, or other factors could change this list. Please feel free to contact us if you need more current information or assistance regarding the potential impacts to federally proposed, listed, and candidate species and federally designated and proposed critical habitat. Please note that under 50 CFR 402.12(e) of the regulations implementing section 7 of the Act, the accuracy of this species list should be verified after 90 days. This verification can be completed formally or informally as desired. The Service recommends that verification be completed by visiting the ECOS-IPaC website at regular intervals during project planning and implementation for updates to species lists and information. An updated list may be requested through the ECOS-IPaC system by completing the same process used to receive the enclosed list.

The purpose of the Act is to provide a means whereby threatened and endangered species and the ecosystems upon which they depend may be conserved. Under sections 7(a)(1) and 7(a)(2) of the Act and its implementing regulations (50 CFR 402 *et seq.*), Federal agencies are required to utilize their authorities to carry out programs for the conservation of threatened and endangered species and to determine whether projects may affect threatened and endangered species and/or designated critical habitat.

A Biological Assessment is required for construction projects (or other undertakings having similar physical impacts) that are major Federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment as defined in the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4332(2)(c)). For projects other than major construction activities, the Service suggests that a biological evaluation similar to a Biological Assessment be prepared to determine whether the project may affect listed or proposed species and/or designated or proposed critical habitat. Recommended contents of a Biological Assessment are described at 50 CFR 402.12.

If a Federal agency determines, based on the Biological Assessment or biological evaluation, that listed species and/or designated critical habitat may be affected by the proposed project, the agency is required to consult with the Service pursuant to 50 CFR 402. In addition, the Service recommends that candidate species, proposed species and proposed critical habitat be addressed within the consultation. More information on the regulations and procedures for section 7 consultation, including the role of permit or license applicants, can be found in the "Endangered Species Consultation Handbook" at:

<http://www.fws.gov/endangered/esa-library/pdf/TOC-GLOS.PDF>

Please be aware that bald and golden eagles are protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 668 *et seq.*), and projects affecting these species may require development of an eagle conservation plan (http://www.fws.gov/windenergy/eagle_guidance.html). Additionally, wind energy projects should follow the wind energy guidelines (<http://www.fws.gov/windenergy/>) for minimizing impacts to migratory birds and bats.

Guidance for minimizing impacts to migratory birds for projects including communications towers (e.g., cellular, digital television, radio, and emergency broadcast) can be found at: <http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/CurrentBirdIssues/Hazards/towers/towers.htm>; <http://www.towerkill.com>; and <http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/CurrentBirdIssues/Hazards/towers/comtow.html>.

We appreciate your concern for threatened and endangered species. The Service encourages Federal agencies to investigate opportunities for incorporating conservation of threatened and endangered species into project planning processes as a means of complying with the Act. If you have questions regarding your responsibilities under the Act, please contact the Endangered Species Division at the Service's Oregon Fish and Wildlife Office at (503) 231-6179. For information regarding listed marine and anadromous species under the jurisdiction of NOAA Fisheries Service, please see their website (http://www.nwr.noaa.gov/habitat/habitat_conservation_in_the_nw/habitat_conservation_in_the_n).

Please include the Consultation Tracking Number in the header of this letter with any request for consultation or correspondence about your project that you submit to our office.

Attachment



United States Department of Interior
Fish and Wildlife Service

Project name: Gearhart Dunes

Official Species List

Provided by:

Oregon Fish and Wildlife Office
2600 SOUTHEAST 98TH AVENUE, SUITE 100
PORTLAND, OR 97266
(503) 231-6179
<http://www.fws.gov/oregonfwo/Species/Lists/RequestList.asp>

Consultation Code: 01EOFW00-2017-SLI-0003

Event Code: 01EOFW00-2017-E-00001

Project Type: LAND - CLEARING

Project Name: Gearhart Dunes

Project Description: mowing and tree grinding in the dunes.

