

Report #

State Historic Preservation Office Report Cover Page

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Author(s):

Agency/Client:

District/Contractor:

Agency/Client Report#:

Project Acres:

Survey Acres:

County(ies):

Township:

Range:

Section(s):

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Range:

Section(s):

Archaeological Permit Number(s):

Accession Number:

Reports submitted to:

Tribes:

UOMNCH:

LCIS:

Curation:

Report Addresses Testing:

Have tribes been
contacted or consulted?

List tribes:

List any other groups
contacted or consulted:

Report is associated with:

PA

MOA

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Report #

*State Historic Preservation Office
Report Location Continuation Sheet*

County(ies):

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State Historic Preservation Office Report Summary of Resources and NRHP Eligibility

Archaeological:

Site: Isolate: Built Environment: TCP: HPRCSIT: Other:

Count:

***Please be sure all archaeological forms have been submitted on-line**

***EVALUATE PROPERTIES UNDER ALL FOUR CRITERIA.
BE SURE TO INCLUDE JUSTIFICATION IN THE REPORT***

Oregon
On-Line

Form #: Trinomial: Temp# or Name: Criterion A: Criterion B: Criterion C: Criterion D:



ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY FOR THE NOBLE CREEK TIDEGATE REPLACEMENT PROJECT, COOS COUNTY, OREGON

January 18, 2024



ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY FOR THE PHASE III WINTER LAKE PROJECT, COOS COUNTY, OREGON

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Technical Report No. 23-328

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January 18, 2024

Keywords: pedestrian survey, subsurface testing, Coos County

MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

Project Title: Archaeological Survey for the Noble Creek Tidegate Replacement Project, Coos County, Oregon

Project Description: PaleoWest, LLC (PaleoWest) has been contracted by the Coos Soil and Water Conservation District (Coos SWCD) to conduct archaeological survey and testing for the proposed removal/replacement of the two main tidegates, improvements to 11 interior/secondary tidegates and culverts, channel improvements, dike redesign/repair, addition of designated riparian planting areas, development of off-channel livestock water options, and installation of livestock exclusion fencing (Project). The Area of Potential Effects (APE) is west of Noble Creek. The APE is also bounded by Oregon State Route 42 (OR-42) to the west, Lower Loop Road/Noble Creek Road/Bramble Lane to the east, and Roderick Road to the south. The Project is in the SW ¼ of Section 2, NE ¼ of Section 10, and the NW and NE ¼ of Section 11, Township (T) 27 South (S), Range (R) 13 West (W), Willamette Base Meridian.

Client: Coos SWCD

Agencies: United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)

PaleoWest Project No.: 23-0250

Land Status: Private

Project Location: SW ¼ of Section 2, NE ¼ of Section 10, and the NW ¼ and NE ¼ of Section 11, T27S, R13W, Willamette Base Meridian.

APE: 82.83 Acres (33.52 hectares)

Acres Surveyed: 78.71 Acres (31.85 hectares)

Excavation: 45 Shovel Test Probes

Dates of Fieldwork: May 24–27, 2023

Newly Recorded Cultural Resources within APE: 2 (2 sites)

Recommended NRHP Eligible Cultural Resources within Area of Potential Effects (APE): 1

Report Author(s): Simon Goldstone, Jonathan Keith, and Elliot Helmer

Report Date: January 18, 2024

ABSTRACT

PaleoWest has been contracted by the Coos Soil and Water Conservation District (Coos SWCD) to conduct archaeological survey and testing for the proposed update of tidegates, culverts, and channels east of Noble Creek and south of Isthmus Slough in Coos Bay, Coos County, Oregon.

The Area of Potential Effects (APE) is in the SW ¼ of Section 2, NE ¼ of Section 10, and the NW ¼ and NE ¼ of Section 11, T27S, R13W, Willamette Base Meridian. The APE is also bounded by OR-42 to the west, Lower Loop Road/Noble Creek Road/Bramble Lane to the east, and Roderick Road to the south. The APE is approximately 82.83 acres and ground disturbance is expected to vary in depth between 1-foot (ft) and 44-ft based on the specific Project element.

A site file search of the Oregon State Historic Preservation Office's (SHPO) online Oregon Archaeological Records Remote Access database found that one site (precontact) with a Smithsonian Trinomial and one historic property are within a 1-mile radius of the Project. No previously recorded cultural resources were located within the APE. Four reports have also been submitted within the search radius. A review of General Land Office survey maps, U.S. Geological Survey topographic maps, and historic aerial imagery indicates that by the mid-1800s, Euro-Americans were developing rapidly along the Isthmus Slough.

PaleoWest staff surveyed in 20-meter (m) intervals and conducted subsurface testing with shovel test probes (STPs) of the 82.83-acre APE, as recommended in SHPO field guidelines (2016), from May 24–27, 2023. The results led to the observation of two historic period sites (23-0250-01 and 23-0250-02), consisting of a railroad and loft barn foundation. The subsurface testing, 45 STPs, resulted in no positive probes. PaleoWest evaluated the railroad and recommends the resource to be considered eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) under criterion D. The loft barn foundation is recommended as not eligible for inclusion in the NRHP under all four criteria. Therefore, PaleoWest recommends a finding of **no adverse effect** as the proposed work will not impact the railroad. Avoidance is recommended around site 23-0250-01.

In the event that cultural resources are encountered during ground disturbing activities, all work must immediately cease within 30 m (100 feet [ft]) until a qualified archaeologist is able to review the find. If it is determined to be significant, it will need to be documented and evaluated for its eligibility for listing in the NRHP in consultation with SHPO, and tribes, as appropriate. Work must not resume in this area without the approval of a qualified archaeologist, SHPO, and the tribes if the find is determined to be significant.

If human remains are encountered during ground disturbing activities, all work must immediately cease within 30 m (100 ft) of the encounter, and the area must be secured. SHPO, appropriate tribes, and the Oregon State Police must be notified of the encounter. Work must not resume in this area without authorization from SHPO and the tribes.

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1. INTRODUCTION

PaleoWest, LLC (PaleoWest) has been contracted by the Coos Soil and Water Conservation District (Coos SWCD) to conduct archaeological survey and testing for the proposed tidegate replacement project along Noble Creek in Green Acres/Coos Bay, Coos County, Oregon (Project). The goal of the Project is to improve fish passage and access to tidal wetland habitats, as well as promote agricultural water quality, drainage, and flood control. The Project is planned within cattle pastures along Noble Creek with associated drainage channels and tidegates. At the time of PaleoWest's survey, the proposed Project included the removal/replacement of the 2 main tidegates, improvements to 11 interior/secondary tidegates and culverts, channel improvements, dike redesign/repair, adding designated riparian planting areas, development of off-channel livestock water options, and installing livestock exclusion fencing.

1.1 AREA OF POTENTIAL EFFECTS

The Area of Potential Effects (APE) is in the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 2, NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 10, and the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ and NE $\frac{1}{4}$ quarter of Section 11, Township (T) 27 South (S), Range (R) 13 West (W), Willamette Base Meridian. The APE consists of cattle pastures along Noble Creek, along with their associated drainage channels and tidegates (Figure 1-1 and Figure 1-2). The APE is also bounded by Oregon State Route 42 (OR-42) to the west, Lower Loop Road/Noble Creek Road/Bramble Lane to the east, and Roderick Road to the south. The horizontal APE is approximately 82.83 acres (33.52 hectares) and the vertical APE varies by project element between 1-foot (ft) to 44 (ft).

1.2 PROPOSED PROJECT ACTIVITIES

At the time of cultural resources study for the Project, the preferred approach to the proposed watershed improvements had yet to be finalized. The Project alternatives presented in Coos SWCD (2023) ground disturbance have variable vertical and horizontal extents and consequently pose different potential impacts to subsurface cultural resources. PaleoWest's archaeological survey included the location of all proposed project elements as of May 24 (Figure 1-2), when the survey took place, and therefore does not account for any project elements or changes in design added after that date. The expected dimensions of proposed project activities, and the design assumptions on which they are based, are presented in Table 1-1. Please note that these dimensions are updated as of December 7th, 2023, and are therefore not necessarily reflected in the project elements mapped in Figure 1-2.

Table 1.1: Proposed Project Activities with Associated Ground Disturbance

Project Activity	Maximum Depth	Total Areal Extent	Total Volume
Fill Ditch*	N/A	109,380 ft ² (10,162 m ³)	N/A
New Tidal Channel (<i>Note: channel detailed design and grading has not been completed yet. For these calculations we assumed a 6-ft bottom width, 2H:1V side slopes, and 3-ft depth</i>)	6.4 ft (2 m)	74,070 ft ² (6,881 m ³)	5,487 yd ³ (4,195 m ³)
Logs WW (<i>Driven depth</i>)	4 ft (1.2 m)	75,600 ft ² (7,023 m ³)	N/A
Remove and install Tidegate/Bridge at Green Acres (<i>Includes temporary and permanent excavation</i>)	15 ft (4.6 m)	4,872 ft ² (453 m ³)	1,467 yd ³ (1,122 m ³)
Driven piles for Bridge at Green Acres	44 ft (13.4 m)	252 ft ² (23 m ³)	N/A
Levee Culvert and Tide Gate Installation (<i>Includes temporary and permanent excavation</i>)	10.3 ft (3.1 m)	1,241 ft ² (115 m ³)	85 yd ³ (65 m ³)
Bramble Lane Culvert and Tide Gate Replacement	6.5 ft (2 m)	848 ft ² (79 m ³)	43 yd ³ (33 m ³)
Dike repair (<i>grubbing and leveling top of dike before placing compacted fill</i>)	1 ft (0.3 m)	13,816 ft ² (1,284 m ³)	1 yd ³ (0.75 m ³)
Pools (Pool design and grading has not been completed yet. For these calculations we assumed the bottom of the pools will be 5-ft below existing thalweg)	6 ft (1.8 m)	16,391 ft ² (1,523 m ³)	2,063 yd ³ (1,577 m ³)

*Includes earthmoving but not new ground disturbance. Fill may be taken from the excavation of new tidal channels.

1.3 PROJECT PERSONNEL

All archaeological resource work was conducted under the oversight of Principal Investigator Kim Johnson (M.S., RPA) and Project Manager Simon Goldstone (Ph.D., RPA). Fieldwork was performed between May 24–27, 2023, by Jonathan Keith (M.S.) and Cory Martinez (B.S.). Keith, Goldstone, and Elliot Helmer (Ph.D.) prepared the report. Johnson, Goldstone, Helmer, and Keith all meet or exceed the Secretary of the Interior's (SOI's) Professional Qualification Standards for Archaeology in accordance with Appendix A of 36 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 61. Johnson, Goldstone, and Keith are registered with the Oregon State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) as Oregon Revised Statutes (ORS) 390.235 qualified archaeologists.



Figure 1-1. APE location map.

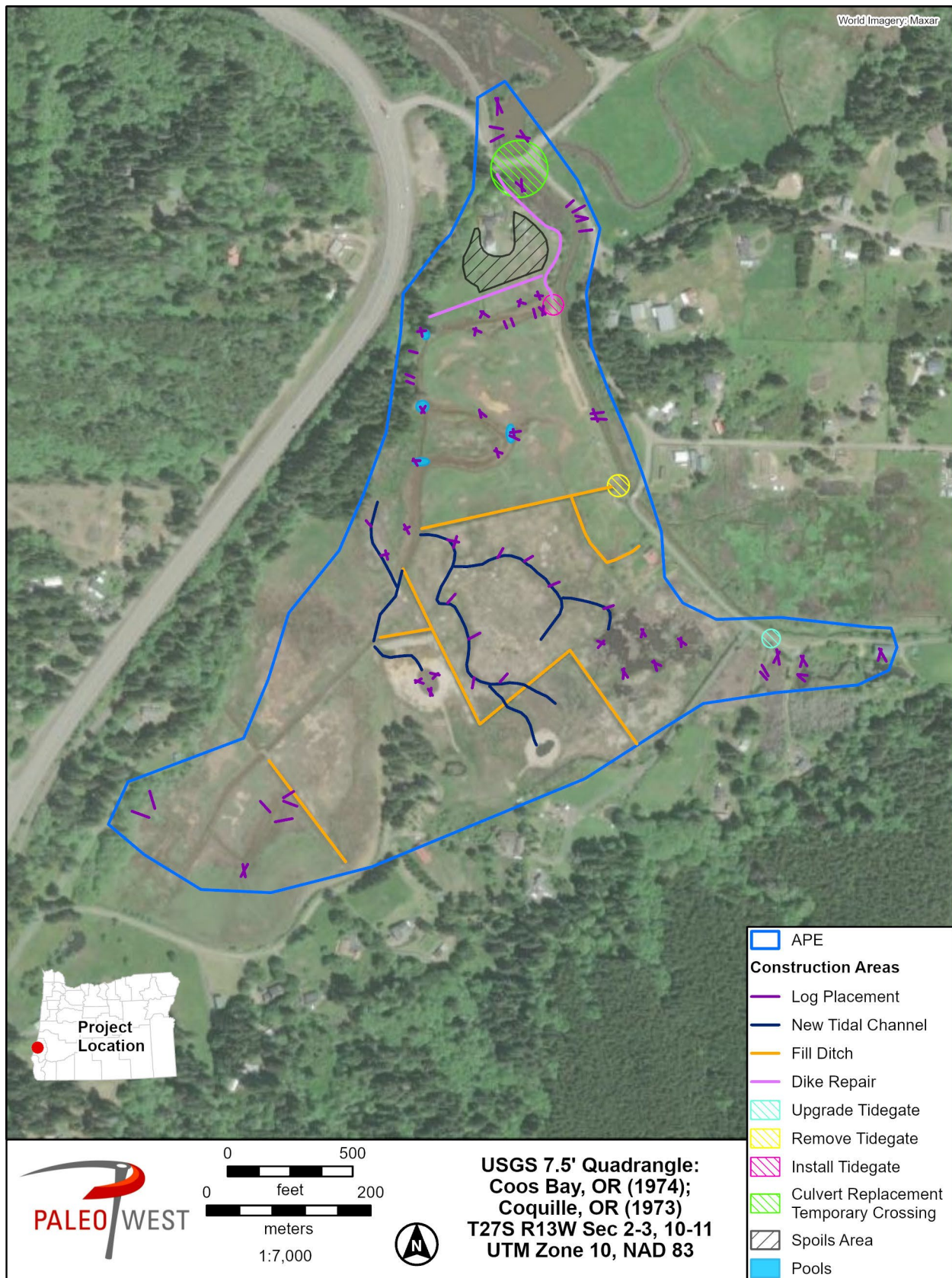


Figure 1-2. APE detail map. Project details as of May, 2023.

2 REGULATORY CONTEXT

As the Project involves federal permitting by the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), it is subject to Sections 110 and 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). Federal agencies are required to consider the effects of their undertakings on historic properties and afford the SHPO and other parties with a demonstrated interest a reasonable opportunity to comment on such undertakings (16 United States Code .470). Regulations for Protection of Historic Properties (36 CFR.800) define a process for responsible federal agencies to consult with SHPO or Tribal Historic Preservation Officer, Native American groups, other interested parties, and, when necessary, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation to ensure that historic properties are duly considered as federal undertakings and are planned and implemented.

For cultural resources, eligibility for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) is used as the benchmark for evaluating the significance of the identified precontact and historic-period resources. Cultural resources generally include archaeological sites, historic buildings and structures, artifacts, and places of traditional, religious, and cultural importance. "Historic properties" are cultural resources that are either listed or eligible for listing in the NRHP.

NHPA and its implementing regulations (36 CFR Part 800) provide the process and guidelines for historic property evaluations. To be determined eligible for inclusion in the NRHP, properties must be important in American history, architecture, archaeology, engineering, or culture. They also must possess integrity of location, design, settings, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, and meet at least one of the following four criteria:

- Criterion A:** are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- Criterion B:** are associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- Criterion C:** embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or possess high artistic values, or represent a significant distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction.
- Criterion D:** have yielded, or may be likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Properties can be of local, state, or national importance. Typically, historic properties are at least 50 years old, but younger properties can be considered for listing if they are of exceptional importance.

