

BEFORE THE METRO COUNCIL

APPROVING THE NATURAL AREAS ACQUISITION
REFINEMENT PLAN FOR THE CLACKAMAS RIVER
BLUFFS AND GREENWAY TARGET AREA

RESOLUTION NO. 07-3846

Introduced by Chief Operating Officer
Michael J. Jordan, with the
concurrence of Council President
David Bragdon

WHEREAS, on March 9, 2006, the Metro Council adopted Resolution No. 06-3672B “For the Purpose of Submitting to the Voters of the Metro Area a General Obligation Bond Indebtedness in the Amount of \$227.4 Million to Fund Natural Area Acquisition and Water Quality Protection,” recommending submission for voter approval a general obligation bond to preserve and protect natural areas, clean water, and fish and wildlife (the “2006 Natural Areas Bond Measure” or “Measure”); and

WHEREAS, at the election held on November 7, 2006, the voters approved Ballot Measure 26-80, the 2006 Natural Areas Bond Measure; and

WHEREAS, the Clackamas River Bluffs and Greenway Target Area was identified in the Measure as one of 27 regional target areas for land acquisition, building on the success of land acquisitions pursuant to Metro’s 1995 Open Spaces Bond Measure Program; and

WHEREAS, as provided in the 2006 Natural Areas Bond Measure, Metro has undertaken a public refinement process to establish specific acquisition strategies, goals, objectives, and a confidential tax-lot specific acquisition target area map for each of the 27 target areas; and

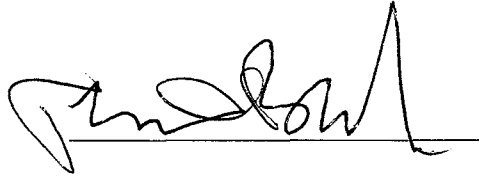
WHEREAS, Metro’s refinement process included the compilation of available information about each target area; biological field visits and expert analysis of maps; interviews with key stakeholders including natural resource experts, property owners, representatives from state and local government agencies, and advocates from water quality, fish, and wildlife preservation interest groups; and eight public open houses at sites throughout the region and a “virtual” open house available via the internet, at which draft refinement plans were made available for public review and participants could share their target area priorities either in-person or electronically; and

WHEREAS, on March 1, 2007, the Council approved Resolution No. 07-3766A, “Authorizing the Chief Operating Officer to Purchase Property with Accepted Acquisition Guidelines as Outlined in the Natural Areas Implementation Work Plan,” authorizing the Metro Chief Operating Officer to acquire properties identified on a Council-approved target area “confidential refinement map;” and

WHEREAS, the Council has reviewed the draft refinement plans and considered information it has received from citizens, scientists, advocates, and state and local governments; now, therefore

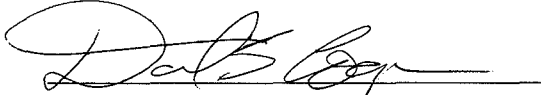
BE IT RESOLVED that the Metro Council adopts the Clackamas River Bluffs and Greenway Refinement Plan attached hereto as Exhibit A, including the confidential tax-lot specific map reviewed by the Council in Executive Session on September 4, 2007, and signed by Council President David Bragdon, and hereby authorizes the Chief Operating Officer to acquire properties in the Clackamas River Bluffs and Greenway Target Area consistent with the Council-approved Acquisition Parameters and Due Diligence Guidelines of the Natural Areas Implementation Work Plan.

ADOPTED by the Metro Council this 13th day of September 2007.

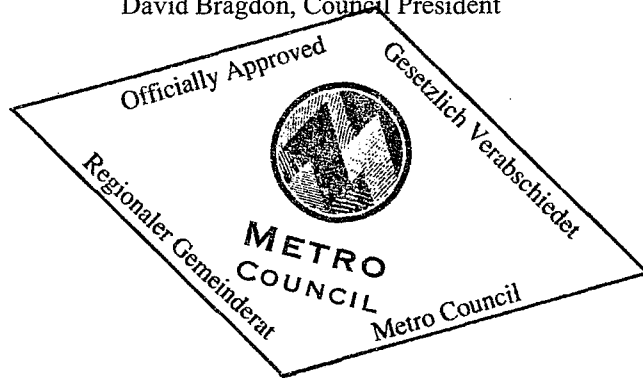


David Bragdon, Council President

Approved as to Form:



Daniel B. Cooper, Metro Attorney



**2006 NATURAL AREAS ACQUISITION PROGRAM
CLACKAMAS RIVER BLUFFS AND GREENWAY TARGET AREA REFINEMENT PLAN**

Background

In 1995, this target area was the Clackamas River Greenway, and refinement planning efforts focused on the north bank of the Clackamas River from Clackamette Park to Carver. This relied on the 1992 North Bank Greenway study that is now outdated given recent development in the area. The 1995 refinement goal was to acquire 8 miles to create a lower Clackamas River Greenway located between the eastern city limit of the City of Gladstone and Barton Park. Tier I priorities were the Clackamas River riparian corridor, primarily the north bank, from Gladstone upstream to Carver. The 1995 Tier II and III objectives focused on Clackamas River riparian corridor from Carver to Barton. A total of 609 acres were acquired.

The 2006 Natural Areas bond measure stated:

Clackamas River Bluffs represent the last remaining opportunity to protect a large regional park site within this rapidly developing portion of Clackamas County. Uncommon habitat types in this area, resulting from wet and dry conditions in close proximity, create a rich diversity of plant and animal habitats (e.g., oak, madrone, and fir mixed into side canyons of cedar). The site also abuts the Clackamas River North Bank Greenway from Barton Park to Clackamette Park and provides an important link to the lower river and the developing communities of Damascus and Happy Valley.

Target Area Description

The Clackamas River Greenway is defined as the river corridor from Gladstone upstream to the Barton Park area. Gravel bars and riparian zones interspersed with cottonwood forests are found in this lower portion of the river. Besides providing habitat for wildlife and fish, the river and its floodplain possess significant scenic value and offer a variety of outdoor recreation opportunities. The river is also an important source of drinking water in the region.

The Clackamas River Bluffs border the river's north bank between Southeast 232nd and Carver. This relatively undeveloped line of bluffs contains distinctive geologic formations with a cliff and cave system that provides unique bat habitat. The area is forested with a diverse mix of oak, madrone, cedar and fir, including patches of old growth providing large-scale wildlife habitat connections between the Clackamas River and watersheds of the East Buttes area near Damascus and Gresham.