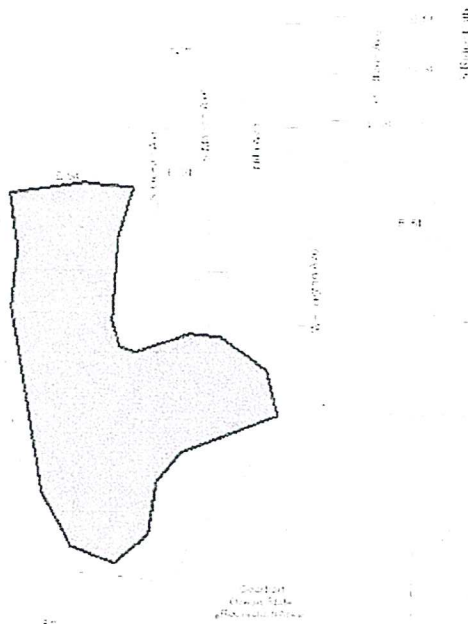
Please Note: The FWS office may have modified the Project Name and/or Project Description, so it may be different from what was submitted in your previous request. If the Consultation Code matches, the FWS considers this to be the same project. Contact the office in the 'Provided by' section of your previous Official Species list if you have any questions or concerns.



United States Department of Interior
Fish and Wildlife Service

Project name: Gearhart Dunes

Project Location Map:



Project Coordinates: MULTIPOLYGON (((-123.92606019973756 46.02040468500907, -123.92530918121338 46.020374884493776, -123.92560958862303 46.01967456776084, -123.92571687698364 46.018542121934956, -123.92558813095093 46.01818450264502, -123.92526626586914 46.01810999833516, -123.9242148399353 46.01834841177335, -123.92359256744383 46.01831861014978, -123.92269134521484 46.01785668293077, -123.92245531082153 46.01721593878671, -123.92436504364015 46.01670929862582, -123.92483711242674 46.0162920620667, -123.92498731613159 46.015546988952345, -123.9256739616394 46.01514464529648, -123.92653226852416 46.01536816991113, -123.92711162567139 46.01614304824693, -123.92771244049072 46.01873583141791, -123.927583694458 46.01951066256367, -123.92773389816284 46.02028548285158, -123.92627477645874 46.02043448550829, -123.92606019973756 46.02040468500907)))

Project Counties: Clatsop, OR



United States Department of Interior
Fish and Wildlife Service

Project name: Gearhart Dunes

Endangered Species Act Species List

There are a total of 9 threatened, endangered, or candidate species on your species list. Species on this list should be considered in an effects analysis for your project and could include species that exist in another geographic area. For example, certain fish may appear on the species list because a project could affect downstream species. Critical habitats listed under the **Has Critical Habitat** column may or may not lie within your project area. See the **Critical habitats within your project area** section further below for critical habitat that lies within your project. Please contact the designated FWS office if you have questions.

Birds	Status	Has Critical Habitat	Condition(s)
Marbled murrelet (<i>Brachyramphus marmoratus</i>) Population: U.S.A. (CA, OR, WA)	Threatened	Final designated	
Northern Spotted owl (<i>Strix occidentalis caurina</i>) Population: Wherever found	Threatened	Final designated	
Short-Tailed albatross (<i>Phoebastria (=diomedea) albatrus</i>) Population: Wherever found	Endangered		
Streaked Horned lark (<i>Eremophila alpestris strigata</i>) Population: Wherever found	Threatened	Final designated	
western snowy plover (<i>Charadrius nivosus ssp. nivosus</i>) Population: Pacific Coast population DPS&U.S.A. (CA, OR, WA), Mexico (within 50 miles of Pacific coast)	Threatened	Final designated	
Mammals			
red tree vole (<i>Arborimus longicaudus</i>)	Candidate		



United States Department of Interior
Fish and Wildlife Service

Project name: Gearhart Dunes

Population: North Oregon Coast DPS			
Reptiles			
Leatherback sea turtle (<i>Dermochelys coriacea</i>) Population: Wherever found	Endangered	Final designated	
Loggerhead sea turtle (<i>Caretta caretta</i>) Population: North Pacific Ocean DPS	Endangered		
Olive Ridley sea turtle (<i>Lepidochelys olivacea</i>) Population: Except where endangered	Threatened		



United States Department of Interior
Fish and Wildlife Service

Project name: Gearhart Dunes

Critical habitats that lie within your project area

The following critical habitats lie fully or partially within your project area.

