

## Clatsop Plains Community Plan

### OVERALL GOAL FOR THE CLATSOP PLAINS

The Clatsop Plains and Seaside-Gearhart Citizen Advisory Committees recognize that the natural resources and amenities of the Clatsop Plains are in fact the features which make it a desirable place in which to live. Protection of these resources (the forest, dunes, open spaces, views, animal life and habitat, ocean beaches, lakes and streams, and the absence of urban noises to name a few) is paramount if the quality of life is to be maintained for both existing and future residents. Development must be required to respect these resources and amenities since poor development or over development could very easily destroy these values which make up the present character of the Clatsop Plains.

Out of the various meetings with the two CACs, an OVERALL GOAL for the Clatsop Plains was developed which summarizes the policies to be applied to the Clatsop Plains area. This OVERALL GOAL reads as follows:

#### OVERALL GOAL

The Clatsop Plains Community Plan shall provide for planned and orderly growth of the Clatsop Plains planning area which is in keeping with a majority of its citizens and without unduly depriving landowners and/or residents of the reasonable use of their land. The Plan shall:

1. protect and maintain the natural resources, natural environment and ecosystems,
2. respect the natural processes,
3. strive for well designed and well placed development, and
4. preserve the semi-rural, agricultural, open space and marine characteristics of the area.

In order to meet the Goal, the County shall:

1. Use the physical characteristics described in the section on landscape units as the major determinants of the location and intensity of the use of the land.
2. Retain as much of the land as possible in its natural state.
3. Review, update and amend the Plan on a regular basis as needs, additional data and/or economics demand.

The community goals and policies which follow in this Plan are the basis from which the Zoning Ordinance will be developed.

The Clatsop Plains planning area encompasses approximately 16,307 acres in the northwest section of Clatsop County along the coast. This planning area, for the most part, relates toward the ocean, with the various beaches and rolling dunes; and toward the several lakes in the planning area. The Clatsop Plains is essentially bisected by U.S. Highway 101. This highway is a major line for north-south movement down the Oregon Coast as well as a corridor of travel between the two population centers in the plains.

The Clatsop Plains Community Plan is an amplification of some of the policies in the County-wide Elements section of the Comprehensive Plan, and also contains policies addressing particular concerns people have for the Clatsop Plains. The County-wide Elements section is sued at the community level to identify policies and strategies for addressing specific local opportunities/problems.

### General Landscape Units

#### Policies

1. Excavations in sedimentary highland (Toms) should be properly engineered to assure against slope failure.
2. Proposed projects involving modifications of established drainage patterns should be evaluated in terms of potential for altering land stability.
3. Loss of ground cover for moderately to steeply sloping land may cause erosion problems by increasing runoff velocity and land slumpage. Vegetative cover for moderately to steeply sloping areas shall be maintained.

### Coastal Shorelands and Other Shorelands

Clatsop Plains Planning Area Goal: To preserve to the fullest possible extent the scenic, aesthetic, and ecological qualities of the Coastal Shorelands and other shorelands in the Clatsop Plains in harmony with those uses which are deemed essential to the life and well-being of its citizens.

#### Policies

The following are in addition to those found in the Ocean and Coastal Lakes of the Estuarine Resources and Coastal Shorelands Element and Open Space, Scenic and Historic Areas and Natural Areas Element.

1. No filling or alteration to designated and mapped critical natural holding basins such as lakes, wetlands, or marshlands.
2. Culverts and other roadway or driveway improvements considered necessary by the Clatsop County Department of Planning and Development, County Road Department,

and State agencies shall be installed in such a manner as not to impede the flow of the drainage way nor impede the passage of resident or migratory population of fish.

3. Mining, dredging, or removal of gravel and similar materials from streams and other surface water shall be strictly controlled to prevent adverse alterations to flow characteristics, siltation pollution, and destruction or disruption of spawning areas.
4. Shorelands identified in this Plan for their aesthetic, scenic, historic or ecological qualities shall be preserved. Any private or public development which would degrade shoreland qualities shall be discouraged.
5. The public has a right to enjoy and utilize all the public water bodies. No improvement shall be permitted which impedes this ability. Care also must be exercised in protecting the privately owned shorelands.
6. Public and private bridge crossings over public water bodies shall be constructed to standards that insure maximum protection to the persons utilizing the structure and to the water system it crosses. To the maximum extent possible, minimum fill and/or removal shall take place during construction of the bridge.
7. Shorelands in Rural areas shall be used as appropriate for the following:
  1. farm use,
  2. private and public water dependent recreation,
  3. aquaculture, and
  4. to fulfill the open space requirements in subdivisions and planned developments.