The integrity of a property is evaluated after the area of significance is established. Integrity refers both to the authenticity of a property's historic identity, as shown by the survival of physical characteristics that existed during its historic period, and to the ability of the property to convey its significance. This is often not an all-or-nothing scenario (determinations can be subjective); however, the final judgment must be based on the relationship between a property's features and its significance. Integrity includes seven aspects: location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. These aspects are defined as:

- Location:** The place where the historic property was constructed or the place where the historic event occurred.
- Design:** The combination of elements that create the form, plan, space, structure, and style of a property.
- Setting:** The physical environment of a historic property. Setting includes topographic features, open space, viewshed, landscape, vegetation, and artificial features.
- Materials:** The physical elements combined or deposited during a particular period of time and in a particular pattern or configuration to form a historic property.
- Workmanship:** The physical evidence of the labor and skill of a particular culture or people during any given period in history.
- Feeling:** A property's expression of the aesthetic or historic sense of a particular period of time.
- Association:** The direct link between an important historic event or person and a historic property. Under Criterion D, it is measured in the strength of association between data and important research questions.

Assessing integrity requires determining whether the property retains the identity for which it is significant. A property that retains integrity may possess several of the seven aspects, as well as the essential features that define why a property is significant and when it was significant. In general, archaeological sites eligible under Criteria A and B must retain excellent preservation of features, artifacts, and spatial relationships to convey important associations with events or persons. Under Criterion C, sites must retain most features to illustrate a site type, time period, method of construction, or work of a master. Overall condition is less important under Criterion D, in which integrity is based upon the property's data potential, as shown by intact or identifiable relationships among artifacts, features, and other elements of the site.

2.1 STATE OF OREGON REGULATIONS

The Oregon SHPO, within the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department in Salem, Oregon, administers the local NRHP program under the direction of the State Historic Preservation Officer. Resources listed in the NHRP include districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that are significant in American history, prehistory, architecture, archaeology, engineering, and culture. Many considerations of site definitions of eligibility under the state of Oregon mirror that of the NHPA; however, the following are mentioned in specific relation to the discovery of sites and inadvertent discoveries within the state of Oregon.

Oregon Administrative Rule 736-051-0090 states that a "person may not knowingly and intentionally excavate, injure, destroy or alter an archeological site or object or remove an archeological object from private lands in Oregon unless that activity is authorized by a permit issued pursuant to this rule..." An exception is provided for exploratory excavation to determine the presence of an archaeological site. If excavation of a site is required, an archaeological permit must be obtained to excavate or remove objects on private lands pursuant to ORS 358.920(1)(a) and 390.235 must submit a request to the Oregon State Parks and Recreation Director.

ORS 97.745 protects Native American graves and protected objects, including cairns, burials, human remains, funerary objects, sacred objects, and objects of cultural patrimony of any Native Indian. It describes acts prohibited in relation to the above resources, the applicability of the statute, and the notification procedures for when suspected Indian human remains are discovered.

The statute states:

1. Except as provided in ORS 97.750, no person shall willfully remove, mutilate, deface, injure, or destroy any cairn, burial, human remains, funerary object, sacred object or object of cultural patrimony of any native Indian. Persons disturbing native Indian cairns or burials through inadvertence, including by construction, mining, logging or agricultural activity, shall at their own expense reinter the human remains or funerary object under the supervision of the appropriate Indian tribe.
2. Except as authorized by the appropriate Indian tribe, no person shall:
 - a. Possess any native Indian artifacts, human remains, or funerary object having been taken from a native Indian cairn or burial in a manner other than that authorized under ORS 97.750.
 - b. Publicly display or exhibit any native Indian human remains, funerary object, sacred object or object of cultural patrimony.
 - c. Sell any native Indian artifacts, human remains, or funerary object having been taken from a native Indian cairn or burial or sell any sacred object or object of cultural patrimony.
3. This section does not apply to:
 - a. The possession or sale of native Indian artifacts discovered in or taken from locations other than native Indian cairns or burials; or
 - b. Actions taken in the performance of official law enforcement duties.
 - Any discovered human remains suspected to be native Indian shall be reported to the state police, the State Historic Preservation Officer, the appropriate Indian tribe, and the Commission on Indian Services.

3 ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

The Project is approximately 8.4 miles (mi) inland of the southern Oregon coastline, within the South Coast Basin of the Coast Range. The Oregon Coast has three distinct components that have driven its formation: the North American continental plate, the Juan de Fuca oceanic plate, and a volcanic formation known as Siletzia (Orr and Orr 2012). Around 50 million years ago, Siletzia, a volcanic seamount chain, collided and merged into the North American plate, becoming the basement of western Oregon up to the Western Cascades (Orr and Orr 2012). Most of the material resting above this surface is composed of fluvial material, volcanic detritus, and sand, which were deposited on the surface by various processes. The incorporation of this new mass into the North American plate increased volcanic activity, resulting in the many basalt flows that cover much of western Oregon (Orr and Orr 2012).

The other major component of Oregon Coastal geology is the Cascadia Subduction Zone (CSZ) that has largely altered the coastline and marks where the Juan de Fuca oceanic plate is being pushed under the

North American continental plate. Cyclical events of uplift and coseismic subsidence accompany this process, releasing when frictional pressure becomes too great. Such a subsidence event results in massive land movement along the coastline, submerged occupation surfaces, and landform changes (Davis et al. 2008). Four of these events have occurred over the last 2,000 years, the most recent in A.D. 1700 (Peterson et al. 2011). This cycle has implications for the range of plants and animals that would have been available to people living in Coos Bay and on the lower Coquille River (Tveskov and Cohen 2007).

The APE is on an alluvial terrace where Noble Creek flows into the Isthmus Slough at its southernmost point. The terrace has been used for agriculture and as livestock pastures since early European settlement of the area. The topography of the APE is characterized by stream terraces and flood plains surrounded by hill slopes of adjacent low-lying mountains.

The parent material is stated to primarily be alluvium and mixed alluvium derived from flood plains (Soil Survey Staff 2023). Minor parent materials originate from colluvium and residuum weathered from sedimentary rock derived from adjacent slopes. Elevation of the APE ranges from 3–38 feet (ft) above mean sea level (amsl), and majority of the soils form in places with elevations between 0–40 ft amsl. Various silty loam soils comprise much of the APE. Coquille silt loam dominates within the APE, with Langlois silty clay loam, and Templeton silt loam (7–30% slopes) also present (Table 3-1, and see Table 3-2 for the composition of these soils). The most common soils are poorly drained and have shallow depths to the water table.

Table 3.1. Soils within the APE (USDA NRCS 2023)

Soil Type	Map Symbol	Total % APE
Clatsop Mucky Peat	11	0.4%
Coquille Silt Loam	12	84.8%
Langlois Silty Clay Loam	34	5.6%
Templeton Silt Loam, 7–30% Slopes	54D	7.2%
Water	W	2.1%

Table 3.2. APE Common Soil Data (Soil Survey Staff 2023)

Soil Type	Parent Material	Landform	Slope	Profile	Minor Component	Drainage Class	Depth to Restrictive Feature	Depth to Water Table
Langlois silty clay loam	Mixed Alluvium	Flood Plains	0–1%	H1: 0–10 inches below surface (inbs) Silty clay loam H2: 10–28 inbs Silty Clay H3: 28–60 inbs Clay	Chetco and Coquille	Very Poorly Drained	>80 in	0 in
Coquille Silt loam	Alluvium	Flood Plains	0–1%	H1: 0–14 inbs Silt loam H2: 14–36 inbs Silty clay loam H3: 36–60 inbs: Silty clay loam	Langlois, Clatsop, and Chetco	Very Poorly Drained	>80 in	0 in
Templeton Silt Loam, 7–30% Slopes	Colluvium and residuum weathered from sedimentary rock	Flood Plains	7–30%	H1: 0–16 inbs Silt loam H2: 16–42 inbs Silt loam H3: 42–52 inbs Weathered bedrock	—	Well Drained	40–60 in	>80 in

The area is characteristic of the Southern Oregon Coastal Mountains ecoregion, which is both geologically and botanically diverse, as it sits on the transition zone between the Coast Range and the Siskiyou Mountains (Thorson et al. 2003). Vegetation is varied, consisting of a mix of coniferous and deciduous trees and shrubs, including grand fir (*Abies grandis*), Douglas-fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*), Port Orford cedar (*Chamaecyparis lawsoniana*), bigleaf maple (*Acer macrophyllum*), Oregon myrtle (*Umbellularia californica*), canyon live oak (*Quercus chrysolepis*), vine maple (*Acer circinatum*), salal (*Gaultheria shallon*), manzanita (*Arctostaphylos* sp.), Pacific rhododendron (*Rhododendron macrophyllum*), salmonberry (*Rubus spectabilis*), evergreen huckleberry (*Vaccinium ovatum*), red huckleberry (*Vaccinium parvifolium*), baldhip rose (*Rosa*

gymnocarpa), and Pacific poison oak (*Toxicodendron diversilobum*) (Franklin and Dyrness 1988). Within the APE, vegetation consists of bunchgrasses, *Juncus*, cattail (*Typha* sp.) meadow foxtail (*Alopecurus pratensis*), creeping buttercup (*Ranunculus repens*), skunk cabbage (*Lysichiton americanus*), silverweed (*Potentilla anserina*), Himalayan blackberry (*Rubus armeniacus*), Pacific blackberry (*Rubus ursinus*), red huckleberry, Oregon ash (*Fraxinus latifolia*), rusty menziesia (*Menziesia ferruginea*), western redcedar (*Thuja plicata*), western hemlock (*Tsuga heterophylla*), and Sitka spruce (*Picea sitchensis*) (Figure 3-1 to Figure 3-5).

Southern Oregon provides habitat for a diverse array of species, including large mammals such as Roosevelt elk (*Cervus canadensis roosevelti*), black-tailed deer (*Odocoileus hemionus*), white-tailed deer (*O. virginianus*), and black bear (*Ursus americanus*) (Moss and Erlandson 2008). Small mammals include bobcat (*Lynx rufus*), weasels (*Mustela* spp.), fox (*Vulpes fulva*), coyote (*Canis latrans*), raccoon (*Procyon lotor*), and mountain beaver (*Aplodontia rufa*). Common fur bearing species include beaver (*Castor canadensis*), muskrat (*Ondatra zibethicus*), river otter (*Lontra canadensis*), and mink (*Mustela vison*). Additionally, rabbits, ground squirrels, gophers, voles, chipmunks, and mice are common (Moss and Erlandson 2008). The coastline offers a greater abundance of species, including sea mammals, fish, mollusks and crustaceans, and a variety of migratory waterfowl and sea birds.

The Western Regional Climate Center (WRCC) maintains historic climate data collected from weather stations across the western United States. The nearest weather station to the APE is the Coquille City, Oregon weather station (351836). Climate data collected at this weather station from 1971 through 2016 documents an average daily January minimum temperature of 36.2 degrees Fahrenheit (°F) and an average August daily maximum temperature of 73.0°F. The area experiences relatively high amounts of precipitation, averaging about 54.94 inches (in) per year, with only 0.4 in of snowfall (WRCC (2023a). Table 3-3 provides comparative weather station for selected stations near the APE.

Table 3.3. List of Comparative Weather Station Data Collected near the APE (WRCC 2023b)

Weather Station	Years	Aug. Max/Min Daily Temp. (°F)	Jan. Max/Min Daily Temp. (°F)	Precipitation (in)	Snowfall (in)
Bandon 2 NNE, Oregon (350471)	1897–2016	66.8/50.6	53.5/38.5	55.55	0.8
Coquille City, Oregon (351836)	1971–2016	73.0/50.6	54.2/36.2	54.94	0.4
North Bend RGNLAP, Oregon (356073)	1902–2016	67.8/52.0	52.2/38.5	63.00	1.3
Drain, Oregon (352406)	1902–2016	83.5/49.6	48.2/34.4	46.40	2.4
Dora 2 W, Oregon (352370)	1969–1999	78.8/51.2	53.6/35.3	59.34	2.0



Figure 3-1. Field south of the house at 93190 Green Acres Lane, facing southwest.



Figure 3-2. At the southwestern corner of the APE, facing northeast.



Figure 3-3. Near the western end of the APE looking towards Luskin Drive, facing east.



Figure 3-4. By the southern fenceline south of a small pond, facing northeast.



Figure 3-5. Near the western boundary towards excluded inundated area and the boundary, facing southwest.

4 CULTURAL SETTING

The APE is located along the southern Oregon coast between the Coquille River and Coos Bay. This region has been inhabited by humans as early as the Terminal Pleistocene and Early Holocene (13,000–7,500 years ago). The following subsections detail cultural history of this region from its Pre-Contact to modern contexts.

4.1 PRECONTACT CONTEXT

In comparison to the rest of the Northwest Coast, relatively little archaeological research has been conducted on the southern Oregon Coast. This is a product of multiple factors, including complex tectonic processes that have destroyed or deeply buried significant portions of the archaeological record, a history of limited development and therefore less frequent cultural resource management investigations, and the lack of a robust ethnographic record from which to build archaeological inferences. Concerted efforts fill these gaps in archaeological knowledge began in the 1990s, following the establishment of the Southwest Oregon Research Project in 1995, which compiled historical documents pertaining to Indigenous peoples in Oregon for the explicit purpose to create an open and accessible archive of tribal histories for use in strengthening Coquille sovereignty (Wasson Jr. 2001; Younker 2005). This project launched a wave of research on Indigenous histories in southern Oregon and resulted in the compilation of over 110,000 pages of archival materials (Younker 2005) and the nomination of 89 Native American archaeological sites on the Oregon Coast to the National Register of Historic Places (Moss and Erlandson 1996). The following sections draw heavily on this history of research to

summarize the cultural chronology of southern Oregon and archaeological record of the Coquille River and Coos Bay regions, in particular.

4.1.1 Late Pleistocene and Early Holocene (13,000- 7,500 cal BP)

Like nearly every other coastal setting in the world, some of the oldest evidence for human occupation on the southern Oregon coast was submerged by the rising tides of Holocene oceans (Erlandson 2012; McLaren et al. 2020). However, its position within the Cascadia Subduction Zone (CSZ), the intersection of the Pacific and North American plates, has further complicated the identification of early settlement in the region, with tectonic cycles of coastal uplift and rapid subsidence events obscuring much of the archaeological record. A sample of radiocarbon dates taken from over 200 different archaeological sites on the Northwest Coast, including 140 from the Oregon coast, found that 90 percent were less than 1,500 years old (Erlandson and Moss 1999). However, many ancient geological contexts are preserved on the uplifted marine terraces that were formed through coastal wave action but are now safely located high above the modern shoreline. As a result, the southern Oregon Coast contains evidence of some of the oldest archaeological sites found on the Oregon coastline (Davis 2006; Davis et al. 2008; Punke and Davis 2006).

Several sites have been identified along the southern Oregon Coast that date to the Terminal Pleistocene and Early Holocene, including Indian Sands (35CU67; Davis et al. 2008), Neptune State Park (35LA3; Lyman 1991), Devil's Kitchen site (35CS9; Davis et al. 2006; Hall et al. 2005), Cape Blanco (35CS82; Minor and Greenspan 1991), Blacklock Point site (35CU75; Minor 1993), and Tahkenitch Landing (35DO130; Minor and Toepel 1986). Most of these sites have been exposed through erosion or deflation of surfaces, and often have more recent occupational surfaces directly overlaid as a result of that exposure, removing intervening years and complicating the association between cultural materials and radiocarbon dates (Aikens et al. 2011:222; Davis et al. 2008). More rare are those sites with stratified deposits of alluvial and/or aeolian sediments (Davis et al. 2008). One of these stratified sites, the Devil's Kitchen site, located approximately 16.5-miles southwest of the APE, preserves one of the oldest known cultural strata on the Oregon Coast, dating between 13,440 and 12,630 cal BP (Curteman 2015; McLaren et al. 2020).