The Clackamas River Bluffs and Greenway target area is connected by wildlife corridors to several other Natural Areas Program target areas including Deep Creek, East Buttes, Cazadero Trail, and Johnson Creek.

Refinement Process

During the refinement process, Metro staff compiled available information about the Clackamas River Bluffs and Greenway target area, analyzed maps and conducted biological field visits. Individuals were interviewed representing various government agencies, property owners, interested friends groups and natural resource experts. The key concerns expressed during the interviews are summarized in Attachment 1.

A public open house to discuss the proposed Refinement Plan was held on June 25, 2007 at Boring Middle School, one of eight such open houses held throughout the region. Notices of the open houses were mailed to area residents and other interested citizens. Metro also conducted a "virtual" open house by making target area informational materials, including maps, available "online" via the internet and

allowing participants to share their target area priorities electronically. A total of 527 people attended the regional open houses, and the online open house had 6,363 visits from 3,419 unique visitors. More than 700 target area surveys were submitted either in person or online. One hundred forty-three people completed the Clackamas River Bluffs and Greenway survey. A copy of the survey questionnaire is included as Attachment 2. The map associated with the questionnaire for this target area is included as Attachment 3, and complete survey results are included as Attachment 4.

Findings

Scientific Findings

- The Clackamas River serves as an important migration corridor for anadromous fish to available spawning habitats in upper tributaries.
- A priority for Metro acquisition along the Clackamas River should be undeveloped remnant side channels, floodplain lands and the confluence with creeks. Metro should purchase these now for preservation, and restoration of floodplain wetlands, gravel bars, side channels and enhanced habitat for anadromous fish.
- The quality of aquatic habitat and connectivity with other habitats increases with distance (upstream) from the confluence with the Willamette River. The lower reaches of the Clackamas River have degraded habitat with fewer side channel habitats, relatively long and well-established rip-rap along bank areas, and riparian zones dominated by weed species.
- The upper reaches of the Clackamas River have higher quality habitat with more side channel habitats, higher riffle/pool diversity, increased gravel bars, increased connectivity with the floodplain, and higher functioning “gallery” forests. Invasive weed species are also of concern in upper reaches, although appear to be manageable with moderate restoration efforts.
- The Clackamas River Bluffs area is a unique headland of exposed Boring lava cliff face with large parcels of undeveloped forest land that provides good habitat for birds and wildlife. No rare species or plant associations of conservation concern were found during recent site visits. No direct surface water connections exist between the Bluffs and the Clackamas River due to the separation in elevation by the precipitous cliff face.

Stakeholders

- The Bluffs area has old growth forest, rare geologic and natural heritage features that should be preserved. Additional purchases here would build on high quality forested habitat found on land protected by a Three Rivers Land Conservancy conservation easement and land owned by Clackamas County (Madrone Wall).
- Several stakeholders expressed interest in the “Big Park” – the concept that the Bluffs would become a State or Damascus city park. Clackamas County is planning on creating a park plan for the Madrone Wall site this summer.
- Richardson Creek, especially the lower reaches, provides some of the highest quality habitat and aquatic resources in the Portland Metro region. Richardson Creek is still fish bearing and a coho spawning habitat, despite the occurrence of flash floods.
- Some stakeholders suggest Metro revisit north bank Clackamas River Greenway (downstream) floodplain areas to see if land prices may have come down since 1995 bond acquisitions.
- There is an opportunity to acquire properties contiguous to current Metro land holdings along the Clackamas River. There is the potential to create a unique regional-scale natural area with a variety of habitat types, including riparian, floodplain and upland habitats (including the Bluff).

- Surrounding development will continue to impact the upper Clackamas River watershed, reducing source water quantity and water temperature.
- Current Damascus and Clackamas County zoning and development regulations may not adequately protect local natural resources. Building and filling in the floodplain continue to happen along the Clackamas River.
- The lands north of the Clackamas River are more susceptible to development pressures than those on the side, particularly in the Carver area between Richardson Creek and Carver that is within the UGB and the City of Damascus.

Survey Results

- 143 people completed the Clackamas River Bluffs and Greenway survey. Additional commentary was provided orally at the open house, most of which was consistent with the written responses. In rank order, the public priorities were:
 1. *Map area D* – Protect the scenic views and provide future recreational opportunities by acquiring lands along the Clackamas River Bluffs.
 2. *Map area A* – Protect undeveloped floodplain lands along both sides of the lower Clackamas River from Barton Park to Clear Creek (Carver boat ramp) with remnant side channels, gravel bars, intact forests and wetlands for improving fish habitat.
 3. *Map area B* – Protect undeveloped floodplain lands along both sides of the lower Clackamas River from Clear Creek to Beebe Island (Johnson Creek curves) with remnant side channels, gravel bars, intact forests and wetlands for improving fish habitat.
 4. *Map area C* – Protect undeveloped floodplain lands along both sides of the lower Clackamas River from Beebe Island (Johnson Creek curves) to the confluence with the Willamette River with remnant side channels, gravel bars, intact forests and wetlands for improving fish habitat.

Goals

- Protect sensitive riparian areas, wetlands, and side channels along the Clackamas River from Goose Creek west towards the confluence with the Willamette River for fish and wildlife habitat protection, enhancement and restoration. Protect water quality and improve fish and wildlife habitat in the lower Clackamas River by acquiring and restoring native plant communities and side channels.
- Protect unique geological features, habitat for rare species and lands that could provide a regionally significant nature park on the mostly undeveloped Clackamas River Bluffs.

Objectives

A target area map showing the tiered objectives described below is included as Attachment 5.

Tier I Objectives

- Protect the undeveloped floodplain lands along both sides of the lower Clackamas River from Barton Park to Clear Creek (Carver Boat Ramp) with remnant side channels, gravel bars, intact forests and wetlands for improving fish habitat and maintaining water quality.
- Protect the undeveloped floodplain lands along both sides of the lower Clackamas River from Clear Creek to Beebe Island (Johnson Creek curves) with remnant side channels, gravel bars, intact forests and wetlands for improving fish habitat and maintaining water quality.

- Protect scenic views and provide future recreational opportunities by acquiring lands along the Clackamas River Bluffs to create a regionally significant nature park.