#### Recommended Action:

A study should be undertaken to determine a means to remove vegetation in the various lakes within the Clatsop Plains due to the hazards it causes in recreational use of water bodies.

#### Beaches

#### Policies

See Goal 18 Beaches and Dunes Background Report and County-wide Element (Ord 03-08)

#### Dunes

See Goal 18 Beaches and Dunes Background Report and County-wide Element (Ord 03-08)

#### Fort Stevens State Park Subarea Policy

Off-road vehicles should not be permitted on dune or wetland areas in the park and shall not traverse the Natural wetland-salt marsh in Clatsop Spit.

For additional information, policies and mapping for these areas see the Columbia River Estuary section of the Estuarine Resources and Coastal Shorelands Background Report and County-wide Element.

#### Alluvial Lowlands Policy

Development on peat and other compressible soils shall be discouraged. In those areas where development has already occurred on peat and other compressible soils, policies on those soils in the County-wide Element shall apply.

#### Alluvial Terraces Policy

The County should encourage development on this type of landscape unit due to the slight to moderate slopes and the moderately well drained soils.

#### Coast Range Foothills Policy

The predominant land use on this landscape unit should be forestry and low density residential use. This is due to the characteristics of soils in this landscape unit which have potential for mass movement.

#### Natural Resources

##### Post 208 Water Quality Study\*

The study made several recommendations:

- "(a) The groundwater protection strategy of this study should promote the maximum present and future beneficial uses of the Clatsop Plains aquifer. On-site wastewater disposal has been shown to be a significant beneficial use of the aquifer, and thus, the moratorium should be lifted in all areas of the Clatsop Plains study area.
- (b) The Camp Rilea wastewater spray irrigation field should be rehabilitated with a cover material that is conducive to plant growth. A suitable crop management plan should be developed so that the selected crop can be periodically harvested to remove the nutrients. The crop should be planted during March-April 1982, so that the spray irrigation field will be operable during the heavy summer use period.
- (c) The Warrenton landfill should be closed through an approved closure plan as directed by DEQ. The closure plan should provide for prohibition of further leachate contamination of the aquifer and the necessary gas removal facilities.
- (d) The wastewater disposal recommendations for the unincorporated Clatsop Plains are as follows:

- (1) Continue with current zoning requiring a minimum of 1 acre lot size and permit the use of a standard septic tank and disposal field.
  - (2) For lots of record between 1/2 acre and 1 acre, a septic tank with a low pressure disposal field or sand filter should be used.
  - (3) For lots of record between 10,000 square feet and 1/2 acre, septic tank systems should use a sand filter with a low pressure disposal field, if DEQ's regulations on house size, setbacks and system redundancy can be accommodated.
  - (4) Allow no septic systems on lot sizes smaller than 10,000 square feet.
- (e) All future development in Gearhart, in accordance with the current Comprehensive Plan, should be required to use low pressure disposal fields and/or sand filters to maximize nitrogen removal in the system prior to disposal in the soil. DEQ should be requested to adopt a special geographic rule exempting the DEQ house size regulations in Gearhart.
- (f) Wastewater disposal recommendations for the seven sensitive areas are:
- (1) Install low pressure distribution and/or sand filter systems for all new wastewater sources (including the aggregate of one development) under 5,000 gallons per day.
  - (2) For all new wastewater sources exceeding 5,000 gallons per day, construction of sewers and wastewater treatment facilities using land disposal or other disposal techniques acceptable to DEQ should be required.
  - (3) Present uses of the aquifer for wastewater disposal should not be prohibited.
- (g) No action should be taken on surface water conditions at this time.
- (h) Aquifer reserve areas should be maintained to protect the aquifer as a possible future drinking water source through the following measures:
- (1) A minimum of 2.5 square miles of aquifer should be set aside for water supply development, including an area set aside by the City of Warrenton, the area within the boundaries of Camp Rilea, and the 40 acres of County-owned land at Del Ray Beach.
  - (2) The County should preserve the necessary recharge area within Camp Rilea by developing an agreement with the Oregon Department of Military within 6 months.
  - (3) Additional areas for aquifer protection should be sought through land use planning, and open space requirements.