The limited archaeological record for this period of time makes it difficult confidently to reconstruct the cultural practices associated with these early deposits. These sites are almost exclusively represented by lithic scatters and have thus been defined as a particular local site type known as "bluff sites" or "lithic sites," (Moss and Erlandson 2008; Ross 1984). As a result, the prevailing theory for most of the 20th century was that these sites were the result of limited, short-term use of the coast within a more terrestrially focused economy. Advances in geomorphology and improved reconstruction of local sea level history has since demonstrated that these "coastal" lithic sites were in fact located miles inland at the time they were occupied and are therefore not reflective of the use of coastal environments in the Terminal Pleistocene and Early Holocene. Furthermore, Early Holocene deposits at the Tahkenitch Landing site demonstrate a strong focus on marine and estuarine resources as early as 8815±130 cal BP (Minor and Toepel 1986), suggesting that the delayed appearance of marine resources in the local archaeological record is likely the result of taphonomic bias rather than the late adoption of a coastal subsistence economy.

4.1.2 Middle Holocene (7,500-2,500 cal BP)

The Middle Holocene archaeological record is much more robust than for the preceding periods, and includes the earliest appearance of significant shell midden deposits on the southern Oregon Coast. Well-documented archaeological sites on the southern Oregon Coast dating to the Middle Holocene include the Tahkenitch Landing site, Tseriadun (35CU7; Byram 2005; Cohen and Tveskov 2008), the Bussman site (35CS158; Tveskov and Cohen 2007), the Blue Barn site (35CS61; Tveskov and Cohen 2007), the Chappell Parkway Midden (35CS317; Tveskov and Johnson 2017), and the Goose Point site (35CS89; Tveskov et al. 2021). The first occupations at the Old Town Bandon site (35CS43) also dates to the Middle Holocene (Hall 1995a).

At several of these sites, namely the Bussman, Blue Barn, and Goose Point Sites, periodic coastal subsidence events deeply buried Middle Holocene cultural deposits beneath layers of blue mud characteristic of open estuarine environments. Such events not only transitioned the Coquille River and Coos Bay estuaries through cycles of tidal salt marsh and open bay, they facilitated the preservation of these Middle Holocene-age deposits and thus documented the persistence of local Indigenous communities within the incredibly dynamic local environment. The zooarchaeological record throughout the Middle Holocene, and especially at sites with multiple occupations, demonstrates the flexibility of Indigenous subsistence strategies and attests to the sophisticated ecological knowledge required to take advantage of these ecosystems (Tveskov and Cohen 2007).

4.1.3 Late Holocene (2,500 cal BP- Contact)

As noted above, the vast majority of archaeological sites on the Oregon Coast date to the Late Holocene, especially to the last 1,000 years. This is likely a product not only of the geological factors described previously, but also the hypothesized increase in population that has been observed in the Late Holocene record up and down the West Coast (Jones and Klar 2010; Matson and Coupland 1994). The Late Holocene is also characterized by the emergence of the Tuluwat Pattern (sensu Seidner and Mead 2006), a cultural pattern extending as far south as northern California that is defined by nucleated villages with numerous, small, single-family plank houses, finely flaked projectile points with barbs, concave base projectile points, notched and grooved net sinkers, stone dishes and lamps, tubular pipes made of stone or clay, flanged mauls and pestles, stone adze handles, and bone and shell artifacts carved with geometric designs (Connolly 1988; Frederickson 1973, 1984; Heizer and Elsasser 1964). Prestige artifacts such as obsidian blades, beads, and olivella, dentalium, and abalone (*Haliotis* sp.) ornaments appear to have been used as status items, signifying personal wealth and social ranking.

The Tuluwat Pattern has specifically been associated with the arrival of Dene (Athapaskan)-speaking communities from the north and was historically characterized as sparking significant change in local lifeways. However, archaeological research in southwestern Oregon, and especially on the coast, suggests that the Late Holocene is better understood as an extension of earlier cultural practices with the integration of new communities into existing traditions rather than a wholesale replacement. This is best exemplified in the continued use of seasonal camp locations from the Middle Holocene into the Late Holocene (Helmer 2019; Pullen 1982a; Tveskov 2007; Tveskov and Cohen 2007; Winthrop 1993) and the persistence of foliate, "Coquille Series" projectile points over the same period of time. Defined by Connolly (1986) as the Glade Tradition, this pattern of single-family household seasonal mobility and broad use of coastal species

facilitated cultural stability through flexibility, a necessity for living in dynamic ecosystems of southern Oregon Coast.

The Late Holocene archaeological record is therefore comprised of later occupations of seasonal camps first used during the Middle Holocene, such as at the Blue Barn, Bussman, and Goose Point sites; newly occupied seasonal camps and task specific sites like the Coquille Point site (35CS136), the Samuels site (35CS138), the Wu'al'atc site (35CS54), and the Graveyard Point site (35CS142; Tveskov 2000); and more permanent village occupations. The large number of Late Holocene fish weir sites that have been documented on the Coquille River were also likely associated with household-scale seasonal procurement of fish resources, although some are also spatially associated with more permanent villages (Byram 2002; Tveskov and Erlandson 2003).

Many of the Late Holocene archaeological village sites on the lower Coquille River are located on or near earlier seasonal occupations and can also be linked with ethnographically-recorded village locations, exemplifying Coquille ancestors' long-term commitment to place. Archaeologically documented village sites in what is now Bandon include K'amac'dvn (35CS2/3), Maet'ch-chae-dvn (35CS43), and the Bandon Sandspit site (35CS5; Tveskov 2000). It should be noted, however, that Coquille "villages" were often not nucleated settlements, but rather individual family plankhouses dispersed along the river (Tveskov 2002). Therefore, absent ethnographically-documented village names or evidence of plankhouse features, it can be difficult to archaeologically distinguish long-term seasonal occupations from permanent villages and, as will be discussed in the following section, such a distinction may not be particularly meaningful for understanding Coquille social organization.

4.2 ETHNOGRAPHIC CONTEXT

The APE is in the traditional lands of the Coos and Coquille peoples, including the Hanis Coos, Miluk Coos, and Mishikwut'me-dunne (Upper Coquille). Miluk is a Coosan language in the Penutian language family, traditionally spoken from approximately just south of Empire in Coos Bay and on South Slough, to south of the Coquille River. The second Coosan language, Hanis, was spoken by the communities living on Coos Bay and in the Coos Watershed north of Empire (Hall 1995b). Miluk and Hanis-speaking communities frequently interacted through trade and intermarriage, often coming together for important events and seasonal gatherings at locations like Gawedlae'ma''laes on Whiskey Run Beach (Tveskov 2000:289).

The communities living on the upper Coquille River, and south along the coast into California, spoke Nuu-wee-ya', a Dene language that linguists believe was brought into the region during the Late Holocene (Whistler and Bickel 1979). Nuu-wee-ya'-speaking communities on the southern Oregon Coast include the Mishikwut'me-dunne, Kwatami or Quatomah, Yu'kwí (Euchre Creek), Mikwanutni, Tututni, and Chetco, all of whom interacted to varying degrees with Miluk peoples (Hall 2021; Rippee and Tveskov 2021:4).

Although language is often used to differentiate between different Indigenous cultural groups on the southern Oregon Coast in the anthropological literature, in reality, marriage and other social relationships often cut across linguistic barriers and most people, especially women, spoke at least two of these languages (Hall 1995b). Tveskov (2002) summarizes the varying axes of social and political identity in Coos (Hanis) and Coquille (Miluk and Mishikwut'me-dunne) society and notes that speech communities (shared language), yetl-ein (local group of villages, i.e., Nasomah), household/village, and social class not only co-exist, but can be actively leveraged to access different habitats and receive financial or subsistence aid. Thus, while the

southern end of Isthmus Slough, where the APE is located, is within the Coos Watershed, it was also the northern end of the shortest overland portage between Coos Bay and the Coquille River in the south, making it a particularly important intersection in the cultural geography of the Coos and Coquille peoples.

Throughout southwestern Oregon, households and villages were functionally independent of one another, and Coquille “villages” can more accurately be described as loose aggregations of autonomous, single-family households of, typically, patrilineal kin. That is, if they were aggregated at all; many accounts from white traders and early settlers suggest this was often not the case, with “villages” often referring to a single plankhouse or a series of individual plankhouses spaced out along the river at varying densities (Hall and Hall 1995; Tveskov 2002, 2000). In an early history of Bandon, the site of Maet’ch-chae dvn was described similarly: “Their [the Nasomah] dwellings, in an irregular straggling course, reached from Wash creek at the bottom of Prospect Hill to Ferry creek,” (Bennett 1928:317). Villages and households did cooperate with one another, however, particularly with those settlements in their immediate vicinity, and these “local groups” were also often referred to using descriptions of their location in relation to geographic features or to other villages and local groups (Tveskov 2002).

Although households were largely autonomous, village or local group leaders, or “chiefs,” directed labor for important subsistence activities and ceremonies, and coordinated many of the interactions between villages. These leaders were chosen based on their personal charisma and skill, with status maintained by their ability to successfully fulfil their duties to the community. They were generally the wealthiest men in the village, with particular significance given to material goods that symbolized the leader’s ability to navigate extensive social networks, including traded foodstuffs, obsidian wealth blades, olivella and dentalium shell beads, and red woodpecker scalps. The intersection between subsistence, ceremony, social networks, and status is illustrated in Coquille Thompson’s description of the Nasomah coming to visit his Dene village at Chochrela dvn for the salmon ceremony:

He [the chief] didn’t fish of course. When first chinook [salmon] come in they have a big fence, and [Nasomah] people come up. They catch maybe five or ten—no fish down below so they come up and dance, 1, 2, or 3 nights. When [they] get enough to eat, [they] go back, pack[ing] fresh fish. (Jacobs 1933–1934[103]:105, cited in Tveskov 2002:38)

Giveaways, or potlatches, were of particular importance for reaffirming status because they exemplified a leader’s ability to accumulate excess wealth for redistribution. Leaders were expected to provide for community members and assist extended kin in times of need, and these more formalized potlatch ceremonies were therefore an opportunity for leaders to demonstrate their ability to uphold those obligations (Yunker 2003). If they were unable to fulfil these responsibilities, the community could either choose a new chief or simply relocate. Extensive kinship networks offered ample opportunities for such residential moves, as did the high degree of family autonomy provided by the household-scale subsistence economy that has defined the southern Oregon Coast for millennia.

With the exception of the mass capture of salmon and sea mammal hunts, which were coordinated by village leaders and often relied on seasonal aggregations of people from multiple communities, most subsistence tasks could be accomplished on a much smaller scale. Intertidal fish weirs, dip nets, and spears were used to take a diverse array of fish species from rivers and estuaries, including herring (*Clupea pallasii*), sturgeon (*Acipenser spp.*), lamprey

(*Entosphenus tridentatus*), cutthroat trout (*Oncorhynchus clarkii*), starry flounder (*Platichthys stellatus*), sole (*Eopsetta jordanii*), surfperch (Embiotocidae), and sculpin (Cottidae). The importance of intertidal fishing for Coquille people is attested to not only in the extensive archaeological record of fish weirs, but also the Nuw-wee-ya' name for one of the three Nasomah villages on the Coquille Estuary: Ni-les'dvn, which translates to "Small Fish Dam in the River Place," (Tveskov 2000; Tveskov and Cohen 2007).

Although the largest salmon fisheries were upriver in Mishikwut'me-dunne lands, salmon were also fished from the intertidal waters in Coos Bay and the Coquille Estuary (Tveskov 2000). The primary runs for the Coquille River are the fall runs of Chinook (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*) and Coho (*O. kisutch*), with lesser amounts of steelhead (*O. mykiss*) and other anadromous fish, including cutthroat trout, chum salmon (*O. keta*), and Pacific lamprey (*Entosphenus tridentatus*), also using the upper reaches of the river to spawn (Tveskov 2000; Weeks et al. 2003). The northern end of Isthmus Slough, where it feeds into Coos Bay along with the Coos River, Catching Slough, and Coalbank Slough, was an important location for tidewater salmon fishing. Lottie Evanhoff describes her father directly salmon fishing here in much the same way as described by Coquille Thompson for the Coquille:

My father [Coos chief Daloose Jackson] used always say that Graveyard Point was [his] father's home and my father went up to that place every summer, and since he was a chief would merely look on as his men were catching salmons there (Harrington 1942 [24]:102, cited in Tveskov 2000:153)

The tidal wetlands of Coquille Estuary also provide excellent habitat for waterfowl, which could be hunted with nets, snares, and bows and arrows. Estuarine shellfish species, including clams and crab, were collected during low tide and rocky coast species, like mussel (*Mytilus californianus*) and barnacle, could be pried from the rocks near the mouth of the Coquille River and around Coquille Point. During extreme low tides in the spring and summer, many of these rocks can be easily accessed by foot. The open coast is also home to a variety of fish, including greenlings (Hexagrammidae), Pacific halibut (*Hippoglossus stenolepis*), lingcod (*Ophiodon elongatus*), tomcod (*Microgadus spp.*), and other rockfish (*Sebastes spp.*), which were caught from canoes using bone fishhooks (Tveskov 2000).

Five species of pinniped are found on the Oregon Coast, the most common near the Coquille Estuary being Steller sea lion (*Eumetopias jubatus*), California sea lion (*Zalophus californianus*), and harbor seal (*Phoca vitulina*), with northern fur seal (*Callorhinus ursinus*) and elephant seal (*Mirounga angustirostris*) less frequently seen. Ethnographic accounts suggest that neither the Coquille nor their Coos neighbors hunted pinnipeds for meat, but rather used their blubber, oil, skins, and organs for a variety of dietary and manufacturing purposes (Tveskov 2000). Perhaps most important was the symbolic role of the sea mammal hunt as a way for leaders to demonstrate their prowess in coordinating and leading these often-dangerous excursions (Tveskov 2007). Sea otters, which were extirpated from the Oregon Coast by European and American fur traders around the turn of the twentieth century, were also hunted for their furs (Bailey and Hatch 2021).

In addition to the edible seaweeds that can be collected from the coast, other locally available plant foods include camas (*Camassia spp.*)—which historically grew in vast meadows on nearby coastal bluffs—skunk cabbage (*Lysichiton americanus*), and a number of different species of berry. Acorns are also an important food, and could be harvested from oak prairies in the broad valley of the lower Coquille River (Whereat Phillips 2016). The valleys and upland mountains

inland from the Coquille Estuary are also home to a number of important terrestrial species, including both larger game like elk (*Cervus canadensis*) and deer (*Odocoileus* spp.), as well as smaller species like mustelids and beaver (*Castor canadensis*), the latter of which were a primary driver of the earliest Euro-American expeditions into the area by fur trappers.

4.2.1 Colonization and Forced Removal

In 1826, Alexander McLeod led a party of fur trappers from the Hudson's Bay Company into southern Oregon. Although McLeod and his men were the first Western expedition to actually reach Coos Bay and the Coquille River, it is unlikely that local Native communities were entirely unaware of the white outsiders who were appearing with increasing frequency on the coasts to their north and south, and in the Willamette Valley to the east. The earliest written account of Indigenous people on the southern Oregon Coast describes the interactions between Captain George Vancouver and people living near Cape Blanco, 50 mi south of the Coquille River (Hall and Hall 1995). Furthermore, two years before the arrival of McLeod and his party, a smallpox epidemic had torn through the area and almost entirely wiped out several villages on the southern coast (Youst 1997).

McLeod's trappers made many exchanges of furs, fish, and "trinkets," with the Coos and Coquille they met in an effort to secure information and safe travel through their lands, and his party was able to maintain a generally reciprocal, though somewhat uneasy, relationship throughout the expedition (Hall and Hall 1995). The Coos and Coquille watersheds also supported comparatively smaller populations of beaver than elsewhere on the Northwest Coast, and both the coastline and mountains were notoriously difficult to navigate, further delaying colonial incursions into the region. Unfortunately, neither the fear of violence nor the treacherous terrain kept out a second epidemic, possibly measles, that swept through area in 1836 and cut the population of Coos Bay in half (Youst 1997).

Settlement did not begin in earnest until after the passage of the 1850 Oregon Donation Land Act (9 U.S. Stat. 496) made it easier for settlers to occupy unceded Native land (Tveskov 2001). At first, most white settlement was concentrated to the south, at Port Orford, but the discovery of gold on Whiskey Run Creek, 7 mi north of Coquille River, drew miners north in search of fortunes. Miners, and the new settlers that followed, routinely ignored tribal laws and policies set by Natives. Over time, fur traders, settlers, miners, entrepreneurs, and the military engaged in repeated acts of violence against the Natives (Lewis and Connolly 2019 ; Tveskov 2000; Wells 2006). As the pace of settlement in Coos and Curry Counties began to rapidly increase, hostilities also escalated until, on January 28th, 1854, they came to a devastating peak when miners from Randolph, on the Coquille River, massacred between 16–21 Nasomah (Miluk Coos) as they slept in their villages near what is now Bandon (Tveskov 2001).