Tier II Objective

- Protect the undeveloped floodplain lands along both sides of the lower Clackamas River from Beebe Island (Johnson Creek curves) to the confluence with the Willamette River with remnant side channels, gravel bars, intact forests and wetlands for improving fish habitat.

Partnership Objectives

- Partnership opportunities exist for leveraging regional funds for fee-simple purchase or conservation easements with the Three Rivers Land Conservancy, which holds a conservation easement on a parcel on the Clackamas River Bluffs.
- Partnership opportunities may exist for long-term management of purchased properties on the Clackamas River Bluffs with Clackamas County Parks, North Clackamas Park District and Oregon State Parks.
- Partner with PGE for habitat enhancement and restoration project funding.

STAFF REPORT

IN CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 07-3846, APPROVING THE NATURAL AREAS ACQUISITION REFINEMENT PLAN FOR THE CLACKAMAS RIVER BLUFFS AND GREENWAY TARGET AREA

Date: September 13, 2007

Prepared by: Jim Desmond
Kathleen Brennan-Hunter

BACKGROUND—REFINEMENT PROCESS

The Natural Areas Bond Measure (Resolution No. 06-3672B, “For the Purpose of Submitting to the Voters of the Metro Area a General Obligation Bond Indebtedness in the Amount of \$227.4 Million to Fund Natural Area Acquisition and Water Quality Protection,” adopted by the Metro Council March 9, 2006) provided that Metro would undertake a “Refinement Process” to “gather additional information about each individual target area and begin zeroing in on particular parcels that would be valuable to acquire” (Exhibit A to Resolution No. 06-3672B). In addition, the Natural Areas Implementation Work Plan (Resolution No. 07-3766A, “Authorizing the Chief Operating Officer to Purchase Property with Accepted Acquisition Guidelines as Outlined in the Natural Areas Implementation Work Plan,” adopted by the Metro Council on March 1, 2007) authorized the Metro Chief Operating Officer to acquire properties without further Council approval if they have been identified on a Council-approved target area “confidential refinement map.” To implement those directives, the Refinement Plans for each target area contain overall target area objectives and confidential tax-lot specific target area maps identifying priority properties for acquisition, enabling Metro staff to begin the acquisition of property and property rights as detailed in the Natural Areas Implementation Work Plan.

Additional background information, target area information, a description of the specifics of the refinement process regarding this target area, and the refinement plan’s findings, goals, and objectives are described in further detail in Exhibit A to this resolution, the Clackamas River Bluffs and Greenway Target Area Refinement Plan.

ANALYSIS/INFORMATION

1. **Known Opposition**

None.

2. **Legal Antecedents**

Resolution No. 06-3672B, “For the Purpose of Submitting to the Voters of the Metro Area a General Obligation Bond Indebtedness in the Amount of \$227.4 Million to Fund Natural Area Acquisition and Water Quality Protection,” adopted on March 9, 2006.

The voters’ approval of Metro’s 2006 Natural Areas Bond Measure at the general election held on November 7, 2006.

Resolution No. 07-3766A “Authorizing the Chief Operating Officer to Purchase Property With Accepted Acquisition Guidelines as Outlined in the Natural Areas Implementation Work Plan,” adopted by the Metro Council on March 1, 2007, established the Acquisition Parameters and Due Diligence Guidelines for the purchase of properties as part of the 2006 Natural Areas Bond Program.

3. **Anticipated Effects**

Acquisition of natural area properties in the Clackamas River Bluffs and Greenway target area to achieve the goals and purposes of the 2006 Natural Areas Bond Measure.

4. **Budget Impacts**

The FY 2007-08 budget includes budgetary authority to purchase \$35 million in natural area lands, with an additional \$15.4 million in contingency, if necessary. It is estimated, based on historical spending patterns, that this authority will be sufficient to cover the anticipated acquisition activity for this fiscal year. Additional unappropriated fund balance (\$64 million) exists for land acquisition in future years, along with the authority to issue up to an additional \$102 million in General Obligation bonds in support of this program.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Staff recommends adoption of Resolution No. 07-3846.

Summary of Comments from Stakeholder Interviews for Clackamas River Bluffs and Greenway Target Area

Stakeholder(s) Interviewed

Jayne Cronlund, Three Rivers L.T.
Michele Healy, North Clackamas Parks District
Dan Zinzer, Clackamas County Parks
Scott Pemble, Clackamas County Planning

Key Themes Discussed

Water Quality

- Watershed of Clackamas River
- Clackamas River frontage – active farms along the river are sending soil into the river. There are opportunities along the river – even down near the confluence with the Willamette River.
- Sunshine Creek – important for health of Johnson Creek (3 Rivers)

Wildlife Habitat

- Mt. Talbert – important wildlife habitat close in
- Clackamas River Bluffs – ecologically significant, talus caves, old growth trees, bats

Land Use / Urban / Rural Form

- Development – work west to east on acquisitions. Buy some open space lands close in – not all way out to the east.
- Zoning: EFU zoned land – anything goes. Can't regulate land use on agricultural land. Can be logged, farmed, etc. no matter how steep the slopes. Nursery and farming practices are not always stream friendly.

Wildlife Corridors

- Clackamas River Bluffs – connecting to the river between North Fork Deep Creek and Carver.
- Mt. Talbert/Camp Withycomb/Scott Creek

Scenic Resources

- Clackamas River Bluffs
- Steep slopes adjacent to Rock Creek
- Sieben Creek at confluence with Forest Creek
- Mt. Talbert

Connections to existing parks, natural areas, trails, waterways

- Connect Clackamas River Bluffs to Cazadero Trail
- Pigeon Park – at confluence of Richardson Creek and Clackamas River

Key Partners

- Oregon State Parks: Deep Creek (Cazadero Trail) also at the Bluffs. State should pay to develop Cazadero Trail – Metro should not spend any money on it.

Miscellaneous Comments

- 3 Rivers: pursuing conservation easements.
- County looking at putting a community park along Rock Creek. They have put an offer on property.
- Madrone Wall: County is working on master planning this site now, looking at how it works for recreation, trails and climbing. Day use only.
- Cazadero Trail: County is building a trail head/camping area at Barton Park. They will use their local share funds on this project.
- Clackamas River Bluffs: trails below to provide access to Cazadero Trail.