Birds	Critical Habitat Type
western snowy plover (<i>Charadrius nivosus ssp. nivosus</i>) Population: Pacific Coast population DPS&U.S.A. (CA, OR, WA), Mexico (within 50 miles of Pacific coast)	Final designated



Invasive plants taking over Gearhart dunes

Safety, fire and invasive species among panelists' concerns

By Lyra Fontaine The Daily Astorian
Published on January 6, 2017 10:58AM
Last changed on January 6, 2017 3:17PM



DANNY MILLER/THE DAILY ASTORIAN

The Scotch broom pla

Gearhart City Administrator Chad Sweet points to thick growth of the invasive species Scotch broom along the Fire Trail on Tuesday in Gearhart. The city of Gearhart is looking at options for controlling the plant along the beach.

GEARHART — Residents have seen vegetation on Gearhart dunes west of Ocean Avenue and south of E Street multiply over the last two decades. The city now grapples with whether to address the noxious weeds, shore pine trees and other species covering the dunes with a management plan or continue to let the vegetation grow in the city park area.

“We have the ‘no plan’ plan, and I think that’s one of the reasons why we ended up where we are today,” City Administrator Chad Sweet said. The noxious weed Scotch broom covers the dunes, some up to 10 feet tall or higher.

Residents filled the Gearhart Fire Station on Thursday night for an education forum and town hall meeting on dune vegetation, where they listened to city officials, state parks representatives and other experts. The panel was organized by Margaret Marino, a resident who has expressed concerns about the vegetation at city meetings and reached out to state departments and ecologists for assistance.

While some residents enjoy the vegetation and worry that management practices could impact wildlife, others are concerned about public safety, fire hazards, invasive species and more.

“We’ve got many non-native species in there and we’ve got very invasive species, not just Scotch broom, but species such as thistle, blackberry vines that continue to spread due to birds,” ecologist and panel participant Kathleen Sayce said. “I am interested in restoring the prairie that was there, which is a handful of native species of grass.”

Sayce said the city taking a hands-off approach “leads you into a mess in the long term.”

Safety, fire concerns

Gearhart Police Chief Jeff Bowman said the trees and other dune vegetation could lead to larger problems, from widespread camping violations to potential assaults, if the city does nothing.

“We, by not doing anything, are inviting people in to live, to camp,” Bowman said. “It’s bad for Gearhart to have all that, in my opinion, as a law enforcement officer. You can’t see 5 or 6 feet in front of you half the time and I usually have my gun out because I don’t know who I’m going to encounter.”

Bowman has located campers, college students and homeless people staying in secluded areas in the dunes. It took him several days to find three people living in the area.

Gearhart Fire Chief Bill Eddy said he has watched the vegetation on the dunes grow over the past 20 years.

If a fire occurred in the dunes, the Fire Department would not enter the area because “the fuel load is so great out there that you don’t want to get anywhere close to it.”

“This site is probably never going to be what it once was, but it can be a managed natural landscape that works for safety, fire, city and animals, too,” said panel participant Vanessa Blackstone, wildlife biologist with the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department.

Panel participant Neal Maine, naturalist and former science teacher, said a plan should involve figuring out the city’s “ecological umbrella.”

Luke Colvin, certified arborist and panel participant, said the trees would continue to grow quickly if left alone.

Management plan

Families and volunteers have pulled out Scotch broom in the area in past years, but the efforts have not made a major difference. A plan for managing the vegetation could be a “fight against Mother Nature” but is an option, Sweet said.

Managing the dunes would likely require a city code amendment. The dunes are in an overlay district, which requires that plants are not cut by more than 50 percent. The city could include an exception in the code that might allow further vegetation management if the council approves a report by a certified professional.

Potential changes would go through a public process at Planning Commission and City Council meetings.

“We’re just trying to learn something,” Sweet said. “We don’t have a policy yet.”

Some citizens expressed concerns about disrupting birds and wildlife in the area with potential management methods, such as mowing and herbicide spraying.

Sayce said management would be seasonally specific and not during nesting season.