It was in the midst of this violence that the first treaties were signed between Indigenous communities on the south coast of Oregon and the United States government. On September 20th, 1851, two treaties were signed by leaders from the Tututni, Yu'kwí, and Kwatami, and from the Ya-su-chah, ceding the land from south of the Coquille River to the Rogue River and from the Rogue River to Cape Ferrelo, respectively (Tveskov 2000). This treaty was never ratified, nor were the signatory tribes ever given the aid they were promised in return for ceding their lands. A second round of treaty signing occurred in 1855, after years of escalating violence convinced then Superintendent of Indian Affairs, Joel Palmer, that the only way to keep Native people safe from settler violence was to remove them from their lands (Tveskov

2001, 2000). A total of 293 village leaders and chiefs from the Oregon Coast signed the Coast Treaty of 1855, including representatives from the Alsea, Yaquina, Siletz, Tillamook, Siuslaw, Umpqua, Coos, Coquille, Tututni, and other southwest Oregon Dene communities. The Coast Treaty of 1855 both ceded Native lands and forced its signatories to relocate to the Coast Reservation in 1856, ostensibly for their own safety.

Because the treaty was never ratified, the government did not provide the tribes that signed any of the supplies or education they had been promised in exchange for ceding their lands. The conditions at Yachats, part of the Alsea Subagency, have been compared by Coquille anthropologist George Bundy Wasson Jr. to those of a concentration camp (Wasson 2001). Testimony from elders given in the 1938 land claim case organized by his father, George B. Wasson Sr., describes being treated like livestock (Tveskov 2000). People fed themselves with whatever traditional foods were available, especially shellfish, but starvation was rampant. Things only became worse after the best hunting and gathering areas on the reservation were opened to white settlement, leaving two discontinuous and much-reduced reservations at either end of what was once the 1.1 million acre Coast Reservation (Youst 1997).

4.2.2 Tribal Histories

Many of the members of CIT and CTCLUSI are the descendants of Native women who were allowed to stay on their traditional lands because of their marriages to white men (Tveskov 2007, 2000; Younker 2005). Others trace their lineage back to the Coquille and Coos people who returned to Coos County after the Alsea Subagency was officially closed in 1876, citing the expense required for the government to continue operating the southern portion of the former Coast Reservation. The people living at Yachats, which included Coquille, Coos, Lower Umpqua, Alsea, Siuslaw peoples, were given a choice to move to the Siletz Reservation, the northern fragment of the Coast Reservation, so that the land could be opened for settlement, or move back home to the south.

Despite the horrific conditions, the people had spent 20 years building a relationship with this new land and many people expressed dismay at being forced to leave it (Tveskov 2000; Youst 1997). After Yachats, many Coquille and Coos moved south, either back to Coos Bay and the Coquille River, or to the Siuslaw River just south of Yachats, an area that they would have been familiar with after years of visiting and intermarrying with the Siuslaw communities who still lived there (Youst 1997). Some did move to Siletz, and their descendants are now a part of the CTSI. Both CIT and CTSI therefore maintain close connections with the lands on the Coquille River in what is now Bandon, and they continue to steward their traditional lands as they have since time immemorial.

In 1887, the Dawes General Allotment Act was passed with the intention of assimilating Native people into white society by dividing remaining reservation lands into individual parcels and disrupting traditions of collective ownership. It also vastly reduced Tribal land bases across the country by opening "surplus" land to private ownership; the Siletz Reservation was reduced to only 44,000 acres after allotment, with 191,798 acres sold off to mostly white settlers and land speculators (Tveskov 2000). However, the Dawes Act also allowed Coos and Coquille people to apply for allotments closer to home, and many claims were filed on the Siuslaw and Umpqua Rivers, as well as on the South Slough of Coos Bay. In the 1890s, Coos (both Miluk and Hanis), Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw people began organizing to pursue land claims and voted on a tribal government in 1916 that would eventually become the CTCLUSI (CTCLUSI n.d.; Whereat

Phillips 2022). In 1941, a donated 6.12-acre parcel in Coos Bay was put into trust by the Bureau of Indian Affairs for use by the CTCLUSI, which remains the site of their Tribal Hall.

In the 1930s, George B. Wasson Sr., the son of white settler George R. Wasson and his South Slough Miluk wife Susan Adulsah, filed a petition to the United States Court of Claims in the hopes of restoring Coquille legal claims to their land. He organized Coos (both Miluk and Hanis), Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw elders to provide testimony demonstrating their knowledge of the land. The court did not accept the expertise of Native elders and their testimony was dismissed by the court as hearsay. Thus, in his second petition, Wasson relied on historical documents he compiled specifically from non-Native sources and on the testimony of an anthropologist, John P. Harrington, who had conducted fieldwork in southern Oregon in 1940. Unsurprisingly, it was this “expert” testimony that swayed the courts to grant the CIT, which in this filing included both Miluk and Mishikwut’me-dunne people, federal recognition in 1946 (Wasson 2001; Younker 2005).

Native American tribes and communities were severely impacted by the passage of the Western Oregon Indian Termination Act in 1954, which ended the federal government’s trust relationship with 61 Oregon tribes west of the Cascade Mountains. As a result, Native American lands were sold off or lost for unpaid taxes, and education benefits and government health services were terminated (Fixico 2022). Despite these setbacks, Native American groups worked relentlessly to regain federal recognition for their tribes. After a long legal and legislative battle, President Jimmy Carter signed Public Law 96-340 in 1977, which created a 3,063-acre reservation for the CTSI, making them the second tribe in the country to have their federal recognition restored (Fixico 2022). In 1984, President Ronald Reagan restored federal recognition to CTCLUSI with the signing of Public Law 98-481. Congress restored the Coquille’s trust relationship with the federal government on June 28, 1989, with the passage of Public Law 101-42 (CIT 2023; Fixico 2022).

Today, the CIT, the CTCLUSI, and the CTSI maintain their status as active partners in their respective communities and have taken many proactive measures to maintain sovereignty over their traditional lands and preserve their traditional practices. This includes the compilation of historical documents pertaining to Indigenous peoples in Oregon as part of the SWORP, the transfer of forest lands back to Tribal authority, partnerships with government agencies including the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW), and countless other programs aimed at language revitalization and cultural education (ODFW 2022, 2023; Tveskov and Cohen 2007; Wasson 2001; Younker 2005).

4.3 HISTORICAL CONTEXT

Although European exploration of the southern Oregon Coast began as early as the 1540s, when Spanish explorers Juan Rodriguez Cabrillo and Bartolome Ferrelo navigated the coastline during an expedition along the California coast (Taylor 1853), the rugged terrain of the Coast Ranges thwarted most of the earliest attempts to traverse the interior of Coos and Curry counties. The French-Canadian Hudson’s Bay Company, founded in 1821, was determined to find a travel route from the southern Oregon coast to the interior to facilitate the trapping and transport of beaver and otter furs. The Hudson’s Bay Company’s Alexander McLeod took a party well into the interior on the South Fork of the Coquille River before determining that the

Coquille, unlike the Umpqua, did not connect the coast with the valleys east of the Coast Range (Hall and Hall 1995).

Nonetheless, the McLeod party continued trapping beavers in the interior mountains between Coos Bay and the Rogue River, and met with Coos, Coquille, Umpqua, and Dene peoples from several communities on the coast and in the interior, primarily to negotiate trapping rights on Native lands and gain information about the alleged “great river” that would provide a navigable route through the mountains. On one of his trips to return to the Umpqua River from the Coquille, McLeod described the terrain of the southern Oregon Coast Ranges as “mountainous and broken and covered by much wood,” (McLeod n.d., cited in Hall and Hall 1995:13); on another, he remarked that “the mountains over which we must pass are covered with snow,” (McLeod n.d., cited in Hall and Hall 1995:15) and that the “awful aspect of the mountain” prevented one of his scouts from reaching the Umpqua Valley ahead of the party. This assessment of the terrain, along with several violent encounters between local Native people and McLeod, and later Jedidiah Smith, largely dissuaded Euro-Americans from attempting further incursions into the area for almost 30 years.

Following the California gold rush that began in 1849, interest in settling the Oregon coast and identifying an overland route or navigable waterway to the interior was renewed. William Tiechnor, hoping to capitalize on the wave of miners and settlers arriving in Oregon, established the town of Port Orford, approximately 10 kilometers southwest of the Edson Creek Project Locality, in 1851 (Nelson 2010, 2022). Tiechnor’s first attempt at settling Port Orford ended in the Battle of Battle Rock, a violent and poorly-documented clash between settlers and the local Quah-to-mah that left 17 Native people dead (Fitzhugh 2022). Once the town was more firmly established by the end of summer that same year, Tiechnor dispatched William T’Vault and a party of men to find a trail through the mountains. The terrain once again thwarted the quest for a safe passage to the interior, and the T’Vault expedition quickly became lost in the “rough, rugged, heavy, timbered, brushy” Klamath Mountains (Williams n.d.:12, cited in Tveskov 2000:393). Eventually, the T’vault party stumbled across the South Fork Coquille River, where they kidnapped a Nati j’dunne man (Upper Coquille from the area now known as Powers) as a guide and traveled downriver. Upon reaching the Coquille Estuary, the T’vault expedition incited a violent response from the K’ama’c dunne Nasomah, possibly after assaulting a Native man who was attempting to assist them. In response to the murder of nearly all members of the T’vault expedition, United State Army officer Colonel Silas Casey launched a retaliatory campaign that razed Coquille plankhouses along the river in 1851 (Hall and Hall 1995; Tveskov 2001).

After the forced removal of the local Indigenous peoples to the Coast Reservation to the north in 1856, and indeed facilitated by it, white settlement began to increase along the southern Oregon Coast west of the APE. The interior, however, remained largely uninhabited and undeveloped, as it does today. The gold rush eventually waned and new industries began to dominate the local economy, including coal mining, fishing, dairy farming, and logging. Of the main coastal industries, logging is the longest lasting and has been important to the survival of many communities. Port Orford cedar was a particularly desirable tree on the southern coast and drove logging operations around Port Orford and the Coquille River (Wells 2006). The logging industry has thus been one of the primary drivers of development in the APE.

The city of Coquille was established by colonial settlers several decades after Indigenous relocation due to treaties signed in 1851 and 1855 (Dunn 2022). In 1870 a post office was

opened in the area and a sawmill was built in 1880 by Bunch, Bennett & Co., which led to incorporation of the town in 1885 (Dunn 2022). Increased transportation led to a boom for the town as a lumber provider, which occurred due to a wagon road constructed in 1886 and a railroad constructed by Coos Bay Roseburg & Eastern Railroad & Navigation Co. in 1893. A second mill was built in 1887; after it burned in 1910, another mill was built in 1911 by the Coquille Lumber Company (Dunn 2022). Creameries and mines also emerged during this time and eventually, in 1929, another mill, Smith Wood Products, was established and through several changes in ownership, it has become the Roseburg Forest Products mill, and as is a large employer in the present day (Dunn 2022).

4.3.1 Site Specific History

The earliest available maps of the APE are three General Land Office (GLO) survey maps dating to December 7, 1857, January 9, 1872, and March 26, 1872. On the 1857 and January 1872 maps, Sections 2, 10, and 11 of T27S R13W are not depicted (GLO 1857, 1872a). The subsequent GLO survey map from March 1872 depicts Sections 2, 10, and 11, and shows three homesteads and a railroad. In Section 2, the APE is near/within the Pratt and Aiken Homesteads (GLO 1872b), but no other features are observed. In Section 10, the APE is near/within the Hall homestead, which is also adjacent to the Isthmus Railroad (GLO 1872b). Finally, in Section 11 the Hall homestead is present (GLO 1872b).

Land patents observed show all homesteads filed holdings in Section 2 (Table 5-4). Gilbert Hall filed a patent (Accession No. AGS-0360-114) on March 1, 1873, for aliquots in Sections 2, 3, and 10 of T27S, R13W (BLM 2023; GLO 1873). George W. Pratt filed a patent (Accession No. ORRAA 037703) on October 1, 1875, for aliquots in Sections 1, 2, 11, and 12 of T27, R13W (BLM 2023). Finally, James Aiken filed two patents (Accession No. ORRAA 037723 and ORRAA 037729) on December 30, 1878, and May 15, 1883, for aliquots in Sections 2 and 11 of T27S, R13W (BLM 2023). Based on these findings, features or artifacts from these occupations may be present within the APE.

An 1898 Coos Bay, Oregon 30-minute U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) topographic map shows numerous structures in the vicinity of the APE, likely associated with the farms adjacent to Noble Creek, although no structures are depicted in the APE at the time (USGS 1898). The entirety of the APE is depicted as undeveloped wetland on this map (USGS 1898). The map details are consistent until two maps from 1942, the 15-minute Coos Bay, Oregon and 15-minute Coquille, Oregon USGS topographic maps, were produced (USGS 1942a, 1942b).

The 1942 15-minute Coos Bay map depicts a structure within the northern boundary of the APE and shows the development of Green Acres, along with roads and U.S. Highway 101 running adjacent to the Southern Pacific Rail Line (USGS 1942a). The 1942 15-minute Coquille map shows an increase in structures, likely residences, along the developing roads in the vicinity (USGS 1942b). Larger scale maps produced in 1971 (7.5-minute Coos Bay and 7.5-minute Coquille Quadrangle USGS topographic maps) showing no significant developments in the area, although the APE is shown in enough detail that some canals are depicted on the map (USGS 1971a, 1971b). Historic aerials show little development or change within the APE and surrounding areas between 1942 and 2020 (Nationwide Environmental Title Research [NETR] 2023).

Table 4.1. Land Patents Filled in the APE, T28S, R14W (Willamette) (BLM 2023)

Accession No.	Owner(s)	Date	Section	Aliquots
AGS-0360-095/ ORRAA 037672	SIMPSON, JOHN F	8/10/1872	10	N½SW¼, SW¼NW¼, NW¼SE¼
AGS-0360-114/ ORRAA 037677	HALL, GILBERT	3/1/1873	2	Lot/Tract 8, Lot/Tract 9
			10	E½NE¼
AGS-0360-148/ ORRAA 037688	BEYERLE, CHRISTIAN	12/16/1873	10	N½NW¼, SE¼NW¼, SW¼NE¼
ORRAA 020684	COOS BAY MILITARY WAGON RD CO	2/12/1875	11	W½, SE¼, S½NE¼
ORRAA 037703	PRATT, GEORGE W	10/1/1875	2	NE¼NE¼
			11	NW¼NW¼
ORRAA 037704	DUNHAM, JOHN F	10/1/1875	10	S½S½
ORRAA 037752	GILBERT, J B	4/1/1876	2	Lot/Tract 3, Lot/Tract 4, Lot/Track 5
ORRAA 037715	WILLEDGE, RODERICK	10/10/1876	2	SE¼NE¼, NE¼SE¼, Lot/Tract 1, Lot/Tract 2
ORRAA 037723	AIKEN, JAMES	12/30/1878	2	SW¼NE¼, NW¼SE¼, Lot/Tract 6, Lot/Tract 7
ORRAA 037729	AIKEN, JAMES	5/15/1883	2	SW¼SE¼
			11	NW¼NE¼
ORRAA 037738	NOBLE, WILLIAM H	5/3/1889	10	NW¼NE¼
ORRAA 037742	RHODES, GEORGE T	12/31/1890	10	NE¼SE¼
ORRAA 037750	THOMASON, JOHN W	2/7/1893	2	SE¼NW¼
AGS-0433-230/ ORRAA 037752 01	GILBERT, J B	4/30/1896	2	Lot/Tract 3, Lot/Tract 4, Lot/Tract 5
ORRAA 036722	STATE OF OREGON	4/6/1903	11	NW¼NW¼
ORORAA 020698	SOUTHERN OREGON COMPANY	2/27/1919	11	S½, S½NE¼, SE¼NW¼
870385	CHANDLER, BEN R	6/28/1922	11	S½
1017235	SCHOOLCRAFT, JAMES E	6/22/1928	11	S½NE¼, SE¼NW¼
1097978	YOAKAM, EDWIN D	7/13/1939	11	SW¼

5 PREVIOUS ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS

A site file search of the Oregon SHPO's online Oregon Archaeological Records Remote Access (OARRA) database was conducted on April 5, 2023, by Jonathan Keith. The search found one previously recorded site within a 1-mi radius of the APE, though the site doesn't intersect with the APE (Figure 5-1 and Table 5-1). The site, 35CS100, was originally recorded as a lithic scatter along a ridgetop in 1982 by R. Pullen. The 1982 recording included the observation of one expanding stem and one contracting stem projectile points with cryptocrystalline silicate (CCS) and obsidian flakes (Pattee et al. 2019; Pullen 1982b). The site was revisited in 2012, 2013, and 2019, but no artifacts were observed. The site was given an unevaluated/important designation as more ridge exploration may determine if remnants are still present. A historic site (34479), found through the Historic Sites Database, also falls within the 1-mi buffer, but is not within the APE (Table 5-2) (Oregon Historic Sites Database 1976).