Key Priorities

East Buttes:

- Mt. Talbert: views, wildlife, recreation, high development pressures, connect to Mt. Scott Creek
- Rock Creek: has limited natural resources but scenic and recreational values
- Sunshine Creek: important for Johnson Creek

Other Clackamas County Target Areas

- Clear Creek, Abernethy Creek: focus on the forested parcels in upper watershed (3 Rivers)
- Clear Creek not a priority for Clackamas County.
- Tonquin – focus on wetland (County).

QUESTIONNAIRE

TARGET AREA: CLACKAMAS RIVER BLUFFS AND GREENWAY

In November 2006 voters directed the Metro Council to extend a regionwide program and acquire between 3,500 and 4,500 acres of additional natural areas to protect water quality and fish and wildlife habitat and to provide future generations opportunities for greater access to nature. Now it's time for the Metro Council to refine priorities in the 27 regional natural areas and trail corridors targeted for acquisition. Initial estimates are that a minimum of 450 acres of land would be protected within this target area.

The Metro Council wants your ideas and input. We've been talking with scientists, land-use experts, groups and individuals who have special knowledge about the natural resource values and community visions for these areas. With this information Metro has begun to identify the potential strategies and opportunities that will achieve the best results. Now we need to know: Do we have it right? What have we missed? What is most important to you?

2006 NATURAL AREAS BOND DESCRIPTION FOR THIS TARGET AREA

Clackamas River Bluffs represent the last remaining opportunity to protect a large regional park site within this rapidly developing portion of Clackamas County. Uncommon habitat types in this area, resulting from wet and dry conditions in close proximity, create a rich diversity of plant and animal habitats (e.g., oak, madrone, and fir mixed into side canyons of cedar). The site also abuts the Clackamas River North Bank Greenway from Barton Park to Clackamette Park and provides an important link to the lower river and the developing communities of Damascus and Happy Valley.

QUESTIONS

- 1. The following priorities were identified in the Clackamas River Bluffs and Greenway target area based on scientific information about benefits to water quality, habitat diversity, wildlife connectivity and/or restoration potential and from information provided by key stakeholders in the area. Rank in order of importance to you from 1 to 4, with 1 being the most important and 4 being the least important.**

- _____ Protecting undeveloped floodplain lands along both sides of the lower Clackamas River from Barton Park to Clear Creek (Carver boat ramp) with remnant side channels, gravel bars, intact forests and wetlands for improving fish habitat. **(Map area A)**
- _____ Protecting undeveloped floodplain lands along both sides of the lower Clackamas River from Clear Creek to Beebe Island (Johnson Creek curves) with remnant side channels, gravel bars, intact forests and wetlands for improving fish habitat. **(Map area B)**
- _____ Protecting undeveloped floodplain lands along both sides of the lower Clackamas River from Beebe Island (Johnson Creek curves) to the confluence with the Willamette River with remnant side channels, gravel bars, intact forests and wetlands for improving fish habitat. **(Map area C)**
- _____ Protecting the scenic views and providing future recreational opportunities by acquiring lands along the Clackamas River bluffs. **(Map area D)**

2. In general, what should be emphasized in the Clackamas River Bluffs and Greenway target area? Rank in order of importance to you from 1 to 4, with 1 being the most important and 4 being the least important.

- _____ Protecting and preserving fish and wildlife habitat in the Clackamas River.
- _____ Providing public access to natural areas for recreation and wildlife watching.
- _____ Protecting water quality and floodplains along the Clackamas River.
- _____ Protecting scenic views along the Clackamas River.

3. Are there other priorities that the Metro Council should consider in the Clackamas River Bluffs and Greenway target area? Please be specific.

4. Do you have suggestions about partnerships Metro should pursue or other innovative ways to leverage regional funding and enhance this natural area?

5. Are you interested in participating in Metro's Natural Areas program by selling or donating your property or selling or donating a trial or conservation easement on your property?

Yes No If yes, please be sure to provide your contact information below.

6. Do you have any other comments about this target area?

Please add my name to the Clackamas River Bluffs and Greenway target area mailing list for future information, public meetings and events.

Name _____

Address _____

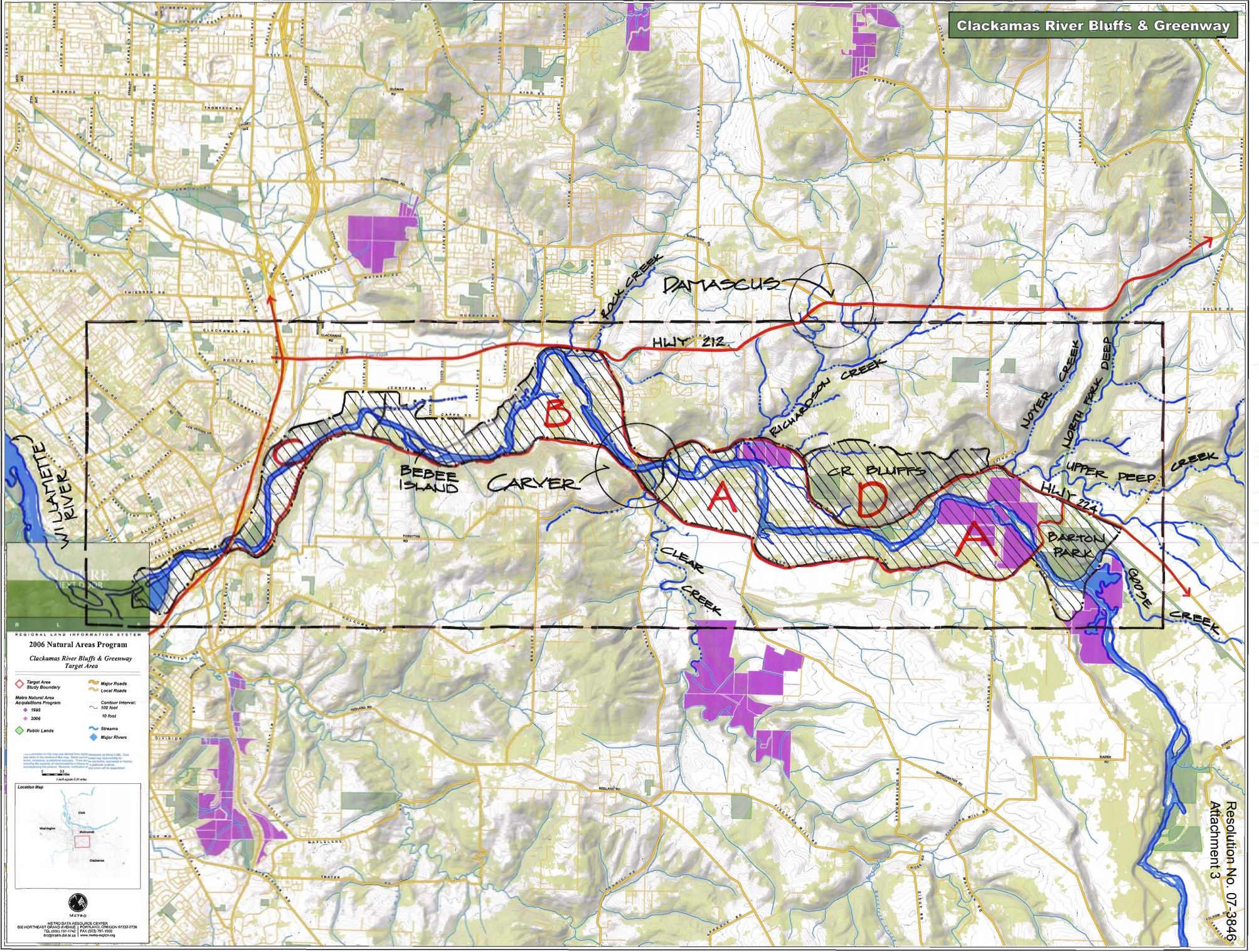
City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____

