BEFORE THE METRO COUNCIL

APPROVING THE NATURAL AREAS ACQUISITION REFINEMENT PLAN FOR THE CAZADERO TRAIL TARGET AREA

RESOLUTION NO. 07-3854

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 Cazadero Trail Target Area was identified in the Measure as one of 27 regional target areas for land acquisition; 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 Cazadero Trail 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 Cazadero Trail 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, Corncil President Gesetzlich Verabschieder

Officially Approved

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Approved as to Form:

Daniel B. Cooper, Metro Attorney

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2006 NATURAL AREAS ACQUISITION PROGRAM CAZADERO TRAIL TARGET AREA REFINEMENT PLAN

Background

The 2006 Natural Areas bond measure stated:

This forested 4-mile corridor located between Boring and Barton Park runs along the north fork of Deep Creek and follows an historic rail line used to ship timber from Cascade forests to the Portland riverfront. Enhancement of the corridor for trail use will connect campgrounds, future interurban trails, and Portland (via the Springwater Corridor) to Mt. Hood and the Pacific Crest Trail.

The primary focus within this target area is acquisition of the remaining right of way necessary to develop the trail.

Target Area Description

The proposed Cazadero Trail route follows the historic Oregon Water Power and Railway Co. rail line which connected Portland to Cazadero two miles upriver from Estacada. The trail alignment drops into Deep Creek Canyon from the northeast in Boring and extends the Springwater Corridor from downtown Portland to Barton. The creek alignment serves as the principal corridor connecting the Clackamas River to habitat in the Johnson Creek watershed.

The 4-mile corridor is owned by Oregon State Parks – little to no acquisition is anticipated for right of way within this target area. In the future, the Cazadero Trail could extend beyond Barton through Eagle Creek, Estacada, the Faraday, Cazadero and Promontory Park areas on up the Clackamas River corridor eventually connecting to Mt. Hood and the Pacific Crest Trail.

Refinement Process

During the refinement process, Metro staff compiled available information about the Cazadero Trail target area, analyzed maps and conducted 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 surveys were submitted either in person or online. Thirty-one people completed the Cazadero Trail 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

Stakeholder Findings

- The Cazadero Trail alignment is a 4-mile corridor that runs through a forested ravine along the north fork of Deep Creek between Boring and Hwy 224/ Barton Park.
- The trail corridor is an abandoned rail bed that was used to ship timber from the Cascades to the Portland riverfront. A streetcar line also ran in the corridor.

- The 4-mile corridor is publicly owned (Oregon State Parks) little acquisition is required.
- The trail will be an extension of the Springwater Corridor connecting Portland, Gresham, Boring, Estacada and the Mt. Hood National Forest Trails and Pacific Crest Trail.
- The trail follows a PGE power line corridor. PGE maintenance vehicles will continue to have access to the corridor.
- There are conceptual plans for a park in downtown Boring on the north side of Hwy 212 which would also serve as a trailhead.
- The trail bisects a private youth camp at a remote section of their property. The camp is concerned with bringing the public in the vicinity of the "at-risk" youth camp users. Camp officials would prefer the trail be re-routed around their property, however, re-routing the trail in this section would require a bridge to be built across Deep Creek, significantly increasing the cost of designing and constructing the trail.
- If the trail remains in the existing corridor bisecting the camp, two future creek crossings will be needed and some land acquisition may be needed to accommodate switchback trails.
- Barton Park (owned and operated by Clackamas County Parks) plans on developing a horse camp/equestrian facility on the north end of the park which could also provide parking for trail use.
- The Cazadero Trail offers access to nature in the Deep Creek target area. The trail is adjacent to the North Fork of Deep Creek, which is a regionally significant natural area due to its valued habitat for fish and wildlife.
- Deep Creek is a potentially important wildlife corridor connecting the Clackamas River to the East Buttes, but limited by high wildlife mortality in crossing Hwy 212.

Scientific Findings

- Wildlife, including spotted owls and sensitive bat species, are likely present along the Cazadero Trail corridor. These species prefer large stands of closed canopy forests that exist along the North Fork of Deep Creek.
- The trail corridor and the North Fork of Deep Creek are noted to be excellent habitat for migratory birds.
- North Fork of Deep Creek provides suitable habitat for spawning steelhead.
- A power line corridor follows the North Fork that serves as a conduit for movement of noxious weed invasions including Japanese Knotweed, Himalayan blackberry and reed-canary grass.

Public Input Findings

• The public's highest priority for the Cazadero target area was to preserve forested corridors to protect water quality and wildlife habitat.