Table 5.1. Previously Recorded Sites within One Mile of the APE.

Site No.	Site Type	NRHP Eligibility	Comments
35CS228	Precontact Lithic Scatter	Unevaluated/Important	CCS and obsidian debitage and flakes along with an expanding and contracting stem projectile point.

Table 5.2. Historic-Era Sites within One Mile of the APE.

Resource ID	Name	Evaluation	Address	Year Built	In APE?
34479	Overland Landmark	Eligible/Contributing	Highway 42, 10 mi South Coos Bay, north of Confusion Hill Road	1930	No

Four reports in the OARRA database have also been submitted within the search radius (Table 5-3), only one of which intersects the APE. The survey that intersects the APE was related to the replacement/repair of bridge 03172A (Cabebe 2006). One project in the area has occurred for road improvement (Connolly 2000) and two were related to telecommunications work (Holschuh and Gall 2013; Pattee et al. 2019).

Table 5.3. Previous Cultural Investigations within One Mile of the APE.

Report No.	Title	Author	Year	Intersects APE?
17275	Archaeological Survey of the Overland Road-China Creek Road Section (MP 4-MP 7.8), Coos Bay-Roseburg Highway (OR42), Coos County	Connolly, Thomas J.	2000	No
20925	Archaeological Survey of Bridge 03172A (Oregon Highway 42 over the Central Oregon & Pacific Railroad, Overland, Oregon, at Milepoint 4.14), Coos County	Cabebe, Teresa E.	2006	Yes
25692	Archaeological Damage Assessment of Site 35CS100, The Greenacres Telecommunications Facility, Coos County, Oregon	Holschuh, Dana, and Alexander W. Gall	2013	No

30758	Results of a Cultural Resources Study Related to the Proposed GREENACRES Telecommunications Facility Expansion Project, Coos County, Oregon	Pattee, Donald D., Bill R. Roulette, and Aimee A. Finley	2019	No
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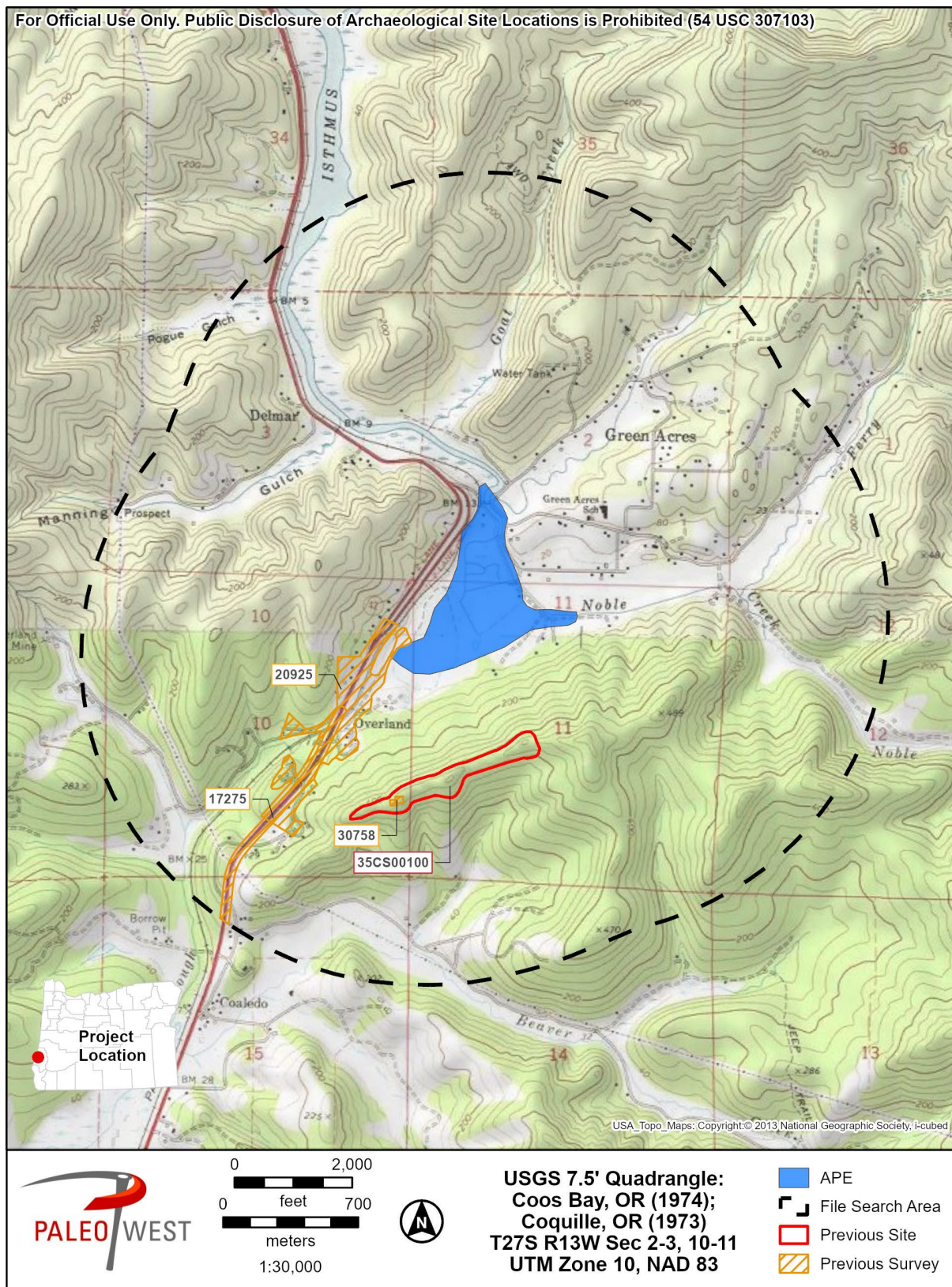


Figure 5-1. Previous projects and identified cultural resources within 1 mi of the APE.

6 METHODS

6.1 FIELD METHODS

PaleoWest crew members conducted a pedestrian survey of the APE from May 24, 2023, to May 27, 2023. The survey and field personnel included field director Jonathan P. Keith (M.S), archaeologist Cory Martinez (B.S.), and Coquille Tribal Monitor Jesse Davis. The pedestrian survey was to cover the entire 82.57-acre APE using transect intervals of 20 meters (m). However, due to private property with gated fences, 2.74-acres were not able to be surveyed in the southeastern extent of the APE; additionally, there was also an inaccessible 1.38-acre inundated island (surrounded by channels) just east of the railroad, which was avoided. In total 4.12 acres of the APE were not surveyed, leaving 78.71 acres surveyed during the pedestrian component of the undertaking.

PaleoWest staff first surveyed the APE at 20-m transect intervals. Pedestrian survey transect intervals were established based on SHPO field guidelines for intensive survey coverage (SHPO 2016:30), as well as the size of the APE. Pedestrian survey was also conducted to see if not only surface artifacts were present but if any Pre-Contact or historic-era features were observable on the ground surface. PaleoWest also excavated 45 Shovel Test Probes (STPs) placed at each tidegate location and along the proposed channel enhancements and culvert paths, at 30-meter intervals. Excavated STPs were 30 centimeter (cm) in diameter and were excavated to a minimum depth of 50 cm, or until restrictive features were encountered; STPs were also augured to 100 cm with a 10 cm mud auger to test for deeper deposits. All sediments were screened through 0.25-in hardware mesh. Any cultural materials that were encountered during testing were collected for analysis and curation.

CONDITIONS

The APE conditions were dependent upon the specific pastures. The southern segments were found to be heavily inundated with water. South of the one-story house (93280 Bramble Lane), the water and cattail growth was dense; and the southeastern portion was also very marshy; most of the ground, while having grazed grasses, was not stable, and many spots of seemingly stable ground sunk in at least 10–15 cm when stepped on. The only area with somewhat stabile soils was the parcels north of Luskin Drive to the house at 93190 Green Acres Lane where cattle were grazing.

Vegetation in the pasture and inundated areas was dominated by bunchgrasses, *Juncus*, cattail, meadow foxtail, creeping buttercup, skunk cabbage, and silverweed. Little to no trees or large shrubs are present in this area other than a few by the houses. On the western end of the APE, the hillslope besides the railroad, is covered in a dense understory, which included Himalayan blackberry, Pacific blackberry, red huckleberry, Oregon ash, rusty menziesia, western redcedar, western hemlock, and Sitka spruce. Much of the property was segmented by a series of channels and barbed-wire fences, making traversing between fields difficult. The channels consisted of very sticky mud that was difficult to traverse, even in low tide, so these could not be crossed other than at specific spots. Weather was cloudy with temperatures generally ranging in the low 50°F in the mornings but increased to the low to mid 60°F later in the day. Rain was encountered on most days, but it was only short and light showers. Trash and

modern refuse were fairly common along some of the exposed channels, though it was more common at spots by water troughs or culvert/tide gate infrastructure.

Ground surface visibility throughout the APE was extremely low, averaging around 0–5 percent. The areas without grazed grasses, particularly within the cattail covered areas and western tree line, were often inundated and had a 0 percent mineral sediment visibility. The areas by existing channels, dirt two tracks, ponds, and pasture/berms by the house to the north had the best ground visibility, with limitations from dense grasses resulting in 5–10 percent mineral sediment visibility. Some areas, like the ponds, were covered in decomposing cow and waterfowl feces along with grasses, which means that the ground surface within the APE, especially in the southern portion have a thick humus layer.

6.2 DATA COLLECTION

Shapefiles for the APE were uploaded into a Field Maps project hosted on an iPad mini connected to a Juniper Systems Geode GNSS unit. The GNSS receiver provided sub-meter locational accuracy with real-time differential correction. Claris FileMaker Go 19.6.1.39 software were used to maintain field notes and digital photograph records. FileMaker software was used to generate field notes describing terrain, vegetation, and cultural materials. PaleoWest archaeologists used FileMaker software installed on iPad minis for completing testing records, populating photograph logs, and referencing spatial, archaeological, and geological information. Digital photographs were taken with an iPad mini (5th Generation) with a built-in 8-megapixel camera and *f*/2.4 aperture, which are digitally stamped with pertinent spatial data (altitude and UTM coordinates), site and feature information, date and time, and azimuth/bearing for ease of reference.

PaleoWest created a digital photographic record of the Project that documented the survey area, any identified site, and any diagnostic artifacts. A representative sample of Project overview photographs was also taken. A log of all photographs that documented the subject matter, photographer, and orientation was maintained.

7 RESULT OF FIELDWORK

7.1 FIELDWORK OVERVIEW

PaleoWest conducted an intensive pedestrian survey of the APE parcel between May 24–25, 2023, using 20-m transect intervals. PaleoWest also excavated 45 shovel test probes (STPs) along pre-determined areas of impact prior to fieldwork. Subsurface testing at the APE occurred between May 25–27, 2023.

7.2 FIELD RESULTS

During the pedestrian survey, only two sites (23-0250-01 and 23-0250-02) were recorded, and no isolates were encountered (Figure 7-1). Both sites are historic-era; one site is a railroad segment (23-0250-01), and the other is the remaining foundation of a mid-twentieth century loft barn (23-0250-02). The sites, while containing features, lacked any artifacts. During the subsurface testing component, none of the STPs yielded cultural materials. Most of the STPs contained large amounts of clay and some mottling, with distinctive differences in soil

colorations likely indicating that some level of earthmoving has occurred, particularly near existing channels, culverts, and tidegates. See Table 7-1 for an overview of the subsurface testing component of the Project. The complete log of STP results is provided in Appendix A. The water table in many spots was often encountered before 50 cm below surface (cmbs) and when augering began, although it was deeper at some areas of existing infrastructure; see Figure 7-2 and Figure 7-3 for examples. Parts of APE were unable to be surveyed using either pedestrian transects or shovel testing due to saturated soil conditions and access/safety concerns (see above). These unsurveyed areas are depicted in Figure 7-1.

Table 7-1. Summary of the STP Results

Project Activity	Total STPs	Positive STPs	Maximum Depth Achieved
Fill Ditch	5	0	120 cmbs*
New Tidal Channel	28	0	110 cmbs
Log Placement	1	0	110 cmbs
Tidegate/Culvert Removal/Replacement	5	0	120 cmbs
Dike Repair	4	0	110 cmbs
Culvert Replacement (Temporary Crossing)	2	0	105 cmbs
Total:	45	0	—

*Centimeters below surface

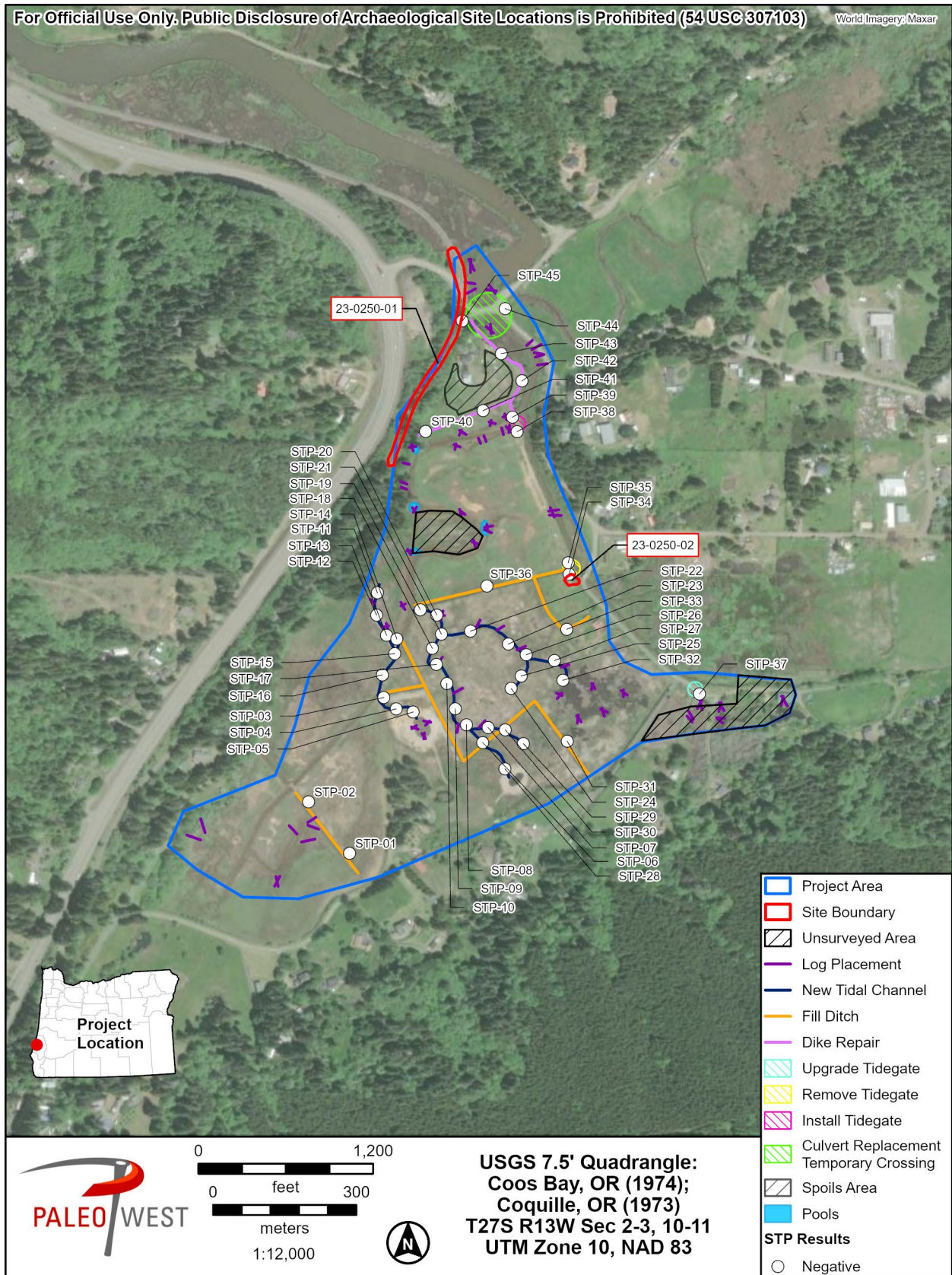


Figure 7-1. Results of survey map.