(4) Land use in the reserve areas should be controlled so that the potential for groundwater contamination from nitrogen and other possible pollutants is kept to a minimum.

(i) The groundwater monitoring program should be continued as a part of the DEQ statewide monitoring program for the wells identified in Section VII of the report with samples taken on a semi-annual basis."

#### Clatsop Plains Aquifer Policy

1. Land use actions (i.e. Comprehensive Plan changes, zone changes, subdivisions and partitions, planned developments, conditional use permits, etc.) shall be reviewed by the Planning Commission and the Department of Planning and Development to insure that the proposed activity(ies) will not:
  - a. adversely affect the water quality;
  - b. result in the drawdown of the groundwater supply;
  - c. result in the loss of stabilizing vegetation, or
  - d. salt water intrusion into the water supply.

#### Recommended Actions

1. To avoid desiccation of the groundwater lakes and encroachment of sea water, a water management program which is consistent with the water-budget equation for the Clatsop Plains should be developed. The County should request technical and financial assistance from state and federal agencies in evaluating water development potentials.
2. The County, in cooperation with other local jurisdictions, should consider a cost/benefit comparison of developing the Clatsop Plains aquifer as a water source with other sources of water supply.

#### Critical Hazards

#### Wind and Ocean Shoreline Erosion Policies

1. Clatsop County shall prohibit:
  - a. the destruction of stabilizing vegetation (including the inadvertent destruction by moisture loss or root damage).
  - b. the exposure of stable and conditionally stable areas to erosion, and
  - c. construction of shore structures which modify current or wave patterns or the beach sand supply.
2. Erosion shall be controlled and the soil stabilized by vegetation and/or mechanical and/or structural means on all dune lands. After stabilization, continuous maintenance shall be provided. In those areas where the County has taken an Exception to the Beaches and

Dunes Goal, the County shall have building permits reviewed by the Soil Conservation Service and use their recommendations as conditions of approval.

3. Removal of vegetation during construction in any sand area shall be kept to the minimum required for building placement or other valid purpose. Removal of vegetation should not occur more than 30 days prior to grading or construction. Permanent revegetation shall be started on the site as soon as practical after construction, final grading or utility placement. Storage of sand and other materials should not suffocate vegetation.
4. In all open sand areas, revegetation must be clearly monitored and carefully maintained, which may include restrictions on pedestrian traffic. Revegetation shall return the area to its pre-construction level of stability or better. Trees should be planted along with ground cover such as grass or shrubs. To encourage stabilization, a revegetation program with time limits shall be required by the Planning Department as a condition of all building permits and land use actions (i.e. Comprehensive Plan changes, zone changes, subdivisions and partitions, planned developments, conditional use permits etc.).
5. Removal of vegetation which provides wildlife habitat shall be limited. Unnecessary removal of shoreline vegetation shall be prohibited.
6. Site specific investigations by a qualified person such as a geologist, soils scientist, or geomorphologist may be required by the County prior to the issuance of building permits in open sand areas, on the ocean front, in steep hillsides of dunes, regardless of the vegetative cover, and in any other conditionally stable dune area which, in the view of the Planning Director or Building Official, may be subject to wind erosion or other hazard potential. Site investigations may be submitted to the State Department of Geology and other agencies for review of recommendations.
7. Log debris plays an important role in the formation and maintenance of foredunes. Therefore, driftwood removal from sand areas and beaches for both individual and commercial purposes should be regulated so that dune building processes and scenic values are not adversely affected.

#### Recommended Action

The County should work with the Clatsop Soil and Water Conservation District in determining whether their three zones affecting dunes are needed in light of new State law requirements.

#### Cultural

##### Clatsop Plains Housing Goal:

To provide adequate numbers of housing units at price ranges and rent levels commensurate with financial capabilities of the households in the region and to allow for flexibility in housing location, type and density.