E-mail _____

**You may complete this questionnaire online at
www.metro-region.org/naturalareas**

or mail it to Metro at
600 NE Grand Avenue, Portland, OR 97232
(503) 797-1741

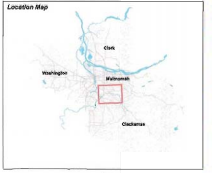


REGIONAL LAND INFORMATION SYSTEM
2006 Natural Areas Program

Clackamas River Bluffs & Greenway
Target Area

- Target Area
- Study Boundary
- Major Roads
- Local Roads
- Metro Natural Area
Acquisition Program
- 1995
- 2006
- Public Lands
- Streams
- Major Rivers
- Contour Interval:
100 foot
10 foot

Information on this map was derived from data provided by the Metro-Natural Areas Program. Metro-Natural Areas Program is a program of Metro, the Metropolitan Council of Governments, which is a partnership of the following local governments: Clackamas, Clatsop, Columbia River, Multnomah, and Washington counties. Metro-Natural Areas Program is a program of Metro, the Metropolitan Council of Governments, which is a partnership of the following local governments: Clackamas, Clatsop, Columbia River, Multnomah, and Washington counties.



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Clackamas River Bluffs and Greenway Survey Results

1. The following priorities were identified in the Clackamas River Bluffs and Greenway target area based on scientific information about benefits to water quality, habitat diversity, wildlife connectivity and/or restoration potential and from information provided by key stakeholders in the area. Rank in order of importance to you.

	most important			least important	Rating Average	Response Count
Protecting undeveloped floodplain lands along both sides of the lower Clackamas River from Barton Park to Clear Creek (Carver boat ramp) with remnant side channels, gravel bars, intact forests and wetlands for improving fish habitat. (Map area A)	16.1% (19)	50.0% (59)	15.3% (18)	18.6% (22)	2.36	118
Protecting undeveloped floodplain lands along both sides of the lower Clackamas River from Clear Creek to Beebe Island (Johnson Creek curves) with remnant side channels, gravel bars, intact forests and wetlands for improving fish habitat. (Map area B)	1.7% (2)	23.3% (28)	55.8% (67)	19.2% (23)	2.93	120
Protecting undeveloped floodplain lands along both sides of the lower Clackamas River from Beebe Island (Johnson Creek curves) to the confluence with the Willamette River with remnant side channels, gravel bars, intact forests and wetlands for improving fish habitat. (Map area C)	3.3% (4)	24.8% (30)	25.6% (31)	46.3% (56)	3.15	121
Protecting the scenic views and providing future recreational opportunities by acquiring lands along the Clackamas River bluffs. (Map area D)	81.3% (113)	4.3% (6)	2.9% (4)	11.5% (16)	1.45	139
	<i>answered question</i>					140
	<i>skipped question</i>					3

2. In general, what should be emphasized in the Clackamas River Bluffs and Greenway target area? Rank in order of importance to you.

	most important			least important	Rating Average	Response Count
Protecting and preserving fish and wildlife habitat in the Clackamas River.	26.0% (32)	35.8% (44)	25.2% (31)	13.0% (16)	2.25	123
Providing public access to natural areas for recreation and wildlife watching.	57.7% (75)	14.6% (19)	17.7% (23)	10.0% (13)	1.80	130
Protecting water quality and floodplains along the Clackamas River.	12.5% (15)	35.0% (42)	34.2% (41)	18.3% (22)	2.58	120
Protecting scenic views along the Clackamas River.	6.7% (8)	15.8% (19)	20.0% (24)	57.5% (69)	3.28	120
	<i>answered question</i>					132
	<i>skipped question</i>					11

3. Are there other priorities that the Metro Council should consider in the Clackamas River Bluffs and Greenway target area? Please be specific.

Prior to the closure, this site was an established rock climbing area. Many of the people who have a personal interest in this area do so because it is one of the most beautiful and best places to climb in the greater Portland area.
We want rock climbing back at the Madrone wall...
Open the Madrone Wall to climbers.
I would like to promote non-motorized (low impact) recreational use of the region, particularly enhancing the Madrone Wall area for walking and climbing access, and riverfront for kayak/canoe/water user access. The fewer motors present, the more users can have a "wilderness experience," and the more positive impacts this area can have on future generations.
Preserving and allowing access to the best one of only a few unique features in the entire NW area of the state, the Madrone Wall.
The area we are most interested in seeing future public access to the Madrone Wall area, which I believe, is in 'Map area D'. Citizens have utilized this interesting formation as a rock climbing area for many years. We have found it a delightful place to visit because of the unique beauty of the Clackamas River Bluffs and its colorful forested slopes.
Reopen Madrone wall to climbing!! (Area D)
Please ensure that climbing at Madrone Wall remains a priority.
Rock climbers are good stewards of climbing areas. We regularly clean and maintain climbing areas, and bring a mature, responsible presence to the areas that we frequent.
We have an incredible opportunity to save the Madrone Wall for future generations as a park.
Opening the Madrone Wall area to recreation and rock climbing as soon as possible. Madrone Wall can serve as the anchor and help shape future willing seller land acquisitions and park expansion.
I think we should have more FIRST COME FIRST SERVE campgrounds available to the public.