Figure 7-2. Overview of more inundated areas near STP-23, facing northeast.



Figure 7-3. Overview of area near existing infrastructure at STP 42, facing northeast.

7.2.1 Site 23-0250-01

Site Type: Historic Period Southern Pacific Railroad/Isthmus Transit Railroad Segment

Temporal Period: circa 1870s–Present

Site Size: 346.9 × 18.2 m (3,698.4 m²/0.91 acres)

Elevation: 14 ft amsl

NRHP Recommendation: Eligible

Site Description

Site 23-0250-01 (Figure 7-4 and Figure 7-5) is a newly recorded historic period segment of the Southern Pacific/Isthmus Transit Railroad documented by PaleoWest on May 24, 2023. The site is an 1870s historic period rail line, which is still used in the present day. The rail follows U.S. Highway 101 on the northern path until a split with OR-42 is reached at Davis Slough, where the rail continues southward along OR-42. The 134-mi rail connects Coquille with Eugene and is primarily used to transport products such as lumber, wood chips, and plate steel (Union Pacific 2023). The segment observed in the APE crosses Green Acres Lane.

The railroad first appears on the March 1872 GLO maps labeled as Isthmus Railroad, and it appears on the 1898 Coos Bay, Oregon 30-minute USGS topographic map as Coos Bay Roseburg and Eastern Railroad (GLO 1872b; USGS 1898). In the 1937 edition of the 1900 Coos Bay, Oregon 30-minute, 1942 Coos Bay, Oregon 15-minute and the 1971 Coos Bay, Oregon 7.5-minute USGS topographic maps the railroad is labeled as “Southern Pacific”, indicating a change in ownership in the early twentieth century (USGS 1900, 1942a, 1971a). The rail line originally used handcarts and mule pulled carts, but in 1874 it was expanded for steel rails to accommodate Coos Bay Union Coal and Navigation Company steam locomotives (Oregon Historic Sites Database 1976; Ruppenstein 2023). The expansion was a result of the growing logging and milling industry in the area (Oregon International Port of Coos Bay 2020). The rail became known as the Coos Bay Rail Line, and was operated by Southern Pacific Transportation Co. until 1996. After several changes of hands between RAILTEX and RailAmerica, it ceased operations in 2007 (Oregon International Port of Coos Bay 2020; Union Pacific 2023). However, after purchase by the International Port of Coos Bay in 2009, operations were restored in 2011 (Union Pacific 2023).

The grade is around 2 ft high and is approximately 25 ft wide. The gravel appears to have been imported in the last several decades due to a lack of weathering. The railroad ties are around 105 in long and are 9 × 9 in wide/thick. The rails are spaced around 56.5 in apart. The rails are 3 in wide at the top and 11 in wide at the base, with a height of 9 in. The area around the rail is fairly forested, and a railroad crossing with Green Acres Lane is present in the APE (Figure 7-6 to Figure 7-9). No artifacts were observed in association with the railroad and only modern refuse was present along the grade.

Sediments are a brown silt, and contain a large amount of gravels, roots, and duff. Surface visibility was approximately 5 percent. Although the depth of the soils likely exceeds 1 m, the only buried artifacts are likely from older refuse of the tracks. The site is in good condition, as it continues to be used and is maintained, though the components are likely not original and many have likely been replaced. Vegetation at the site is primarily Himalayan blackberry, Pacific blackberry, red huckleberry, skunk cabbage, Oregon ash, rusty menziesia, western redcedar, western hemlock, and Sitka spruce.

Current disturbance to the site includes adjacent road maintenance (for OR-42), railroad maintenance, and alluvial erosion.

Discussion and NRHP Recommendation

Because only part of the rail was recorded, this evaluation only refers to the currently observed segment. The site represents a continuously used Southern Pacific/Isthmus Transit Railroad, which has operated from the 1870s to the present, as the earliest map depicting the railroad segment is a March 1872 GLO survey map and an 1898 Coos Bay, Oregon 30-minute topographic map (GLO 1872b; USGS 1898).

The site maintains aspects of integrity in association, setting, materials, design, location, workmanship, and feeling. While many parts of the rail line have likely been replaced and maintained over time, its construction is fairly consistent to how it would have been established and constructed in the mid to late-1870s. Thus, these aspects of integrity have only been minimal negatively impacted.

The railroad is an important site in relation to the milling and logging industry of Coos County and the surrounding region. The railroad's construction not only effected the region's industry and economy of the time, but also led to the population boom of various coastal and inland communities in southwestern Oregon, particularly in Coos County. The railroad's impact can be seen today in the milling plants and operations which are still running due to its existence; these remaining industries act as a large employer in many of the local towns and cities. The site is recommended eligible for inclusion in the NRHP under Criterion A. There is no documented evidence of specific important individuals on a regional or local level who constructed or used this site. The site is recommended not eligible for inclusion in the NRHP under Criterion B. The railroad segment is not unique in its construction or design to other railroads in the area and region, thus the line lacks distinctive characteristics of design or construction that separates it from other railroads; considering its common design, the site is recommended not eligible for inclusion in the NRHP under Criterion C. Depth potential associated does exist with the rail, due to it being covered by a wide (at least 25 ft) grade, which has likely been regraded and recovered over time; however, any buried artifacts would likely be from old parts of the feature, and artifacts encountered are unlikely to yield significant information adding to the existing site narrative or generate information important to prehistory or history of the area. Therefore, the site is recommended not eligible for inclusion in the NRHP under Criterion D.

Considering the aspects of integrity remaining, even with maintenance over time, the railroad is an important site related to the historic-era development of the logging and milling industry in Coos County and the region. As such, the site is recommended **eligible** for inclusion in the NRHP under **Criterion A** and avoidance is advised.

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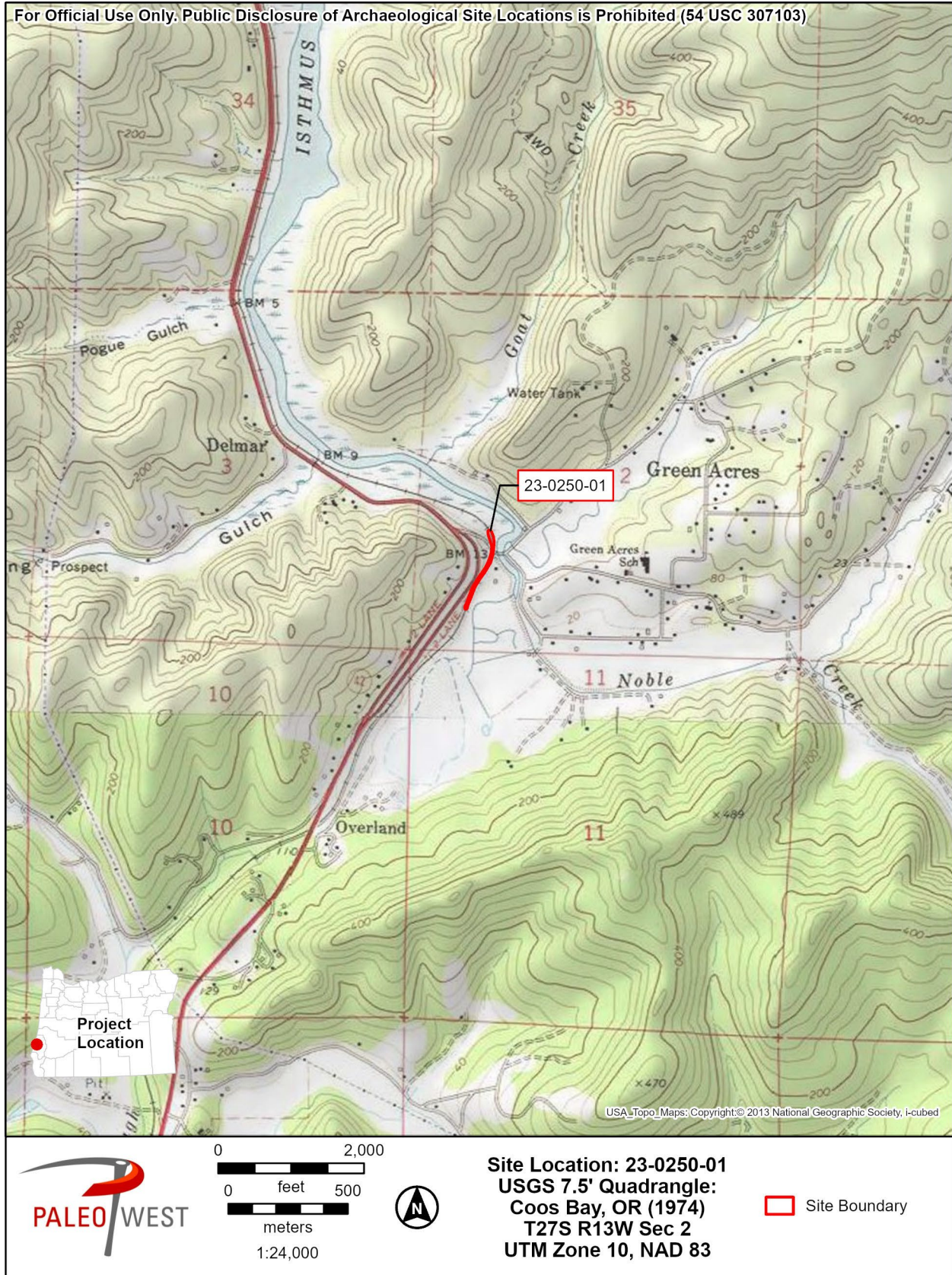


Figure 7-4. Site 23-0250-01 location map.

For Official Use Only. Public Disclosure of Archaeological Site Locations is Prohibited (54 USC 307103)
Site Datum: 401292mE, 4789979mN

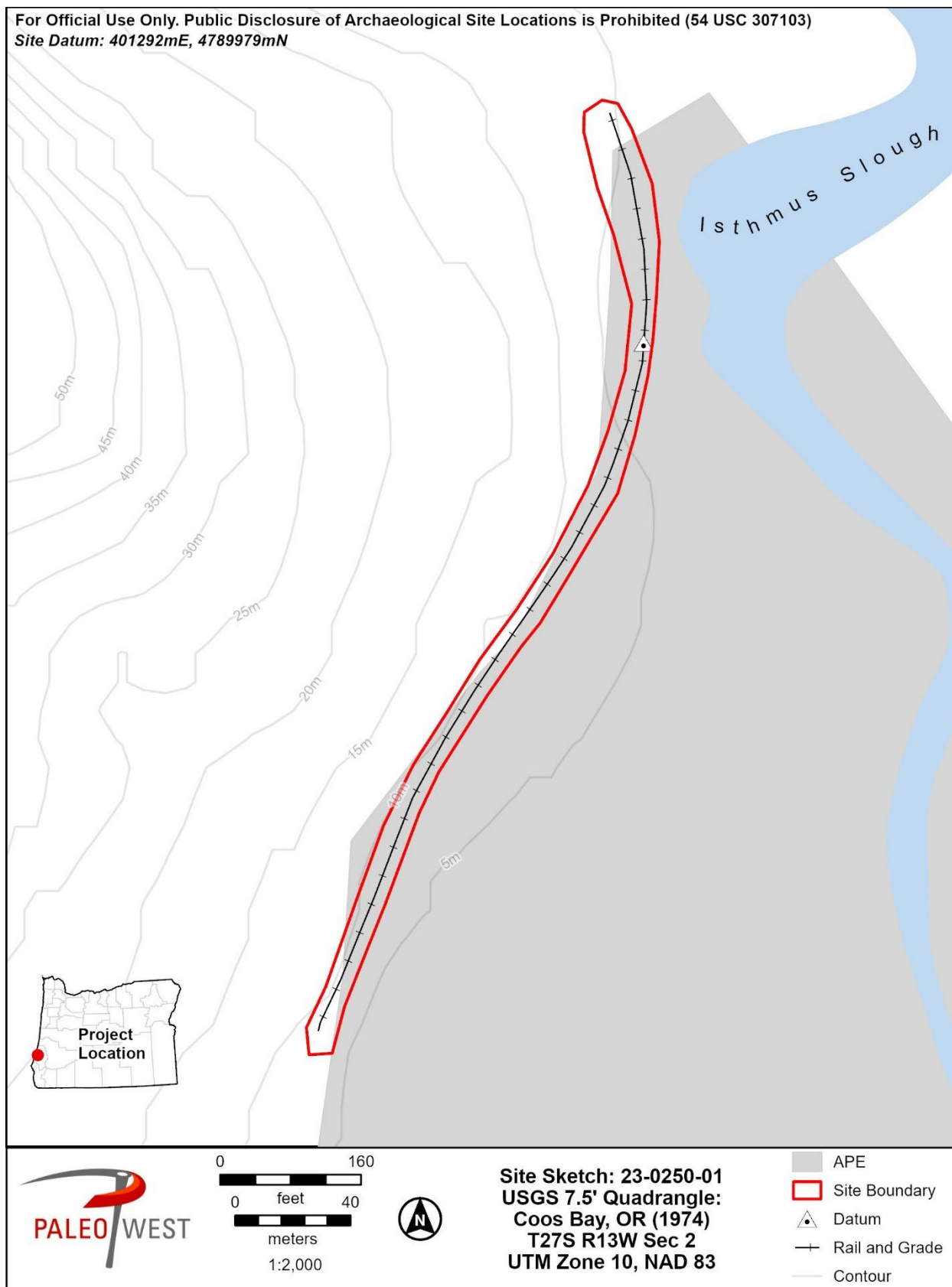


Figure 7-5. Site 23-0250-01 sketch map.



Figure 7-6. Overview of site 23-0250-01 from southern end in the APE, facing north.



Figure 7-7. Overview of site 23-0250-01 from crossing, facing north



Figure 7-8. Overview of site 23-0250-01 from crossing, facing south.



Figure 7-9. Overview of site 23-0250-01 north of the crossing, facing southeast.

7.2.2 Site 23-0250-02

Site Type: Historic Period Loft Barn Foundation

Temporal Period: circa 1940s–2010

Site Size: 22.6 × 17.4 m (255.5 m²/0.06 acres)

Elevation: 7 ft amsl

NRHP Recommendation: Not Eligible

Site Description

Site 23-0250-02 (Figure 7-10 and Figure 7-11) is a newly recorded historic period mid-twentieth century loft barn foundation (Coos County Assessor 2023) documented by PaleoWest on May 24, 2023. The site is a 1940 to 1950s historic period dirt floor loft barn concrete foundation. The barn was demolished around 2010 and was located adjacent to Noble Creek Road/Bramble Lane and near an access road. To the west and south of the site are grassy pastures used for livestock grazing, primarily cattle, and an east-west channel is to the north. To the east of the site is Noble Creek Road/Bramble Lane and Noble Creek. The loft barn was likely used in relation to cattle grazing activities in the pastures.

Looking at the 1857 and 1872 GLO maps along with the 1898 Coos Bay 30-minute and 1942 Coos Bay 15-minute map, no structures appear at the barn's location (GLO 1857, 1872a, 1872b; USGS 1898, 1942a). However, the structure does appear on the 1971 7.5-minute Coos Bay topographic map (USGS 1971a). Historic aerials show that the structure did not exist in 1942, but appeared by 1957 (NETR 2023; USGS 2023). While an assessor record does exist of the structure, it lacks the construction date for a more concrete date (Coos County Assessor 2023). Vegetation at the site is primarily grasses, *Juncus*, and meadow foxtail with Himalayan blackberry and shrubs on the berm for the road. The loft barn was adjacent to an access road, which is obvious when viewed from the current gate.