## Housing Policies

1. Planned developments, the replatting of old subdivisions, and other land use actions shall encourage the preservation of steep slopes and other sensitive areas in their natural condition.
2. The location of a mobile home on an individual parcel of land shall be allowed in CONSERVATION FOREST LANDS\* and RURAL EXCLUSIVE FARM USE\* areas which are in conjunction with a farm or forestry use. In areas designated RURAL LANDS\*, a double wide or wider mobile home shall be allowed except in Surf Pines (zones SFR-1 and CBR\*), Smith Lake (zone SFR-1\*) and Shoreline Estates (zone RSA-SFR\*).
3. Areas shall be provided for mobile home parks within the cities' Urban Growth Boundaries.
4. Opportunities shall be provided for elderly and low income housing within the cities' Urban Growth Boundaries due to the availability of services provided.

## Public Facilities and Services

### Sewer Policies

1. Sewage systems shall be allowed in those areas outside of the Urban Growth Boundary only to alleviate a health hazard or water pollution problem which has been identified by the Department of Environmental Quality and will be used only as a last resort.
2. The Shoreline Estates sewer system located near Cullaby Lake shall expand its sewer service area only to the current existing treatment plant's design capacity of approximately 500 people. Further development of this intensity on the Clatsop Plains shall occur within the Urban Growth Boundaries.

### Transportation

#### Fire Protection Policy

The County shall encourage the improvement of fire protection for the Rural and Rural Service Areas in the Clatsop Plains. The County shall work with local residents as well as the two Rural Fire Protection Districts in examining the various methods available to improve fire protection. One method which could be used is to require subdivisions and planned developments to dedicate a site, funds, or construction materials for a fire station in the Clatsop Plains.

#### Clatsop Plains Transportation Goal:

The County will develop policies which minimize the number of access points on U.S. 101.

## Transportation Policies

1. The development of new access points onto U.S. 101 shall be kept to a minimum number. It is the intent of this policy to reduce the potential for accidents, and to provide the most efficient means of maintaining highway capacity. Planned development, subdivision, major partition regulations shall be written so as to implement this policy.
2. Minor partitioning shall be required for all property adjacent to U.S. 101. Minor partition proposals will be reviewed in order to prevent numerous access points along this highway. The requirement for minor partition review shall take effect on the date of adoption of the Clatsop Plains Community Plan.
3. Streets in new developments shall be designed to minimize disturbance of the land by following contour lines (as an alternative to a grid pattern) and avoiding cut-and-fill construction techniques.
4. Unnecessary rights-of-way should be used as green belts, walking trails or bike paths where appropriate.
5. To minimize negative visual and noise impacts of U.S. 101, a buffer screen of existing vegetation shall be required for residential properties along U.S. 101. Planted vegetation should be encouraged in those areas along U.S. 101 where none presently exists. The buffer shall be 25 feet wide, unless the size of the lot and natural topography would create a hardship.
6. Clatsop County shall restrict direct access to arterials (i.e., U.S. 101) where alternative access is available.
7. At the time of a major or minor partition, access points shall be examined. Consolidation of existing access points or easements for adjoining properties to allow a common access point shall be considered.
8. It is the County's intent to develop a system of collectors, frontage roads and common access points to solve the problems that many access points create along U.S. 101. In order to carry out this intent the County shall do the following:
  - a. Require new developments to have access taken from the existing collectors and frontage roads unless a variance is given.
  - b. New access points shall be reviewed by the County. New access points shall be reviewed based upon proximity to existing access points and safety standards developed by the Department of Transportation.
9. Clatsop County should conduct a study of the Clatsop Plains to analyze access controls and problems in establishing criteria for collectors and frontage roads. The study should

include: designation of specific access points, location of frontage roads, criteria for temporary access points, etc.

## Rail

### Recommended Action

Further study should be done by the County Department of Planning and Development on what portions of the rights-of-way will not revert back to property owners. And if some of the rights-of-way do not revert back, further work should be done on how the rights-of-way should be used.

## Air Transportation

### Recommended Action

The Seaside-Gearhart Citizen Advisory Committee, the County, the Cities of Seaside and Gearhart, and the State Aeronautics Division should work together in developing the Seaside Airport Plan.

## Historic Areas

### Clatsop Plains Planning Goal:

To preserve Historic Resources of our past that might otherwise be lost due to unnecessary and unwise development.

### Historic Area Policies

1. The County shall work with the Clatsop County Historical Advisory Committee and other organizations to identify and protect important local historical and archeological sites. Compatible uses and designs of uses should be encouraged for property nearby important historical or archeological sites.
2. Clatsop County shall protect significant historical resources by:
  - a. encouraging those programs that make preservation economically possible;
  - b. implementing measures for preservation when possible;
  - c. recognizing such areas in public and private land use determinations subject to County review.