A climbing and scenic view point at the "Madrone Wall" would be excellent. Since this area is regularly used illegally, but is well suited to be developed into a park, this only makes sense. And, of course, the county already owns it, it would be a logical link between Barton Park and the Carver Boatramp Park, and it is also not far west of the recent conservation easement placed on 29 acres of land. That land has a cave system, created eons ago by a partial collapse of a continuation of the Madrone Wall, that houses rare bats and many other species of wildlife.

Regional park at the Madrone Wall.

Please open up Madrone wall to climbers!

Please provide ample garbage and recycling facilities to give people every opportunity to manage their waste and take pride in their parks. Also provide porta-potties for the same reason.

Restoring access to the Madrone Wall rock climbing area and providing an adequate parking area for users.

The creation of a public access county-owned park similar to Forest Park, Tryon Creek Park, and Lewis & Clark Park would be a great asset for the community as well as providing habitat protection for fish and other animals.

Procuring land that is adjacent to already protected land (eg, Three Rivers Conservancy) above the Clackamas River. This land plus the Madrone Wall would make a fantastic park area, a major asset to the community.

Specifically, protecting the Madrone Wall property from development and increase recreational opportunities.

All of these areas are important to preserve. It is hard to prioritize them!

Madrone Wall climbing access.

Access to the climbing area

The area should be available to people that want to rock climb. It is one of the best local areas for rock climbers. Please permit access to climbers.

Please help reopen the Madrone Wall to climbing.

Willing seller land acquisition adjacent to Madrone Wall/Hardscrabble (44-acre) Clackamas County site in Clackamas River Bluffs which serves as an anchor site for future protection. This will provide the protection of contiguous property building on the only currently available public property along the Clackamas River Bluffs.

Do not increase through traffic in that area.

I find this survey frustrating because I consider all of the priorities listed to be equally important. I don't think we should have to choose one value over another.

Rock climbing access is a priority for me.

Re-establishing access to Madrone wall for rock climbing

Development of a recreation area for rock climbers and hikers.

Are there plans to create a river trail from Barton to Carver? Possible to tie the areas to the Johnson Creek Bike trail?

Acquiring land around Madrone Wall to create a more extensive park area

Many climbers in the area, myself and my family included, are hopeful that the excellent climbing on the Madrone wall will be made available to us for recreation. It's a beautiful area, and the thought of having such good climbing in a park setting is very attractive.

Access to Madrone Wall should be a priority for recreational users.

Minimize construction scope at the Bluffs (climbing area).

Please give conservation priority to the Madrone Wall area. I am glad to see the county moving forward with park in this area.

Climbing, hiking, & fishing.

It would just be nice to save something large along the Clackamas River because the area looks otherwise destined to be developed over.

Recreational area should be defined as non-motorized recreation. I would like to see the area opened for rock climbing. I suspect you'll find the Mazamas and the Access Fund ready to support in various ways.

I am particularly interested in the significant regional resource that the Madrone River Bluff provides for climbers -- and value that it exists within the larger Clackamas River Bluffs and Greenway project.

Parking access off busy road, and toilet facilities. (if not that then at a bare minimum porta-potties).

The Madrone Wall in view area D is a unique and valuable resource to the local community. It is one of the few places in Oregon that could provide recreational rock climbers with high quality rock for climbing along with relatively easy access from Portland and the metro area. Climbers are an asset to the areas where they climb. They maintain the integrity and safety of the rock climbing, weed growth on trails and at the base of the cliff and the cleanliness of the area. Further, climbers' presence often wards off anyone considering any illegal activity or vandalism. Although Washington generally has higher quality rock, and thereby more areas with quality rock climbing, Beacon Rock State Park is an example of how rock climbing can be an asset to a park. In contrast, Oregon has less opportunities for such a park but the Madrone Wall area provides Oregon with one such opportunity.

Restore public access to Climbing/Hiking areas within proposed park boundaries.

Limiting recreation to human powered endeavors would greatly aid the protection and preservation goals.

Hardscrabble property /madrone wall.

Preserve the unique geology and habitat of the Clackamas Bluffs area (D).

Develop green separation between cities rather than let them grow together.

We should be protecting a regional scale park from the bluffs through the floodplain.

River access for rafts. Reopen access at 208th Hwy 224.

Please allow recreation, climbing, along the bluffs of Madrone. Climbing continues to be a positive sport for youth and is increasing in popularity every year. The PDX area has very limited area for climbing recreation, please do not take this away.

Please focus on this area: on the north bank of the River, from (generally) the mouth of Cow Creek to (generally) the mouth of Rock Creek. There are many acres of low-lying lands in this reach (frequently used for farmland now) that could be acquired from willing sellers and converted into wetland-rich and floodplain forest rich areas. Because the UGB includes (or is next to) these lands, they're somewhat more likely to be developed (someday) in a way that prevents them from achieving their full potential from an environmental perspective.

There is nothing out this way on a river for the public to enjoy outside of Barton park. Think big for future generations, like the makers of Forest Park thought big. There will be so many people here in 20 years. Set aside space for them to enjoy the out of doors

Focus on establishing a large regional park by buying as much of the bluff and floodplain that lies between existing Metro lands west and east.

4. Do you have suggestions about partnerships Metro should pursue or other innovative ways to leverage regional funding and enhance this natural area? If so, please specify.

Keep the parking for this park as close to the highway as possible so as to maximize the amount of green space.

Recreational organizations exist tied to local vendors (kayak shop such as Alder Creek, climbing company like Portland Rock Gym); these can assist coordinating fund raising events for the area, as well as supply volunteer help for trail maintenance and building.

Partner with conservation groups, utilities, and local authorities.

Please ensure that climbing at Madrone Wall remains a priority.

Charge for overnight camping... possibly make some parts of the day use areas overnight and charge \$15 to \$20 a night.

Climbing groups are already keyed in and willing to do a lot of the work to establish the Madrone Wall park.

Involve the people living in that area who already are connected to or through the Madrone Wall Preservation Committee.