The concrete foundation is 32 ft (southwest–northeast) by 23 ft (southeast–northwest). The foundation has two steps, the outer is 6 in wide and is 4 in high from the ground, and the inner is 6 in wide and 9 in high. The total measurement of the foundation is 1 ft wide and 13 in high. Although some materials from the barn are still in the area, no non-structural artifacts were observed, and only modern refuse is present.

Sediments at the site were a very dark grayish brown and mottled brown and strong brown silty clay, which eventually transitions to a dark gray clay below 50 cmbs. Generally, the water table is hit between 90–100 cmbs. Surface visibility was approximately 15 percent due to grazed grasses and pushed soil as the site is adjacent to Noble Creek Road/Bramble Lane. Although the depth of the soils likely exceeds 2 m, no buried artifacts were encountered in STPs in the surrounding area. The site is in poor condition, as the loft barn was demolished around 2010 and continues to decay. Current disturbance to the site include road maintenance, demolition, alluvial erosion, and weathering (Figure 7-12 to Figure 7-15). The remaining fragments of the roof and walls have vegetation growing around it. Modern refuse is common around the road and the tidegate.

Discussion and NRHP Recommendation

The site represents the remaining concrete foundation of a loft barn that was constructed between 1942 and 1957. The site fails to appear on any maps, but does appear on aerial imagery between this time span (NETR 2023, USGS 2023). In addition to the aerials, assessor

data shows that the structure was a loft barn, but no dates are provided regarding construction (Coos County Assessor 2023). Reviewing imagery also shows that, around 2010, the barn was demolished; it remains in a demolished state at present.

The site maintains aspects of integrity in association, setting, materials, design, location, workmanship, and feeling. However, as the walls of the structure have been demolished and only the foundation remains intact, materials, design, workmanship, and feeling have been negatively impacted and will likely experience a loss of these aspects over time. The displaced roofing will likely continue to collapse, and the concrete foundation will continue to weather.

There is no evidence to suggest this site is associated with any specific event or events important to history. The site represents a mid-twentieth century loft barn related to the cattle pastures to the east, which is similar to most agricultural infrastructure along Noble Creek and the Isthmus Slough. Dealing with tidal waters was a common occurrence with most farms along the creek and slough, and the site is not unique in this aspect. The site is recommended not eligible for inclusion in the NRHP under Criterion A. There is no documented evidence of specific important individuals or farmers on a regional or local level who constructed or used this site. The site is recommended not eligible for inclusion in the NRHP under Criterion B. The loft barn is also not unique, as it is similar to many additional agricultural out-structures in the area; if any distinctive characteristics of design or construction existed, they have been compromised and negatively effected by the demolition of the building. The poor state of the loft barn's foundations will continue to degrade over time, and the design is fairly simple like many dirt floor structures; thus, considering the current state and simple design the site is recommended not eligible for inclusion in the NRHP under Criterion C. Depth potential associated does exist, as adjacent utilities are buried at least 1–2 m deep. The site had no associated surface artifacts, and any refuse was modern or from the walls/roof of the structure. Additionally, even if any buried artifacts exist, they are likely from portions of the feature and non-structural artifacts encountered are unlikely to yield significant information adding to the existing site narrative or generate information important to prehistory or history of the area. Therefore, the site is recommended not eligible for inclusion in the NRHP under Criterion D.

Despite aspects of integrity remaining, the site is recommended not eligible for listing on the NRHP, as the site represents a common loft barn and additional structure for a farm, which is typical for almost all properties along Noble Creek and the Isthmus Slough. Additionally, the site is in poor condition to the point where continued weathering will continue to negatively impact aspects of integrity over the next several decades. As such, the site is recommended **not eligible** for inclusion in the NRHP under all Criteria and no further work should be required.

For Official Use Only. Public Disclosure of Archaeological Site Locations is Prohibited (54 USC 307103)

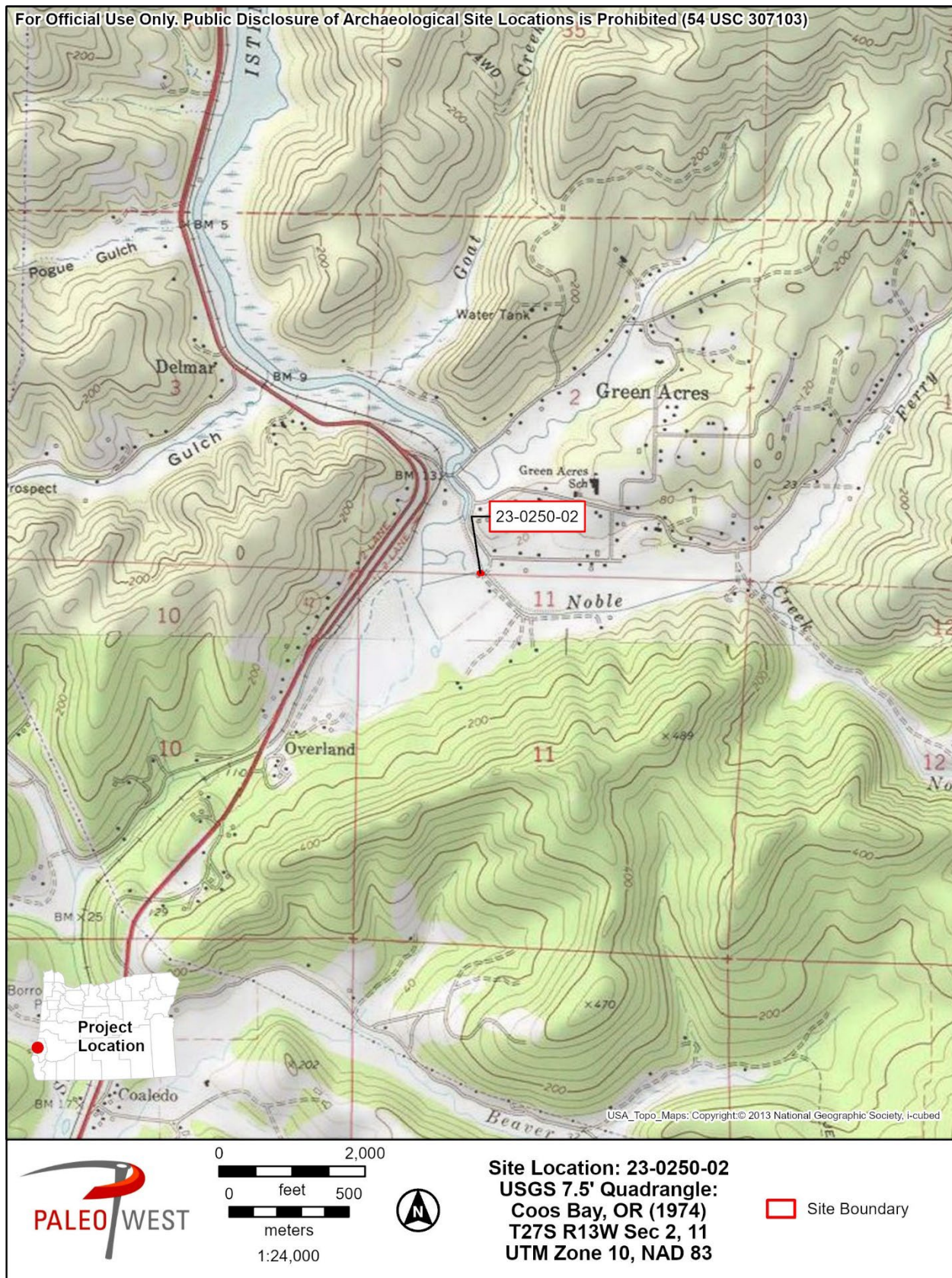


Figure 7-10. Site 23-0250-02 location map.

For Official Use Only. Public Disclosure of Archaeological Site Locations is Prohibited (54 USC 307103)
Site Datum: 401450mE, 4789557mN

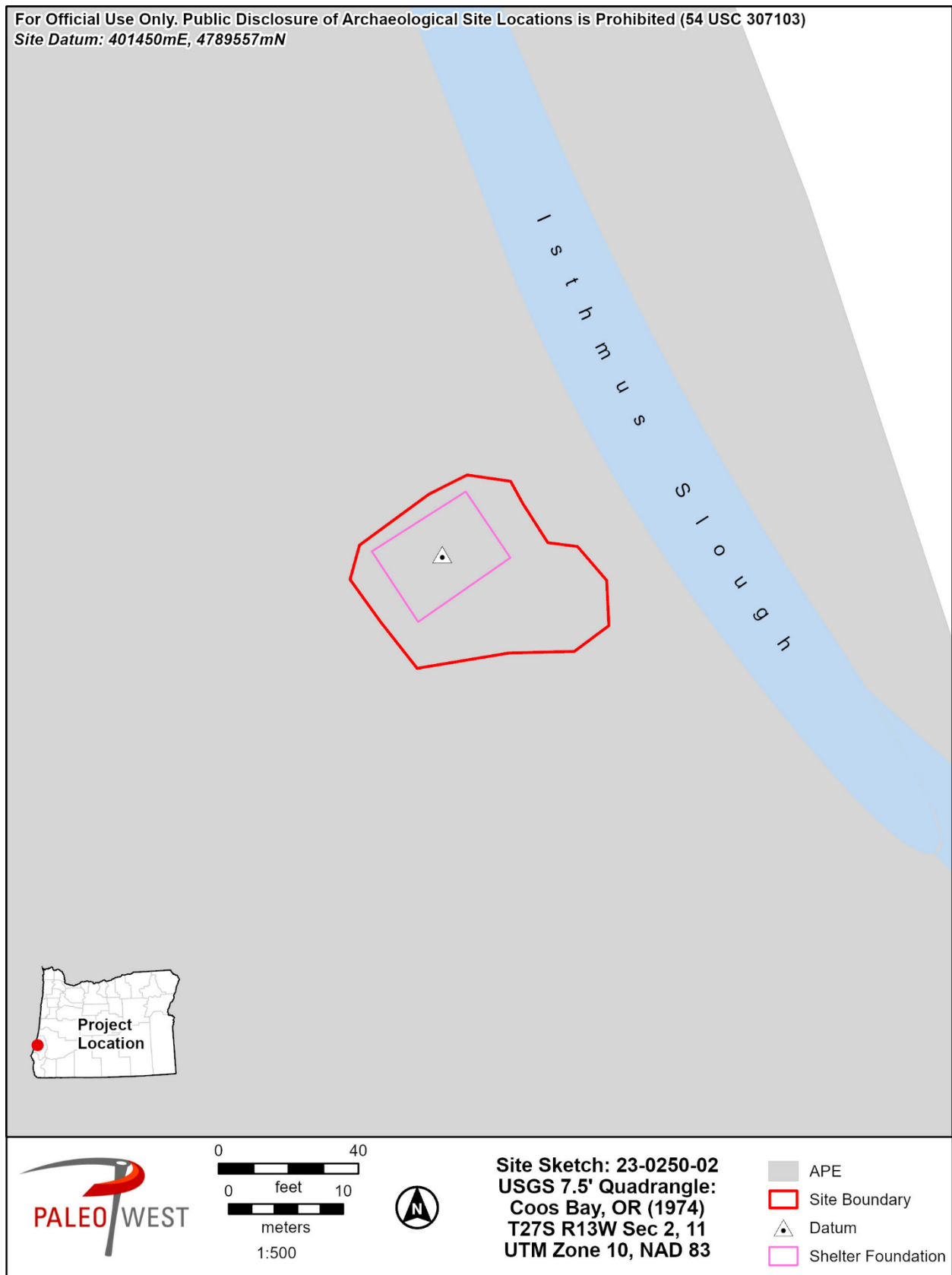


Figure 7-11. Site 23-0250-02 sketch map.



Figure 7-12. Overview of site 23-0250-02, facing southwest.



Figure 7-13. Overview of site 23-0250-02, facing south



Figure 7-14. Overview of site 23-0250-02, facing east.



Figure 7-15. Overview of site 23-0250-02, facing north.

8 SUMMARY AND MANAGEMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

This report documents the results of a cultural resource survey of the APE related to tidegate, channel, and culvert infrastructure, as performed by PaleoWest for Coos SWCD. The APE consists of an 82.83-acre parcel located at 93190 Green Acres Lane, Coos Bay, Oregon 97420. The proposed Project requires compliance with Section 106 of the NHPA and ORS 358.653.

PaleoWest staff conducted a site file search covering a 1-mi radius surrounding the APE using the Oregon SHPO's online OARRA database on April 5, 2023. The file search found that four reports have been submitted for projects within 1 mi of the APE, and that one of the projects was conducted within the boundary of the APE. The search found that one precontact site and one historic-era property was recorded within the 1-mi radius of the study area, although neither cultural resource was recorded within the APE.

PaleoWest conducted fieldwork for this Project on May 24–27, 2023. Work included a pedestrian survey to identify any archaeological resources that could be adversely affected by the proposed Project. The survey was completed at 20 m transect intervals. The results led to the observation of two newly recorded historic-period sites (23-0250-01 and 23-0250-02), consisting of a railroad and loft barn foundation, during the pedestrian survey component of the Project. The subsurface testing, 45 STPs, resulted in no positive probes. In total, PaleoWest encountered and recorded two historic-era surface sites. PaleoWest evaluated the railroad and recommends the resource to be considered eligible for inclusion in the NRHP under criterion D; the loft barn foundation is recommended not eligible for inclusion in the NRHP under any of the four criteria. Therefore, PaleoWest recommends a finding of **no adverse effect** as the proposed work will not impact the railroad. Avoidance is recommended around site 23-0250-01.

The Project designs have not been finalized at the time of this report, and are therefore subject to variation in location, depth, and/or construction methods. If Project designs deviate from the designs provided to PaleoWest prior to the survey, additional archaeological investigations may be necessary. Furthermore, many of the proposed Project activities will reach depths below what can be achieved via hand excavation in an STP. This includes the excavation of new channel alignments. If channels or other Project elements are set to follow or intersect the course of relict tidal channels, there is a heightened potential to encounter wood stake fish weirs, or other related subsistence features at these locations, particularly if excavations extend into native subsoil (i.e., blue estuarine clay).

PaleoWest therefore recommends further consultation between the Project proponents, the Tribes, the appropriate regulatory agencies, and SHPO to develop a Memorandum of Understanding, including a monitoring plan for activities with heightened potential for encountering archaeological resources, and an inadvertent discovery plan. Finally, the findings in this report pertain specifically to archaeological and built environment resources. Further consultation with the Tribes is recommended to address any potential impacts to non-archaeological cultural resources, such as significant resource areas or landscapes.

If previously unidentified archaeological resources are unearthed during construction activities, construction work within 30 m (100 ft) of the find shall be halted and directed away from the discovery until an SOI-qualified archaeologist assesses the identity and significance of the resource. The archaeologist, in consultation with SHPO, the Project manager, any interested tribes, and any other responsible public agency, shall make the necessary plans for the treatment of the find(s), and for the evaluation and mitigation of impacts if the finds are found to represent resources for listing in the NRHP.

If ground-disturbing activities encounter human skeletal remains during construction, all activity that may cause further disturbance to the remains will cease. The area of the find will be secured with a 30 m (100 ft) buffer and protected from further disturbance until the SHPO provides notice to proceed. Finds of human skeletal remains will be reported to the county medical examiner/coroner and local law enforcement in the most expeditious manner possible. The remains will not be touched, moved, or further disturbed. The county medical examiner/coroner will assume jurisdiction over the human skeletal remains and make a determination of whether the remains are forensic or non-forensic. If the county medical examiner/coroner determines the remains are non-forensic, they will report that finding to the SHPO, who will then take jurisdiction over the remains. The SHPO will notify any appropriate cemeteries and all affected tribes of the find. Work shall not resume in the buffered area until a plan is developed and carried out between the state police, SHPO, Legislative Commission on Indian Services, and appropriate Native American tribes, and permission is given for work to proceed.