## Fish and Wildlife Areas

### Clatsop Plains Planning Goal:

To preserve wildlife habitats and natural vegetation as an essential part of the ecosystem for both men and wildlife.

## Fish and Wildlife Policies

1. Maintain important fish and wildlife sites by protecting vegetation along many water bodies, classifying suitable land and water locations as NATURAL or CONSERVATION, and otherwise encouraging protection of valuable fish and wildlife habitats.
2. Private and public owners of property on which valuable habitat is located will be encouraged to adequately protect important fish and wildlife sites. The private owners which participate in preserving the natural character of these sites will be assisted in taking advantage of reduced property taxes for protecting such areas. New subdivisions shall be required to leave undeveloped reasonable amounts of property which is needed for protection of valuable fish and wildlife habitat.
3. Intensive recreational development shall not locate within sensitive crucial habitat areas.
4. Habitat of all species indicated as endangered, threatened or vulnerable shall be preserved. Nesting sites of endangered bird species shall be protected and buffered from conflicting uses.
- 5.\* Wildlife refuges:

Existing wildlife refuges which are owned/leased and managed by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) located in areas designated Conservation Forest or in other lowland areas under any plan designation shall be reviewed by the County for compliance with the approval standards listed below. Such hearings shall be conducted according to a Type IV procedure at a time and place convenient to residents of the affected planning area. ODFW shall provide an evaluation of the economic, social, environmental and energy consequences of the proposal\*\* information sufficient to support findings with respect to the following approval criteria:

1. Identification of the need for the proposed new wildlife management area. "Need" means specific problems or conflicts that will be resolved or specific ODFW objectives that will be achieved by establishing the proposed area.
2. Alternative lands and management actions available to the ODFW, and an analysis of why those alternatives or management actions will not resolve identified problems or achieve objectives.

## Recreation

### Recreational Policies

1. Recreational vehicle parks shall only be permitted in the urban growth boundaries in the Clatsop Plains.

2. The World War II lookout site, dune area west of Sunset Lake and the land northeast of Camp Rilea should be kept in County ownership. These areas should be preserved for their scenic value as well as for wildlife value.
3. The designated bike trail going down the Coast shall be changed to follow U.S. 101 instead of along the Lewis and Clark Road.
4. Recreational users shall not be allowed complete and free use of the more delicate beach/dune land forms (active dune areas). Access to these areas shall be limited and only via stabilized trails.
5. Clatsop County shall adopt the Fort Stevens State Park Plan as part of the Clatsop Plains Community Plan.
6. State and local jurisdictions shall cooperate to evolve the most efficient traffic flow patterns, parking arrangements and policy requirements for areas on and adjacent to active dune areas, especially parks and beach accesses.\*

Recommended Action

Further research should be done on a possible trail going from Fort Clatsop National Park to the coastal beaches.

Scenic Areas

Clatsop Plains Planning Goal:

Important vistas, views of the ocean, and other significant visual features should be preserved and the obstruction of these vistas should be discouraged.

The following discussion and policies are in addition to those found in the Open Space, Scenic and Historic Areas and Natural Resources, Recreational Needs and Estuarine Resources and Coastal Shorelands Elements. Sites inventoried (i.e. views along U.S. 101 of dune ridges and coastal foothills) that are in addition to those inventoried in the Open Space, Scenic and Historic Areas and Natural Resources, Recreational Needs and Estuarine and Coastal Shorelands Element are local desires and are not to be construed as additional Goal site requirements (e.g. they are not exceptional views).\*

Scenic Area Policies

<u>Area</u>	<u>Perspectives</u>	<u>Policy or Control</u>
Beach/ocean	All directions	1. In order to provide the greatest view potential for properties along the ocean, the building height shall

		be limited to 18' on beach front lots and 26' for adjacent properties.
World War II Viewing Point	Ocean beaches, Clatsop Plains	2. The County owns about 40 acres of land. This land should be set aside for its scenic value.
Lewis & Clark Road above Thompson Falls	Seaside-Gearhart area, ocean, Tillamook Head and	3. If property above Thompson Falls is developed, some areas shall be set aside as open space.
Views along U.S. 101	The dunes to the west and Coastal Foothills to the east	4. Excessive sign sizes and numbers of signs shall be discouraged by local by local regulations. No new billboards or other off-premise signs shall be allowed, except in commercial or industrial zoned land with strict controls.
Coastal Foothills and dune ridges	All directions	5. No intensive development on the foothills or on top of dune ridges should be permitted.