Survey Results

- 31 people completed the Cazadero Trail survey. Additional commentary was provided verbally at the open house, most of which was consistent with the written responses. In rank order, the public priorities were:
 - 1. *Map area B* Acquire additional lands between Barton Park and Hwy. 224 for a regional trailhead.
 - 2. *Map area* A Acquire additional lands in Boring on the south side of Hwy. 212 for a regional trailhead.

Goal

• Acquire lands necessary to complete the Cazadero Trail between Boring and Barton Park.

Objectives

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

Tier I Objectives

- Acquire property in Boring to establish a trailhead and provide additional parking on the south side of Hwy 212.
- Acquire land necessary to connect trails via trestles over the creek.

Tier II Objectives

- If the trail must be re-routed acquire land and/or easements in the area to the northwest, west and south of the camp.
- Acquire property just south of Hwy 224 (north of Barton Park) to establish a southern trail head outside of Barton Park.

Partnership Objective

Pursue partnership opportunities with Oregon State Parks and possibly PGE to leverage regional bond dollars for trail construction funds.

STAFF REPORT

IN CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 07-3854, APPROVING THE NATURAL AREAS ACQUISITION REFINEMENT PLAN FOR THE CAZADERO TRAIL 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 Cazadero Trail 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 Cazadero Trail 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. 07-3854.

Summary of Comments from Stakeholder Interviews for Cazadero Trail Target Area

Stakeholder(s) Interviewed

M G Devereux, Oregon State Parks and Recreation Dept.
Rocky Houston, Oregon State Parks and Recreation Dept.
Hayden Lewis, Salvation Army Camp Kuratli
Colonel Kyle, Salvation Army Representative
Mathew Hampton, Boring Resident
Dean Apostle, Boring Resident
Mike Mclees, Clackamas County
Thomas Grey, Barton Park
Jayne Cronlund, Three Rivers Land Conservancy
Tim Shibihara, PGE Scientist
Mike Livingston, PGE – Property Services Manager
Arthur Krueger, PGE – Property Agent

Key Themes Discussed

Background Information

- The 4 mile corridor is publicly owned (Oregon State Parks) little to no acquisition would be required, unless the trail is re-routed to the west side of the Salvation Army Camp.
- The trail corridor follows a historic rail line that used to ship timber from the Cascades to the Portland riverfront.
- The trail follows a PGE power line corridor.

Environmental Considerations

- The North Fork of Deep Creek is a regionally significant natural area due to its valued habitat for fish and wildlife.
- The trail corridor runs along the north fork of Deep Creek, which has a well-established tree canopy, which creates excellent fish and wildlife habitat.
- Spotted owls have been heard within the canyons of the North Fork of Deep Creek. It's believed to be hunting grounds for owls coming from Mt. Hood National Forest.

Wildlife corridor between East Buttes and the Clackamas River

• The trail corridor follows the North Fork of Deep Creek which is an important wildlife corridor connecting the Clackamas River to the East Buttes. The sunshine corridor, future highway connecting I-205 to Hwy 26, will pose a threat to the wildlife link unless property is secured.

Trail linkages and public access

- The trail will be an extension of the Springwater Corridor connecting Portland, Gresham, and Boring to Estacada and the Pacific Crest Trail.
- Look for opportunities for connections to future trails along the Clackamas Bluffs.

- The Cazadero Trail offers access to nature in the Deep Creek target area. The trail is adjacent to the North Fork of Deep Creek.
- Barton Park plans on developing a horse camp on the north end of the park, which would provide parking for trial use. There are day-use fees for Barton Park during peak season.
- The proposed Tickle Creek Trail will connect the Cazadero Trail to the city of Sandy.

Land Use

- The Trail follows intact forested ravine of the North Fork of Deep Creek. The steep ravine provides difficulty for development. Much of the property could be considered undevelopable.
- Much of the surrounding land uses around the Cazadero Trail are agricultural. It is believed that the agricultural non-point source pollution attribute to the poorer water quality of the North Fork of Deep Creek.
- There are industrial uses at the north end of the trail (near Hwy. 212) that are not only unsightly and not compatible with trail use, but also pose a threat to water quality.
- Most of the corridor consists of small undeveloped forested parcels that could be developed as land value and density increases in the future.
- Erosion and water spillage problems have caused part of the trail to be blown out.

Miscellaneous Comments

- There are conceptual plans for a park in downtown Boring on the north side of Hwy 212 which would also be a trailhead.
- There are two large creek crossings at the southern end of the trail that will require significant construction funds and possible land acquisition to cross at a more ideal location.
- The trail bisects the Salvation Army youth camp at a remote section of their property.
- The Salvation Army is concerned with bringing people through their site, bringing the public in the vicinity of the "at-risk" youth camp users.
- The Salvation Army would prefer the trail be re-routed around their property.
- If the trail remains in the existing corridor through the camp, additional land may be needed for switchback trails at the location of two future trestles at the creek crossings. Two new trestles would need to be built.