Could contact the Access Fund or Madrone Wall Preservation Committee to set up Adopt-a-Crag days where climbers could volunteer to help with the creation of trails and structures, and/or for future maintenance on those trails and structures.

There is a wonderful area of well protected, sturdy and climbable rock cliff in area D of the map. The AccessFund is a non-profit committed to opening public access to rock climbing areas such as this one. They may be able to offer financial support toward this end.

Madrone Wall Preservation Committee would be happy to help with public outreach to the 1,000 interested people on our mailing/email list anytime Metro Greenspace desires public input.

Work with the Access Fund to develop and implement a land use plan for rock climbing access.

The climbing community is generally willing to help with trail maintenance, etc.

I don't know, maybe the Access Fund or NRDC.

Use conservation easements by partnering with Three Rivers Land Conservancy.

I think working with the AccessFund to help manage the rock climbing in the target areas (zone D especially).

Climbing clubs: Mazamas, Chemeketans, Santiam Alpine Club, etc. - climbers care! Outdoor stores: REI, Climb Max, Mountain Shop, etc. Volunteers - see how well the low impact grass-roots development of nearby privately held Carver Bridges has worked out.

Consider linking this area with a bikeway from the Springwater Corridor to along the Clackamas River.

Access Fund, the local climbing shop, Climb Max, and the climbing community, loosely organized on the website Cascade Climbers, would probably be good resources.

The Access Fund may be interested in partnering at the Clackamas River Bluffs (Madrone Wall) for trail maintenance.

Partner with Clackamas Co on this and other publicly owned site by the county.

Clackamas County Parks, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife Habitat Protection Program.

Consider protecting/buying working small farms as part of "natural" areas.

Damascus St. Parks Cl. County

Personal and business donations

Manage ODOT lands

Get together with the townships and the county. I bet everyone wants the same thing- greenery for tomorrow. Make it clear to the existing residents that selling their land to the PUBLIC will make them a profit. Everyone benefits.

Get State Parks involved. They have lots of lotto funds and are looking for new park opportunities. This area is the best opportunity in the Portland region for a new state park, and they already have the trail corridor as Cazadero.

5. Do you have any other comments about this target area? If so, please specify.

The current No Trespassing policy is a disservice to the community. This is a very special place that is held dear by those who know of it and would be greatly appreciated by those who haven't yet visited.

This site has been closed to climbers for so long that you must take considerable weight in each comment that you receive about the Madrone Wall area. If more people knew, many many more would be commenting! Thank you.

Consider incorporating a small fee-based entry program to help subsidize access & use at the Madrone Wall site. Rock climbers are always open to the general idea if it is reasonable, although many climbers do earn less than 25k annually.

Please consider access for rock climbers as a priority.

Protecting the Clackamas River Bluffs is vital. It's a once in a lifetime opportunity to protect a diverse and wild place for people to explore for years to come.

It's a fantastic opportunity, I hope we make this work.

Please ensure that climbing at Madrone Wall remains a priority.

I would like to see a website designed, pictures included, about the area. History, etc. People will become more involved once they see it! Possibly a fund raiser with games kids can play?

My husband and I are Clackamas County natives, residents and property owners there. If the spread of ticky-tacky housing developments can't be stopped, at least preserve the amount of greenspaces that your own bylaws require. We are especially interested in the Madrone Wall area. We are not only climbers, but we also live just up the road from the Carver boat landing, and this small park is overwhelmed every summer. We have written several letters to current and former county commissioners about converting the hardscrabble quarry area into a park.

Limit structures due to ongoing vandalism in this corridor.

The area known as "Madrone" is one of the best climbing area's in the greater Portland area, as well as the state. It would be a HUGE loss to not only the Portland climbing community, but to the Pacific Northwest Climbing community.

Prior to the closure of the Madrone Wall/Hardscrabble area (now many years ago), I and many of my friends enjoyed the unique rock climbing experience available at this site. Since it is one of the few places within the Portland metropolitan area that contains such high quality climbing opportunities, it is important that it be re-opened for such use. As the population of our region increases, it is vital that we maintain the green spaces and recreational opportunities that make this such a desirable place in which to live. Please allocate the funding that was authorized, and make it a reality.

I specifically am interested in the Madrone Wall area. We live across the street from this section and are most encouraged that Metro is interested in making this into a park. We were very involved in helping Clackamas County to understand that a rock quarry was not in the best interest of the area, county and State in general.

Access for rock climbing

I'm a climber of the cliffs known as 'Madrone' or 'The Quarry' but I feel the protection of wildlife is much more important. Thanks for your work on saving this area.

Save the wall!

In this area of wildlife diversity, there is opportunity for measurements, monitoring and research by nature programs, college classes, research programs, and such. Try-On Community Farm is currently working with local college groups in this arena. PNNL laboratories is doing research in Oregon habitats to measure the effects of global warming through the next decade. I think that the interaction of man and nature in the proposed areas is an interesting topic of research. Regardless of topic, any independent research involvement has potential to increase the visibility and positive publicity for a project of this scope.

Parks are used by many citizens, not just climbers. Many people will benefit from a new park. Wildlife will also benefit. It is important to protect what little open space we have left.

I want to see the Madrone Wall reopened for climbing!

1) If it is possible I would like an option on the survey to place water quality and habitat as equally important. I feel that both are necessary to preserving natural areas. 2) If recreation, specifically climbing, does become available please limit options to only traditional climbing and do not allow individuals to drill into the cliffs.

It is extremely important to protect this area now, before development pressures head further east. The area should be protected for recreation, aesthetics, wildlife habitat, and water quality.

I am a big fan of converting the Madrone Wall to park, especially if the wall will be available for rock climbing.

I'm thrilled that this land will be public space.

I haven't really spent any time in the area, but I recently started rock climbing and have been told that the cliffs at Madrone Wall are fantastic. I would live to be able to see and climb in this area.

I think this a wonderful project. Every time I drive out to the Clackamas River in the target areas, I find it very relaxing and enjoyable. It is nice to know that you are working to help keep the area as natural as possible.

The rock climbing, scenery and wildlife viewing at Madrone Wall are all superb and considering that this 44 acre parcel is already publicly owned, I believe it should be opened for public access immediately. For a truly minimal cost, the "No Trespassing" signs could simply be removed and the area made available to the public as-is. If automobile access and parking is required to open the park, this can also be achieved in very short order with minimal cost. There is already an access road and cleared level area that would serve well as a parking area. If the current access road and level area were graded, they would provide serviceable automotive access. Allowing public access after minimal (or no) improvement would not prevent future modifications to the site, it simply allows public access to a beautiful area with minimal expense.