Open Space

Policies

1. Land owners shall be encouraged to retain or preserve large parcels of undeveloped land as open space under the provisions of the open space taxation program.
2. The County shall carefully consider the feasibility of all methods for the preservation of open space as the opportunities arise.
3. The County Zoning Ordinance shall prescribe a maximum lot coverage in those areas designated DEVELOPMENT.
4. All planned developments and subdivisions in the Clatsop Plains planning area designated RURAL LANDS\*\* shall cluster land uses and designate areas as permanent common open space. No reversionary clause shall be permitted in common open space. The minimum percentage of common open space shall be 30%, excluding roads and property under water. The clustering of dwellings in small numbers and the provision of

common open space assures good utilization of land, increased environmental amenities, maintenance of a low density semi-rural character, maintenance of natural systems (dunes, wetlands), and may be used as an open space buffer between the residential use and adjacent agricultural or forest uses. This policy shall apply in all RURAL LANDS\*\* areas in the Clatsop Plains except for the area commonly known as Surf Pines.\* Clustering shall be prohibited in the area known as Surf Pines.\* Surf Pines is further described by the following description (see Appendix B) and map.\*

5. Permanent open space shall include, whenever possible, steep dunes which would require substantial alterations for building, buffers along streams, water bodies, deflation plains, and farm and forest lands.
6. Buffers (screening) shall be provided in all subdivisions and planned developments along property lines adjacent to arterials and/or collectors.
7. Permanent open space as part of subdivisions or planned developments adjoining one another shall be interrelated and continuous whenever possible. This could mean that open space could continuously follow ridge tops, deflation plains or shorelands. The Clatsop County Department of Planning and Development shall prepare a map of potential systems of open space to be used as a guide for developers.
8. Streams and drainages which form a system of open space shall be preserved.

### Community Development

#### General Development Policies

1. The predominant growth (residential, commercial, and industrial) shall occur within the Cities of Seaside, Warrenton, Gearhart and the Town of Hammond, as well as those areas in the Urban Growth Boundaries.
2. Residential, commercial and industrial development shall be directed away from those areas designated CONSERVATION FOREST LANDS, CONSERVATION OTHER RESOURCES, and NATURAL.
3. In divisions of land into lots where future partitions or resubdivisions could occur, lots should be designed to take the potential for future divisions of land into consideration.
4. Natural features such as creeks and ridges should be used wherever possible as a boundary between intensive uses such as commercial activities and low intensive uses.
5. Plot plans or building plans may be required to indicate on them how storm water is to be drained. Access permits shall be reviewed by the State Highway Department and County Road Department to insure adequate drainage is provided.

6. Incentives shall be provided to encourage developers to use innovative methods to provide a high quality of design, energy conservation and low income housing.
7. The following policies shall be used when examining commercial development in the Clatsop Plains:
  - a. To direct and encourage commercial activities to locate within urban growth boundaries. This will be most convenient for customers because most people will live in the urban areas. Also, business requirements for water, sewer, fire protection and other public services can best be met.
  - b. To group business activities into clusters or "centers". This will be more convenient for patrons, permitting them to accomplish more than one purpose during a stop. It will also avoid mixing homes with scattered businesses. Joint use of vehicular access and parking at commercial centers will be more economical and be less disruptive for street traffic.
  - c. To prevent "strip" commercial development along arterials, particularly U.S. Highway 101, and to limit business to designated strategic locations. To reserve non-commercial portions of arterials so that property owners may develop residential or other uses without fear of disruptive business development next door.
  - d. To emphasize and support existing town centers as business places. These centers are important for community identify, social cohesion, civic activity, public service, convenience, attractions and amenities. They should continue to be a focus for commercial activities as well.
  - e. To concentrate new commercial development in and adjacent to existing, well-established business areas. To increase the patronage and vitality of these areas and to avoid undue dispersal of new commercial activities.