QUESTIONNAIRE

TARGET AREA: CAZADERO TRAIL

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.

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

This forested 4-mile corridor located between Boring and Barton Park runs along the north fork of Deep Creek and follows an historic rail line used to ship timber from Cascade forests to the Portland riverfront. Enhancement of the corridor for trail use will connect campgrounds, future interurban trails, and Portland (via the Springwater Corridor) to Mt. Hood and the Pacific Crest Trail.

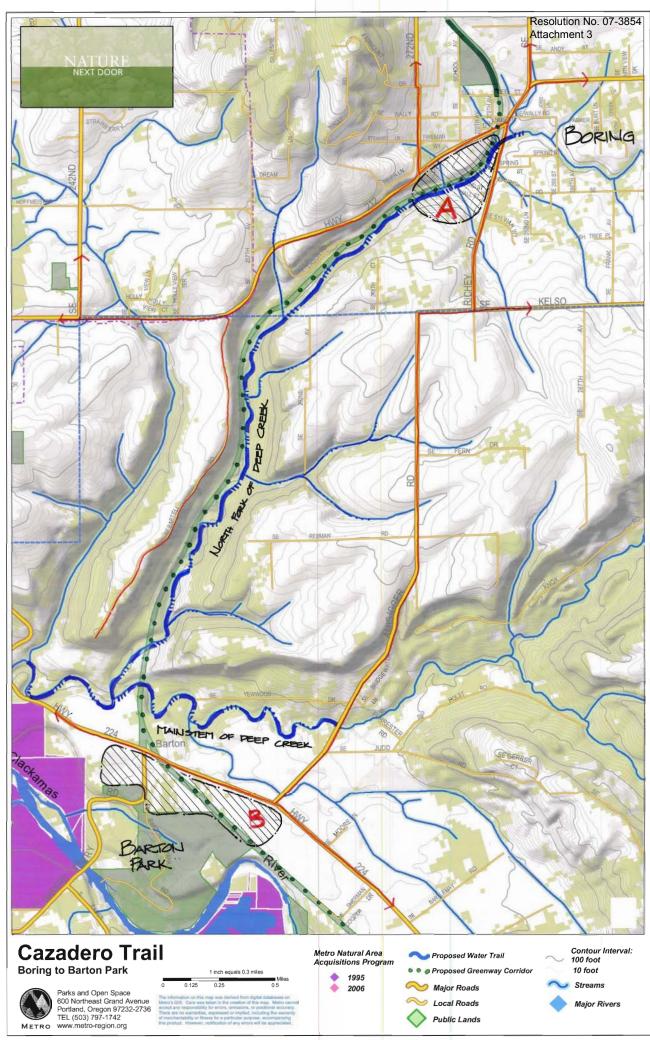
QUESTIONS

1.	The follow	Council's goal is to secure the entire Cazadero Trail corridor for use as a regional trail. Fing priorities have been identified in the Cazadero Trail target area. Rank in order of the to you with 1 being the most important.
		Acquiring additional lands in Boring on the south side of Hwy. 212 for a regional trailhead. (Map area A)
		Acquiring additional lands between Barton Park and Hwy. 224 for a regional trailhead. (Map area B)
2.		, what should be emphasized in the Cazadero Trail target area? Rank in order of to you from 1 to 4, with 1 being the most important and 4 being the least important.
		Preserving forested corridors to protect water quality and wildlife habitat.
		Preserving forested corridors to protect water quality and wildlife habitat. Preserving scenic views along the trail.

3.	Are there other priorities that the Metro Council should consider in the Cazadero Trail 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 trail 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 Cazadero Trail target area mailing list for future information, public meetings and events.
	Name
	Address
	City/State/Zip
	Phone
	F-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



Cazadero Trail Survey Results

1. The Metro Council's goal is to secure the entire Cazadero Trail corridor for use as a regional trail. The following priorities have been identified in the Cazadero Trail target area. Rank in order of importance to you.

	most important	least important	Rating Average	Response Count
Acquiring additional lands in Boring on the south side of Hwy. 212 for a regional trailhead. (Map area A)	48.3% (14)	51.7% (15)	1.52	29
Acquiring additional lands between Barton Park and Hwy. 224 for a regional trailhead. (Map area B)	57.1% (16)	42.9% (12)	1.43	28
		answered question		
	skipped question			