Though some species will lose while others will benefit from the vegetation management, the species that use the area are common, not endangered, Blackstone said.

No cost estimates are known, but some mentioned the possibility of obtaining grants.

“I believe we have an opportunity,” Marino said.

Fort Stevens Park Manager Justin Parker, another panel participant, said Oregon Parks and Recreation would be open to partnering with Gearhart on a dune vegetation project. “We definitely want to be a resource,” he said.

Related Stories

World in Brief 01-06-2017

MARKETPLACE

Homes Jobs Public Notices Vehicles

Featured

Observed Birds EBIRD February 9th, 2017 John Margaret Green
 IPAC Threatened, endangered or candidate October 2016

List	Species	Specific	Status		
IPAC	Albatross	Short-tailed	Threatened, endangered, or candidate		
Ebird	Blackbird	Red-winged			
Ebird	Bluebird	Western			
Ebird	Bushtit				
Ebird	Chickadee	Black-capped			
Ebird	Chickadee	Chestnut-backed			
Ebird	Crow	American			
Ebird	Crow	Northwest			
Ebird	Dove	Mourning			
Ebird	Dove	Eurasian Collared			
Ebird	Eagle				
Ebird	Falcon	Peregrine			
Ebird	Flicker	Northern			
Ebird	Harrier	Northern			
Ebird	Hawk	Sharp-Shinned			
Ebird	Hawk	Cooper's			
Ebird	Hawk	Red-tailed			
Ebird	Hummingbird	Anna's			
Ebird	Hummingbird	Rufous			
Ebird	Jay	Stellar's			
Ebird	Kinglet	Ruby-crowned			
Ebird	Kinglet	Golden-crowned			
IPAC	Lark	Streaked Horned	Threatened, endangered, or candidate		
Ebird	Lark	Western Meadow			
IPAC	Murrelet	Marbled	Threatened, endangered, or candidate		
Ebird	Osprey				
Ebird	Owl	Barn			
Ebird	Owl	Short-eared			
IPAC	Owl	Northern Spotted	Threatened, endangered, or candidate		
Ebird	Pheasant	Ring-necked			
Ebird	Pigeon	Rock			
Ebird	Pigeon	Band-tailed			
Ebird	Plover	Snowy			
IPAC	Plover	Western Snowy	Threatened, endangered, or candidate		
Ebird	Raven	Common			
Ebird	Robin	American			
Ebird	Sparrow	Fox			
Ebird	Sparrow	Song			
Ebird	Sparrow	Savannah			
Ebird	Sparrow	Lincoln			
Ebird	Sparrow	Golden-crowned			
Ebird	Sparrow	White Crowned			
Ebird	Starling	European			
Ebird	Vulture	Turkey			
Ebird	Warbler	Orange-crowned			
Ebird	Warbler	Yellow-rumped			
Ebird	Wren	Marsh			
Ebird	Wren	Bewick's			
Ebird	Wren	Pacific			
Ebird	Yellowthroat	Common			

*Green letter 4/17, not impacted area

*



SAFETY ZONES 1 (LCES)

Operational Engagement Category

A safety zone is a location where the threatened firefighter can find adequate refuge from an approaching fire.

- What is the difference between a safety zone and a deployment site?
 - The safety zone is the area where a firefighter can survive without using a fire shelter. The deployment site is used when fire conditions are such that escape routes and safety zones have been compromised.
- How do you identify a good safety zone?
 - Consider the distance from the escaped fire as well as topography, winds, fire behavior, and fuels in the area.
 - The best locations are usually "in the black;" those with a minimum of, or devoid of, ground/aerial vegetation; or large bodies of water.
 - Location is scouted and marked well for visibility at all times.
 - Location has been reassessed in relation to line work progress, fatigue, changes in fire behavior, and arrival of additional resources.
 - For radiant heat only, the distance separation between the firefighter and the flames must be at least four times the maximum flame height. This distance must be maintained on all sides, if the fire has ability to burn completely around the safety zone. Convective heat from wind and/or terrain influences will increase this distance requirement.
 - Take advantage of heat barriers such as lee side of ridges, large rocks, or solid structures.
- What should you avoid in selecting a safety zone?
 - Avoid locations that are downwind from the fire.
 - Avoid locations that are in chimneys, saddles, or narrow canyons.
 - Avoid locations that require a steep uphill escape route.