### Rural Service Area

#### Policies

1. The minimum building site in Rural Service Area shall be 7,500 square feet in sewerred areas and 15,000 square feet in unsewerred areas.
2. The area known as Shoreline Estates shall be designated a RURAL SERVICE AREA, due to the existing facilities available. The land area for this designation shall not be larger than the existing treatment plant's capacity. The expansion of the RURAL SERVICE AREA designation should NOT be allowed. It is the intent of the Community Plan to encourage urban densities to occur within the cities and the Urban Growth Boundaries where more facilities and services are available.

## Rural Lands

### Clatsop Plains RURAL LANDS Goal:

To preserve and maintain the present overall rural quality of life now enjoyed in the Clatsop Plains.

### Policies

1. The minimum parcel size for building sites in RURAL LANDS\* areas shall be one acre.\*
2. Rural residential subdivisions shall be required to have paved streets, except if the subdivision involves extremely large land parcels or only a few land parcels are involved and there is no potential for increase traffic demand on the roadway.
3. In recognition of the existing commercial uses at Cannon Beach Junction and the area south of Warrenton, a general commercial zone shall be provided at the Cannon Beach Junction and south of Warrenton.\*
4. A neighborhood commercial zone allowing such uses as a gas station, or "Ma or Pa" grocery store shall be provided at the following locations along U.S. 101; Reed and Hertig, Sunset Lake and Dugan's Store and the West Lake Store.
5. When considering new commercial areas or expansion of existing commercially zoned land the policies pertaining to commercial land in the General Development policies, as well as the following standards, shall be used:
  - a. Adequate off-street parking shall be provided to prevent traffic congestion resulting from on-street parking.
  - b. A buffer and screen shall be provided between commercial and residential uses.
  - c. Signs shall be designed so as not to distract from the surrounding area.
  - d. The size of neighborhood commercial uses shall be sized to serve every day personal needs of the surrounding rural population and generate little or no traffic from outside of the rural area.
  - e. Review by State and County Road officials for safe access including adequate site distance.
6. Clatsop County intends to encourage a majority of the County's housing needs to occur within the various cities' urban growth boundaries. Approval of subdivisions and planned developments shall relate to the needs for rural housing. Through the County's Housing Study, the County has determined the Clatsop Plains rural housing needs to be approximately 900 dwelling units for both seasonal and permanent by the year 2000. The

rural housing needs should be reexamined every two (2) years from the date of adoption of the Plan.

7. Subdivisions and planned development shall be encouraged to phase development over several years to provide for rural housing needs.
- 8.\* Grandfather the following lots:
  - a. Block 4, lots 1-4  
Block 13, lots 3, 4, 15-18  
Block 19, lots 7 & 8\*\*  
Block 19, lots 9-12  
Block 20, Lots 1-4, 9-14, 17-20  
Block 29, lots 2, 3, 6, 7, 14, 15

All in Sunset Beach subdivision, Clatsop County, Oregon provided, however, that a 10,000 sq.ft. minimum lot size be required and that any other conditions for development applicable to this area shall be enforced.

- b. The five (5) lot area commonly referred to as RAM West (see attached map) provided, however, that there are no more than five lots exclusive of the coastal shoreland area.\*\*

### Rural Agricultural Lands

#### Policies\*

See Agricultural Lands Background Report and County-wide Element.

### Conservation Forest Lands

#### Policy\*\*

Forest Lands shall be designated Conservation Forest in the County's Comprehensive Plan. When considering a zone change to a forest zone, the Planning Commission or other reviewing body shall review the proposal against the acreage, management, and other approval criteria in County-wide Forest Lands Policies #19, #20 and #21.

### Conservation Other Resources

#### Policy\*

See Open Space, Scenic and Historic Areas and Natural Resources, Recreational Needs, Estuarine Resources and Coastal Shorelands and Beaches and Dunes Background Reports and County-wide Elements.

## Natural

### Policies

1. Areas rich in wildlife or of a fragile ecological nature, shall be preserved as Natural areas. The following areas shall be designated NATURAL: Clatsop Spit, Tillamook Chute, portions of Fort Stevens, Carnahan Lake, Slusher Lake and portions of the Necanicum Estuary.
2. The NATURAL aquatic designations for Carnahan Lake and Slusher Lake shall extend 100 feet measured horizontally from the aquatic-shoreland boundary.