I have enjoyed the Clackamas River for fifty years - swimming, rafting, picnicking, and the wonderful drinking water. I do hope you can preserve a chunk of this precious natural area.

Thanks for making it happen. The Madrone Wall has been on climbers' radar for decades. This is an excellent opportunity to develop a green, eco-friendly, self-sustaining activity that will draw folks to a beautiful area.

I am thrilled that the county is proceeding with re-establishing recreation (climbing) at Madrone wall!

Natural areas already there, should be protected for future generations, instead of creating a flat grass park for ball games and such. True wilderness within a city's boundaries is a gem.

I believe that opening the Madrone Wall area as a park would be a great asset to the area and the people who live around it.

Could you allow access to this area prior to completion of the master plan? Limits and restrictions on parking are prudent and acceptable.

Its good that you are targeting this region for preservation.

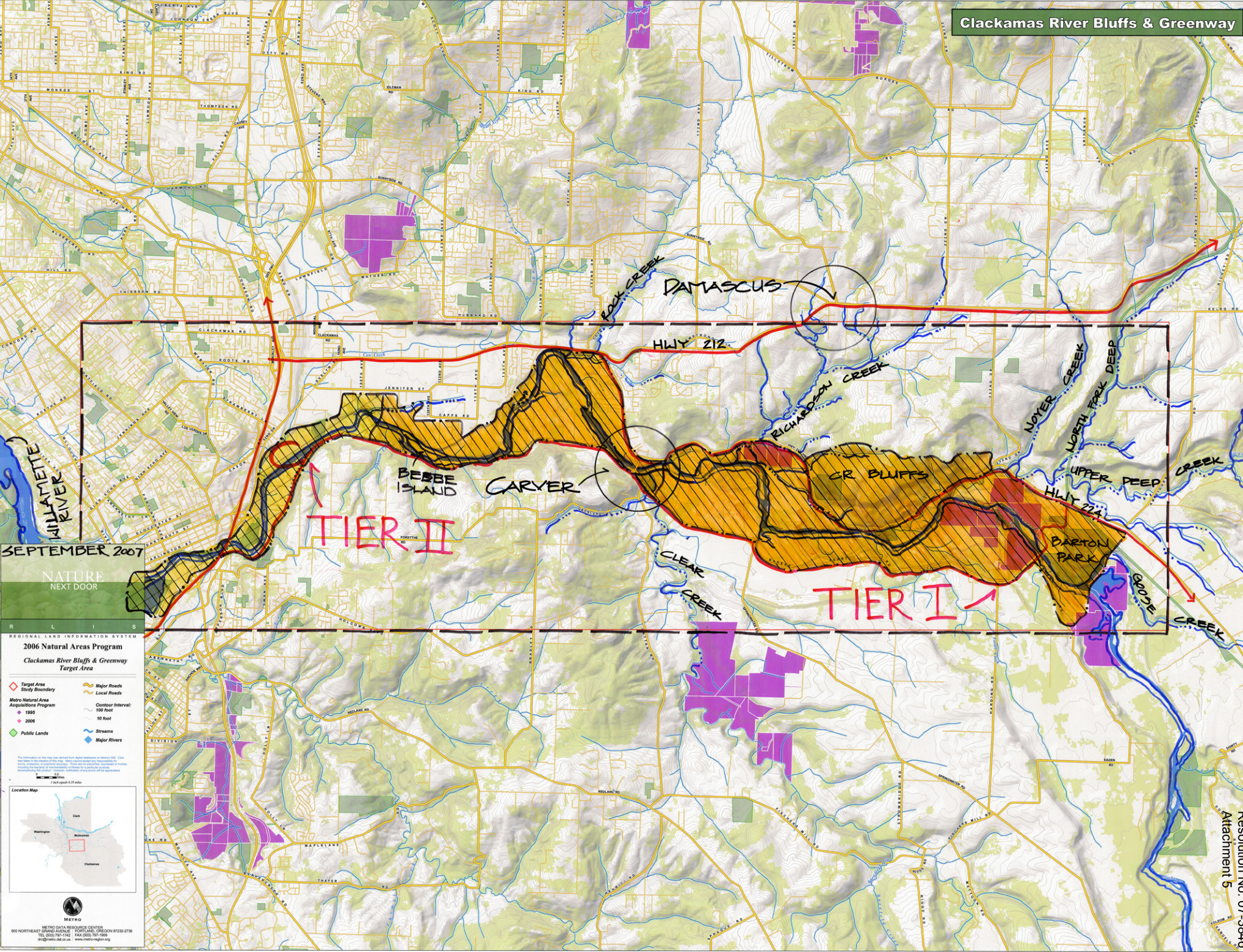
Think Big! The bluffs also have outstanding habitat, including falcon caves.

Value the concept of a "Forest Park" along the Clackamas offering wild trail system.

ODOT currently has a 17 acre site that was used by the general public, without ODOT's permission, for access to the Clackamas River. Public access was restricted in the summer of 2007. The parcels are located east of Carver off of Hwy 224. The ODOT site has a flat parking area and was called "Fisherman Bend". METRO is the best agency to move forward with a purchase and development of this location as a park to provide any future public access.

The Clackamas River is a jewel undiscovered and under utilized. The N side of Mt Hood and it's foothills are overused, and the southside and the Clackamas River could satisfy many Oregonians quest for forest and water recreation in a sustainable manner. Right now, I get to use it without the crowds.

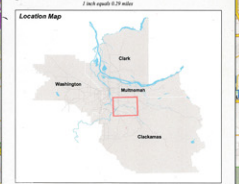
The bluffs are an amazing natural resource and should be conserved. Get busy.



SEPTEMBER 2007
NATURE NEXT DOOR

REGIONAL LAND INFORMATION SYSTEM
2006 Natural Areas Program
Clackamas River Bluffs & Greenway
Target Area

- ◊ Target Area Study Boundary
- ◊ Metro Natural Area Acquisitions Program
 - ◊ 1995
 - ◊ 2006
- ◊ Public Lands
- Major Roads
- Local Roads
- Contour Interval: 100 Foot
- 10 Foot
- Streams
- Major Rivers



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