

City of Rockaway Beach Forest Stewardship Plan Advisory Committee (FSPAC) Meeting Agenda



Date: Friday, October 17, 2025
Time: 12:00 – 1:00 p.m.
Location: Rockaway Beach City Hall, 276 Hwy 101 – 2nd Floor Conference Room

Join here to attend the meeting remotely:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82298291624?pwd=vF4auAWDBNGaCNwzitbCOaWorGRT82.1>

Meeting ID: 822 9829 1624

Passcode: 350901

Dial by your location

253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

How to Provide Public Comment:

- Written Comments – submit in person at meeting or 48 hours prior to meeting to cityrecorder@corb.us
 - In Person – sign-up sheet and instructions will be located on the table inside the meeting room.
 - Virtually on Zoom – use the “raise hand” feature when the Chair announces it is time to do so.
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1. CALL TO ORDER – Jason Maxfield, Committee Chair

2. ROLL CALL

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - August 21, 2025 Meeting Minutes

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

5. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Introductions – Springboard Forestry Staff
- b. Springboard Forestry Presentation:
 - i. Discuss terminology for referring to the proposed acquisition “City of Rockaway Beach’s fee simple ownership in the Jetty Creek Watershed”
 - ii. Review Draft Purpose and Goals – From FPSAC Meeting #1 (Attachment 1)
 - iii. Review Proposed Policy Categories – (Attachment 2)
 - iv. Review Management Zones (Attachment 3)
- c. Next Steps

6. COMMITTEE COMMENTS

7. ADJOURNMENT

NOTICE OF POSSIBLE QUORUM:

A quorum of the **City Council and/or Planning Commission** may attend this meeting.
No deliberations or decisions will be conducted by either body at this meeting.

City of Rockaway Beach Forest Stewardship Plan Advisory Committee (FSPAC) Meeting Minutes



Date: Thursday, August 21, 2025

Time: 2:00 P.M.

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – Charles McNeilly, Mayor
Mayor McNeilly called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

2. **ROLL CALL**

Committee Members Present: Sandra Johnson, Jason Maxfield, Lydia Hess, Darlene Johnson, Nancy Lanyon

Council Members Present: Charles McNeilly, Mayor; Kiley Konruff, City Council Liaison; and Mary McGinnis (Guest)

Staff Present: Luke Shepard, City Manager; Mary Mertz, Public Works Director; and Melissa Thompson, City Recorder

Consultant Present: Daniel Wear, Sustainable Northwest

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – None Scheduled

4. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

- None

5. **NEW BUSINESS**

- a. **Introductions**

- At the invitation of McNeilly, participants introduced themselves and commented on their motivation to join the committee.

- b. **Election of Committee Chair**

Motion by Maxfield to appoint Sandra Johnson as Chair of the Forest Stewardship Plan Advisory Committee. Johnson noted she had served as Chair of the Source Water Protection Plan Development Advisory Committee and declined the nomination to allow someone else the opportunity.

Motion by Hess, seconded by Sandra Johnson, to appoint Jason Maxfield as Chair of the Forest Stewardship Plan Advisory Committee.

- Members commented in support of Maxfield.

Motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 5 (S. Johnson, Maxfield, Hess, D. Johnson, Lanyon)

No: 0

c. What is a Forest Stewardship Plan? – Daniel Wear, Sustainable Northwest

d. Outlining a Community Vision for the Jetty Creek Watershed

e. Identifying Vision Aligned Goals

- Daniel Wear, Sustainable Northwest, introduced guest Morgan deMoll, North Coast Land Conservancy
- Wear gave a presentation on agenda items “c” through “e”.
- Wear confirmed that the current property owner’s specific timber harvest data could not be shared.
- Wear confirmed that other timber companies have easements for access roads.
- McNeilly shared that Stimson Lumber typically operates on a 45-year cycle, and it will likely be 25 years before another harvest.
- Wear led the committee through an exercise making notes on poster boards to work toward defining a vision for the watershed.
- Participants reviewed and discussed possible overarching vision goals including water availability, water quality, affordability, and community/economic benefit.
- Wear and deMoll answered questions about the watershed and general forest management practices.
- Goal discussion identified vision to have reliable, high quality drinking water with resilient forest to serve water quality needs now and into the future.
- Summary of goals and objectives:
 - provide reliable quantities of drinking water or increase water availability for production
 - minimize required treatment or cost of water delivery to end user (will assess whether this is realistic to include)
 - utilize forest as resource for community to engage with
 - establish a resilient forest structure into the future through forest stewardship activities (including fire resilience)

f. Next Steps

Wear will share goals and objectives with the forester, and he will start drafting a plan.
Wear will coordinate with staff to schedule the next meeting.

g. Site Visit Guidelines

- Shepard spoke about the watershed tour on August 22, 2025 and provided the committee with guidelines to ensure compliance with Public Meetings Law.

h. Committee Comments

- Committee members expressed thanks and appreciation to Wear and looked forward to the on-site inspection of the watershed.

6. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by S. Johnson, seconded by Hess, to adjourn the meeting at 4:15 p.m.

Motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 5 (S. Johnson, Maxfield, Hess, D. Johnson, Lanyon)

No: 0

MINUTES APPROVED THE
17TH DAY OF OCTOBER 2025

Jason Maxfield, Chair

ATTEST

Melissa Thompson, City Recorder

Purpose and Goals

Vision Statement

Our vision is to provide reliable quantities of high-quality, and affordable drinking water for the Rockaway Beach community for generations to come by managing for an ecologically complex and resilient forest.