2. In general, what should be emphasized in the Cazadero Trail target area? Rank in order of importance to you.

	most important			least important	Rating Average	Response Count
Preserving forested corridors to protect water quality and wildlife habitat.	41.4% (12)	31.0% (9)	10.3% (3)	17.2% (5)	2.03	29
Preserving scenic views along the trail.	10.3% (3)	34.5% (10)	31.0% (9)	24.1% (7)	2.69	29
Creating buffers between private property owners and the trail corridor.	20.7% (6)	17.2% (5)	31.0% (9)	31.0% (9)	2.72	29
Providing access to the trail for people at trailhead locations.	30.0% (9)	16.7% (5)	26.7% (8)	26.7% (8)	2.50	30
		answered question				30
	skipped question				1	

3. Are there other priorities that the Metro Council should consider in the Cazadero Trail target area? Please be specific.

Creating multiuse trails that include equestrian access. Connecting from Boring to Barton Park, where the County is going to build a horse camp, from there to McIver, and onward to PCT. This would be a truly wonderful way to enjoy the area and provide for future generations.

Map area B -- relative to Barton Park enhance park experience -- opportunities for parking and camping -- equestrian trail-head -- Tourism -- Estacada

Safe crossing of highways 212 and 224. (Underpass like Springwater trail at 242nd?)

Coordinate with grass roots Boring Parks and OPO efforts, listen to them

I would like to see the trail appropriate for bicycle use- accessing Hwy 225 to the Springwater trail- not paved, but rideable

Dealing with closeness the trail passes the trestle glen camp (youth); protecting the camp attendees

Make sure there will be adequate security along the trail for the property owners who border the railroad and no smoking in the canyon!

Design the trail so as to minimize conflicts between users (cyclists, walkers, etc.)

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.

Yes, I do. There are many active equestrian groups in the area. Oregon Equestrian Trails is a statewide group that works with agencies to build and maintain horse camps and trail. The North Valley Chapter has stepped forward to help build the Barton Park Horse Camp and trails. Currently they work with the PCT trail system and McIver. They can be counted on for volunteer work and design expertise.

Rails to trails conversions.

Clackamas River Basin Council could help plan: interpretive signs relating to watershed health riparian enhancement and restoration fish habitat improvements all related to similar projects up and downstream of the Cazadero Trail.

Work with the interested individuals and organizations, public, private, business, governmental, conservation districts, non-profits.

We would like some advice on proceeding with a Master Plan for the Boring Trail Head.

Clackamas County Parks

State Parks acquisition and development \$

Definitely, a partnership with county and then the state who owns the property. Bike alliance groups.

Equestrian groups in the area would be natural allies; they have expressed interest and support.

Leverage the dollar given to the Salvation Army recently by a benefactor who wants to increase public health to build a bike/ped destination resort so people from out of the county could fly to PDX and get on a bike and the 26 miles to the Trestle Glen (currently owned by the Salvation Army) and stay at this wonderful regional asset that was sold from the tax payers.

Make private property closest to the trail safe and secure for public use.

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

In November you came to the Clackamas PAB meeting outlining your future plans. Which by the way was really super. As a member of the board I look for features that include multiuse and access. Are you planning any handicap access to your plans? Additionally, buying the property that is next to Barton Park that backs up to the Barton store. I believe it was logged and the owner passed away and the heirs may want to sell. I know it would enhance the system and the County is looking at it as well.

Leave as natural as possible--no pavement!

Both trailheads are important but Clackamas Co has enough land at Boring. More would be ideal as better way to handle parking but Barton is critical.

I think you should get a little more historical research on the name and the line. a. some of your info claims timber on the rail line, some "commuter line" use, and some tourism (how much of each, and what else? Springwater farmers' products to Portland?) b. for P.R. reasons, clarify the names: how do Springwater Line and Cazadero relate? I know that a road went between the Springwater community and the Cazadero site, perhaps before a bridge crossed the Clackamas at what was to become Estacada

Very Important.

I think adding this trail to the network of trails will add to the recreational possibilities of this area of Clackamas County outside the UGB.

Purchase the 5 acre parcel next to me that may not be able to be sold for environmental reasons- clean it up- use the house area for riders on the trail- put in a picnic area and portapotties. Much prettier there than out at Hwy 212-possible trailhead station?

This would be a fabulous continuation of the Springwater Trail.

Salmon bearing stream and spotted owl hunting grounds (intact corridor from Mt. Hood National forest down trickle Creek to N. Fork Deep Creek) + Talus Caves (most unique geography in the region) = The most prime habitat to preserve un the region (look at all the overlap in the Tarset Ovens) Do something big! Exceptional! Buy all of the Clackamas County bluffs and canyon!

Keep private property safe from public use.