References:
Incident Response Pocket Guide
Interagency Standards for Fire and Fire Aviation Operations
"LCES and Other Thoughts" by Paul Gleason

Have an idea? Have feedback? Share it.

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To: City of Gearhart Mayor and Councilors

Date: 5/03/17

Re: City Council Meeting

Subject: Proposed Ordinance Change for Noxious Weed Removal and Fire Safety

HISTORY- I have spent over 30 years in the real estate profession, specializing in view properties. So what we have going on here in Gearhart is right up my alley. I have seen it all in large cities and smaller communities too. When it comes to a view people will do anything they can to get it even though they do not own it. I always caution people-where is that property line because there is no crossing it to get a view. You better own it out to the edge because anything can happen, no matter how unlikely you think it is. I've seen people trespass on to other people's land and cut trees and wind up in huge law suites. I've seen people build a beautiful house and suddenly someone builds right in front of them, even though they thought it wasn't possible and ruins their view. Seen people trespass onto city property to cut and cause huge landslides on a hillside. The stories are endless but it always turns out the same. The one word is always "lawsuits". If you don't own all the land in front of you, anything can block your view. Ocean Avenue is no different. You cannot expect a city and taxpayers to cut and maintain a view that is not your property. It's too expensive and is loaded with liability for all parties involved. This is a dangerous proposition for the city to get involved with. If it's that big of a deal move somewhere where you can control it, like the COVE or WATERFRONT somewhere. Then you aren't obsessing over it.

Now let's talk about the Neocoxie "ghost road". Where did that conveniently come from? Oh I see, it just happens to be right in front of Ocean Ave. and the amendment allows anything to be cut in a huge swath. We do not need this as those homes already have adequate buffers for fire protection if they maintain their yards properly. If there was a fire, with the fire trucks parked on Ocean Ave. with their hoses and their cleared back yards there shouldn't be any problem with fire at all. So get rid of this nonsense. But wait a minute, I'm feeling a real estate

deal brewing. It makes perfect sense here. But one thing: This makes the City look bad. In the current political climate this resembles the 1% controversy. This isn't the smartest thing to be taking on right now. My advise-tank this idea. You are looking for trouble.

So my suggestion is compromise: View protection is not the city or tax payers responsibility . So what is important from what I am hearing it is Fire Protection and Fear (of all the issues we have talked about). So under the proposed text for the for the Ordinance in front of you-

1. Throw out #6 entirely. (Neocoxie ghost road) . Nothing but problems.
2. Under (2) (trimming or pruning of vegetation) take out to "protect views" and change the destructive amount of trimming and pruning to 20% instead of 50%
3. Under (3) (the city approval for trimming or pruning) this is excellent because we have formed a Dune Management Committee to help the city with the pruning and trimming that needs to be done. This will eliminate all the fears that have come forth which I often refer to in my past letters and also keep vegetation away from the fire road. This is only good if the Dune Vegetation Committee that was just set up is allowed to do their work before decisions are made.
4. Defining the fire road: This needs to be described with exact square footage with a standard that is used (not some destructive, unnecessary amount.) 15-20 feet appears to be the norm. Having confusing text like 1 ½ times a tree's height is confusing and hard to manage. Make it simple and easy and DEFINE it exactly with a survey and markers. Then it's set in stone, not to ever be disrupted or messed with. Under number (2 & 3) above, will take care of keeping it maintained also.

So there you have it. You got a great fire road that is set in stone and accomplishes great access for the fire department. You have calmed all the fears with the trimming and pruning under 2 & 3. And you have kept in tact a very special wildlife area with trails for walking the dogs and kids (and ourselves!!!) Also you are preserving the enjoyment it provides for so

many of us here and all the visitors that come here for the “Gearhart Experience”. Hopefully you will STOP and Listen right now and think about what you are doing. Showing that you are willing to compromise and listen to everyone and not just a few is the right decision.

Thank you

Nancie Clark

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City Planning Commission meeting May 3, 2017