Primary Goals

1. Provide reliable quantities of high-quality drinking water.

The City of Rockaway Beach fee simple ownership in the Jetty Creek watershed includes roughly 52% of the drinking water source area. A combination of steep slopes, erodible soils, roads, and past management practices has resulted in concerns around high turbidity throughout the watershed, which could drive up water treatment costs. All management practices will prioritize protecting and improving both the quality and quantity of source water, now and in the future. This includes mitigating impacts from sediment, nutrients, temperature fluctuations, large-scale disturbances such as pest outbreaks, and human activities. Additionally, forest structure and stand composition significantly affect low-flow and peak-flow conditions—factors that are becoming increasingly critical as weather patterns grow more unpredictable due to climate change.

2. Build long-term forest resilience through stewardship that promotes species diversity and structural complexity while mitigating risks from fire and other disturbances.

Diverse and complex forests have a higher capacity to store and filter water, as well as greater ecological resilience in the face of disturbance and climate change. Forest stewardship will align with natural ecological processes to accelerate the forest's ability to provide essential ecosystem services. Policies relating to harvest, stream protection, and invasive species management all aim to support natural forest processes while preparing for a future with greater variability and severity of disturbances.

3. Foster community engagement and stewardship through recreation and education.

The city-owned property provides valuable aesthetic, recreational, and cultural value to the Rockaway Beach community, supporting activities from hiking and

wildlife viewing to education. Management actions will balance encouraging public access and a sense of place with minimizing human impacts on water quality.

4. Support and enhance habitat for native wildlife, consistent with drinking water objectives.

The Jetty Creek watershed provides important habitat for a wide range of wildlife species. The mosaic of forest stand characteristics on the city-owned property currently supports adequate habitat with significant potential for future improvement. Steep slopes and large riparian buffers have created natural barriers to harvest, resulting in de facto reserve areas across the property. Over time, managing for historical forest succession patterns will restore habitat conditions that have become increasingly rare on the Northern Oregon Coast.

5. Ensure long-term financial sustainability by managing the forest to minimize water treatment costs and optimize operational efficiency within the City's budget. ?

Active management of the city-owned property plays a dual role in maintaining forest health and funding ongoing stewardship costs, with direct impacts on water affordability for the community. Timber sale revenue supports property maintenance activities that simultaneously protect source water quality and provide living wages to local contractors. By integrating active management with source water protection and climate resilience, the property serves as a public model for sustainable forestry that delivers both ecological and economic benefits.

Management Policies

The following management policies provide sideboards for all ongoing stewardship of the fee-simple ownership.

In order to achieve the goals and objectives of the City of Rockaway Beach, the City of Rockaway Beach's ownership in the Jetty Creek Watershed will be managed in accordance with the following 5 policies. These policies create a framework for determining operational plans across the ownership. The policies are designed to meet or exceed the requirements of the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board, the Oregon Department of Forestry, and the Forest Stewardship Council Pacific Standard. Each individual project will require analysis to guarantee Forest Practices Act and Certification compliance. The management of the Jetty Creek Watershed must also comply with state and federal regulations pertaining to forest management, threatened and endangered species, and source water protection.

The proposed policy sections include:

Forest Stewardship

Stream Buffers

Road Maintenance

Invasive Species and Chemical Use

Recreation and Public Access

These policies are intended as the minimum level of protection for the City of Rockaway Beach's fee simple ownership in the Jetty Creek Watershed. Each section includes background on the topic and a summary of the policy itself.

Management Zones

Our proposed management approach relies on dividing the watershed into three zones. These zones would allow varying degrees of management, road maintenance, public access, and ongoing monitoring. Each zone is described as follows, including both a description of the zone and a description of allowed activities. The allowed and prohibited activities are an initial proposal, for discussion in the 10/17 advisory committee meeting.

Zone 1

Location: Zone 1 is the inner zone, closest to source water and most sensitive to exogenous impacts from recreational access or stewardship activities. At a minimum, zone 1 will include a 150' buffer on all seasonal and perennial streams measured as a horizontal distance from the bank-full width. It is recommended to expand this protection to include steep slopes, areas with high landslide potential, and the upslope extent of roads falling partially within zone 1.

Activities: Prohibited activities within zone 1 would include heavy equipment use, with the exception of for road repairs or stream restoration activities, recreational development, construction of new roads, and commercial timber harvest (again, with the exception of to facilitate road repairs or stream restoration).

Zone 2

Location: Zone 2 falls outside of zone 1, but still within the drinking water source area. This area covers most of the watershed and has significant long-term impacts relating to forest composition and functional characteristics.

Activities: Zone 2 should be managed for long term development of species diversity, forest structural complexity, and old-forest functional characteristics. Within this zone, commercial and non-commercial stewardship activities can take place, as long as they comply with the forest management policies. Prohibited activities would include fire, livestock, and hunting. Recreation within this area should be discussed, however limited recreational development to reach zone 3 could be allowed, with the understanding that seasonal closures may take place both during high rainfall events and at level 2 or above fire restrictions.

Zone 3

Location: Zone 3 includes all forestland owned by the City outside of the drinking water source area.

Activities: Zone 3 allows for increased levels of commercial forest management, including those intended to generate revenue for the stewardship of the forest ownership. Recreational development is encouraged in zone 3 if it poses minimal risk of increasing public access within zone 1, or within zone 2 during property closures.