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Appendix A. STP Results

STP No.	Project Element	Depth	Soil Description	Results	Comments
STP-1	Fill Ditch	Strata 1 (0–120cm)	Strata 1: 10YR 3/2 Very Dark Grayish Brown Silty Clay	Negative	Water table hit at 36 cmbs
STP-2	Fill Ditch	Strata 1 (0–20cm) Strata 2 (20–115cm)	Strata 1: 10YR 6/1 Gray and 5/8 Yellowish Brown Silty Clay Strata 2: 10YR 3/2 Very Dark Grayish Brown Silty Clay	Negative	Water table hit at 87 cmbs
STP-3	New Tidal Channel	Strata 1 (0–30cm) Strata 2 (30–55cm) Strata 1 (55–107cm)	Strata 1: 10YR 3/2 Very Dark Grayish Brown Silty Clay Strata 2: 10YR 6/1 Gray and 5/8 Yellowish Brown Clay Strata 3: 5Y 4/1 Dark Gray Clay	Negative	Water table hit at 105 cmbs
STP-4	New Tidal Channel	Strata 1 (0–50cm) Strata 2 (50–100cm)	Strata 1: 10YR 3/2 Very Dark Grayish Brown Silty Clay Strata 2: 5Y 4/1 Dark Gray Clay	Negative	Water table hit at 30 cmbs
STP-5	New Tidal Channel	Strata 1 (0–40cm) Strata 2 (40–100cm)	Strata 1: 10YR 3/2 Very Dark Grayish Brown Silty Clay Strata 2: 10YR 3/1 Very Dark Gray and 10YR 2/2 Very Dark Brown Silty Clay	Negative	Water table hit at 5 cmbs
STP-6	New Tidal Channel	Strata 1 (0–20cm) Strata 2 (20–110cm)	Strata 1: 10YR 3/3 Dark Brown Silty Clay Strata 2: 10YR 3/2 Very Dark Grayish Brown Silty Clay	Negative	Water table hit at 30 cmbs
STP-7	New Tidal Channel	Strata 1 (0–110cm)	Strata 1: 10YR 3/2 Very Dark Grayish Brown Silty Clay	Negative	Water table hit at 99 cmbs
STP-8	New Tidal Channel	Strata 1 (0–100cm)	Strata 1: 10YR 3/2 Very Dark Grayish Brown Silty Clay	Negative	Water table hit 10 cmbs
STP-9	New Tidal Channel	Strata 1 (0–100cm)	Strata 1: 10YR 3/2 Very Dark Grayish Brown Silty Clay	Negative	Water table hit 10 cmbs
STP-10	New Tidal Channel	Strata 1 (0–20cm) Strata 2 (20–100cm)	Strata 1: 10YR 3/2 Very Dark Grayish Brown and 10YR 2/2 Very Dark Brown Silty Clay Strata 2: 5Y 4/1 Dark Gray Clay	Negative	Water table hit at 20 cmbs. Some charcoal flecks present.
STP-11	New Tidal Channel	Strata 1 (0–20cm) Strata 2 (20–109cm)	Strata 1: 10YR 3/2 Very Dark Grayish Brown and 10YR 5/8 Yellowish Brown Silty Clay Strata 2: 5Y 4/1 Dark Gray Clay	Negative	Water table hit at 73 cmbs. Some charcoal flecks present.
STP-12	New Tidal Channel	Strata 1 (0–110cm)	Strata 1: 10YR 3/2 Very Dark Grayish Brown Silty Clay	Negative	Water table hit 35 cmbs. Some rounded small cobbles
STP-13	New Tidal Channel	Strata 1 (0–110cm)	Strata 1: 10YR 3/2 Very Dark Grayish Brown Silty Clay	Negative	Water table hit 40 cmbs. Some rounded small cobbles.

STP No.	Project Element	Depth	Soil Description	Results	Comments
STP-14	New Tidal Channel	Strata 1 (0–40cm) Strata 2 (40–50cm) Strata 3 (50–110)	Strata 1: 10YR 3/1 Very Dark Gray and 10YR 2/2 Very Dark Brown Silty Clay Strata 2: 10YR 3/2 Very Dark Grayish Brown and 10YR 4/2 Dark Grayish Brown Silty Clay Strata 3: Mottled 10YR 4/1 Dark Gray, 10YR 5/6 Yellowish Brown, and 10YR 5/3 Brown Clay	Negative	Water table hit at 90 cmbs. Top humus is a 7.5yr strong brown
STP-15	New Tidal Channel	Strata 1 (0–40cm) Strata 2 (40–90cm) Strata 3 (90–110)	Strata 1: 10YR 6/3 Pale Brown Silty Clay Strata 2: Mottled 10YR 6/3 Pale Brown, 10YR 5/6 Yellowish Brown, and 4/1 Dark Gray Clay Strata 3: 10YR 3/2 Very Dark Grayish Brown Silty Clay	Negative	Water table hit 45 cmbs. Some rounded small cobbles.
STP-16	New Tidal Channel	Strata 1 (0–40cm) Strata 2 (40–60cm) Strata 3 (60–110 cm)	Strata 1: 10YR 3/2 Very Dark Grayish Brown Silty Clay Strata 2: Mottled 10YR 6/3 Pale Brown, 10YR 5/6 Yellowish Brown, and 4/1 Dark Gray Clay Strata 3: 5Y 4/1 Dark Gray Clay	Negative	Water table hit at 80 cmbs. Charcoal flecks around 40 cmbs
STP-17	Log Placement	Strata 1 (0–40cm) Strata 2 (40–60cm) Strata 3 (60–110 cm)	Strata 1: 10YR 3/2 Very Dark Grayish Brown Silty Clay Strata 2: Mottled 10YR 6/3 Pale Brown, 10YR 5/6 Yellowish Brown, and 4/1 Dark Gray Clay Strata 3: 5Y 4/1 Dark Gray Clay	Negative	Water table hit at 30 cmbs. Charcoal flecks found in auger and clay
STP-18	New Tidal Channel	Strata 1 (0–40cm) Strata 2 (40–60cm) Strata 3 (60–105 cm)	Strata 1: 10YR 3/2 Very Dark Grayish Brown Silty Clay Strata 2: Mottled 10YR 6/3 Pale Brown, 10YR 5/6 Yellowish Brown, and 4/1 Dark Gray Clay Strata 3: 5Y 4/1 Dark Gray Clay	Negative	Water table hit at 32 cmbs. Charcoal flecks found in 40 cmbs
STP-19	New Tidal Channel	Strata 1 (0–40cm) Strata 2 (40–60cm) Strata 3 (60–100 cm)	Strata 1: 10YR 3/2 Very Dark Grayish Brown Silty Clay Strata 2: Mottled 10YR 6/3 Pale Brown, 10YR 5/6 Yellowish Brown, and 4/1 Dark Gray Clay Strata 3: 5Y 4/1 Dark Gray Clay	Negative	Water table hit at 52 cmbs. Charcoal flecks found in auger below 60 cmbs

STP No.	Project Element	Depth	Soil Description	Results	Comments
STP-20	New Tidal Channel	Strata 1 (0–40cm) Strata 2 (40–60cm) Strata 3 (60–110 cm)	Strata 1: 10YR 3/2 Very Dark Grayish Brown Silty Clay Strata 2: Mottled 10YR 6/3 Pale Brown, 10YR 5/6 Yellowish Brown, and 4/1 Dark Gray Clay Strata 3: 5Y 4/1 Dark Gray Clay	Negative	Water table hit at 30 cmbs. charcoal flecks found in auger below 60 cmbs
STP-21	New Tidal Channel	Strata 1 (0–40cm) Strata 2 (40–60cm) Strata 3 (60–110 cm)	Strata 1: 10YR 3/2 Very Dark Grayish Brown Silty Clay Strata 2: Mottled 10YR 6/3 Pale Brown, 10YR 5/6 Yellowish Brown, and 4/1 Dark Gray Clay Strata 3: 5Y 4/1 Dark Gray Clay	Negative	Water table hit at 30 cmbs. Charcoal flecks found in auger below 60 cmbs
STP-22	New Tidal Channel	Strata 1 (0–40cm) Strata 2 (40–60cm) Strata 3 (60–100 cm)	Strata 1: 10YR 3/2 Very Dark Grayish Brown Silty Clay Strata 2: Mottled 10YR 6/3 Pale Brown, 10YR 5/6 Yellowish Brown, and 4/1 Dark Gray Clay Strata 3: 5Y 4/1 Dark Gray Clay	Negative	Water table hit at 30 cmbs. Charcoal flecks found in auger below 60 cmbs
STP-23	New Tidal Channel	Strata 1 (0–40cm) Strata 2 (40–102cm)	Strata 1: 10YR 3/2 Very Dark Grayish Brown Silty Clay Strata 2: Mottled 10YR 3/2 Very Dark Grayish Brown and 5Y 4/1 Silty Clay	Negative	Water table hit at 20 cmbs. Charcoal flecks found in auger below 60 cmbs
STP-24	New Tidal Channel	Strata 1 (0–50cm) Strata 2 (50–100cm)	Strata 1: 10YR 3/2 Very Dark Grayish Brown Silty Clay Strata 2: Mottled 10YR 3/2 Very Dark Grayish Brown and 5Y 4/1 Dark Gray Silty Clay	Negative	Water table hit at 30 cmbs.
STP-25	New Tidal Channel	Strata 1 (0–17cm) Strata 2 (17–100cm)	Strata 1: 10YR 3/2 Very Dark Grayish Brown Silty Clay Strata 2: 5Y 4/1 Dark Gray Silty Clay	Negative	Water table hit at 25 cmbs.
STP-26	New Tidal Channel	Strata 1 (0–30cm) Strata 2 (30–110cm)	Strata 1: 10YR 3/2 Very Dark Grayish Brown Silty Clay Strata 2: Mottled 10YR 3/2 Very Dark Grayish Brown and 5Y 4/1 Dark Gray Silty Clay	Negative	Water table hit at 30 cmbs.
STP-27	New Tidal Channel	Strata 1 (0–40cm) Strata 2 (40–110cm)	Strata 1: 10YR 3/2 Very Dark Grayish Brown Silty Clay Strata 2: 5Y 4/1 Dark Gray Silty Clay	Negative	Water table hit at 30 cmbs.
STP-28	New Tidal Channel	Strata 1 (0–30cm) Strata 2 (30–110cm)	Strata 1: 10YR 3/2 Very Dark Grayish Brown Silty Clay Strata 2: 5Y 4/1 Dark Gray Silty Clay	Negative	Water table hit at 30 cmbs. Note that thick roots are present from 20-30 cmbs.

STP No.	Project Element	Depth	Soil Description	Results	Comments
STP-29	New Tidal Channel	Strata 1 (0–30cm) Strata 2 (30–110cm)	Strata 1: 10YR 3/2 Very Dark Grayish Brown Silty Clay Strata 2: 5Y 4/1 Dark Gray Silty Clay	Negative	Water table hit at 10 cmbs.
STP-30	New Tidal Channel; Fill Ditch	Strata 1 (0–19cm) Strata 2 (19–110cm)	Strata 1: 10YR 3/2 Very Dark Grayish Brown Silty Clay Strata 2: 5Y 4/1 Dark Gray Silty Clay	Negative	Water table hit at 55 cmbs, roots in bottom of 20 cm of auger. Some cobbles and gravels
STP-31	Fill Ditch	Strata 1 (0–15cm) Strata 2 (15–110cm)	Strata 1: 10YR 3/2 Very Dark Grayish Brown Silty Clay Strata 2: 5Y 4/1 Dark Gray Silty Clay	Negative	Water table hit at 18 cmbs,
STP-32	New Tidal Channel	Strata 1 (0–48cm) Strata 2 (48–105cm)	Strata 1: 10YR 3/2 Very Dark Grayish Brown Silty Clay Strata 2: 5Y 4/1 Dark Gray Silty Clay	Negative	Near fence, water table hit at 30 cmbs. The top is very rocky with imported gravels in Strata 1 that make up 50% of matrix
STP-33	Fill Ditch	Strata 1 (0–20cm) Strata 2 (20–110cm)	Strata 1: 10YR 3/2 Very Dark Grayish Brown Silty Clay Strata 2: 5Y 4/1 Dark Gray Silty Clay	Negative	Water table hit at 30 cmbs, near the fence
STP-34	Remove Tidegate/Culvert	Strata 1 (0–25cm) Strata 2 (25–40cm) Strata 3 (40–120 cm)	Strata 1: Mottled 10YR 3/2 Very Dark Grayish Brown and 7.5YR 5/6 Strong Brown Silty Clay Strata 2: 10YR 3/2 Very Dark Grayish Brown Silty Clay Strata 3: 5Y 4/1 Dark Gray Clay	Negative	Water table hit at 90 cmbs. Top stratum is densely compacted
STP-35	Remove Tidegate/Culvert	Strata 1 (0–40cm) Strata 2 (40–80cm) Strata 3 (80–105 cm)	Strata 1: Mottled 10YR 5/3 Brown and 7.5YR 5/6 Strong Brown Silty Clay Strata 2: Mottled 10YR 3/2 Very Dark Grayish Brown and 7.5YR 5/6 Strong Brown Silty Clay Strata 3: 5Y 4/1 Dark Gray Clay	Negative	Water table hit at 105 cmbs. Top is densely compacted
STP-36	Fill Ditch	Strata 1 (0–55cm) Strata 2 (55–105cm)	Strata 1: Mottled 5Y 4/1 Dark Gray, 10YR 3/3 Dark Brown, and 7.5YR 5/6 Strong Brown Silty Clay Strata 2: 5Y 4/1 Dark Gray Silty Clay	Negative	Water table hit at 85 cmbs.
STP-37	Upgrade Tidegate	Strata 1 (0–15cm) Strata 2 (15–110cm)	Strata 1: Mottled 10YR 3/2 Very Dark Grayish Brown, 10YR 3/3 Dark Brown, and 7.5YR 5/6 Strong Brown Silty Clay Strata 2: 5Y 4/1 Dark Gray Silty Clay	Negative	Water table hit at 105 cmbs.

STP No.	Project Element	Depth	Soil Description	Results	Comments
STP-38	Install Tidegate and Muted Tidal Regulator	Strata 1 (0–50cm) Strata 2 (50–90cm) Strata 3 (90–110 cm)	Strata 1: Mottled 10YR 5/3 Brown and 7.5YR 5/6 Strong Brown Silty Clay Strata 2: Mottled 10YR 3/2 Very Dark Grayish Brown and 7.5YR 5/6 Strong Brown Silty Clay Strata 3: 5Y 4/1 Dark Gray Clay	Negative	Water table hit at 105 cmbs. Top is densely compacted.
STP-39	Install Tidegate and Muted Tidal Regulator	Strata 1 (0–40cm) Strata 2 (40–65cm)	Strata 1: Mottled 10YR 3/2 Very Dark Grayish Brown, 10YR 3/3 Dark Brown, and 7.5YR 5/6 Strong Brown Silty Clay Strata 2: 10YR 2/2 Very Dark Brown and 10YR 3/1 Very Dark Gray Silty Clay	Negative	Very compact at top and terminated early due to a rocky impasse.
STP-40	Dike Repair	Strata 1 (0–40cm) Strata 2 (40–80cm) Strata 3 (80–100 cm)	Strata 1: Mottled 10YR 3/2 Very Dark Grayish Brown, 10YR 3/3 Dark Brown, and 7.5YR 5/6 Strong Brown Silty Clay Strata 2: 7.5YR 5/6 Strong Brown Silty Clay Strata 3: 5Y 4/1 Dark Gray Clay	Negative	Water table hit at 5 cmbs.
STP-41	Dike Repair	Strata 1 (0–40cm) Strata 2 (40–110cm)	Strata 1: 10YR 3/2 Very Dark Grayish Brown Silty Clay Strata 2: 5Y 4/1 Dark Gray Silty Clay	Negative	Water table hit at 30 cmbs.
STP-42	Dike Repair	Strata 1 (0–70cm) Strata 2 (70–90cm) Strata 3 (90–105 cm)	Strata 1: 7.5YR Brown Silt Strata 2: Mottled 5Y 4/1 Dark Gray and 7.5YR 5/6 Strong Brown Silty Clay Strata 3: 5Y 4/1 Dark Gray Clay	Negative	Very compact at top strata.
STP-43	Dike Repair	Strata 1 (0–105cm)	Strata 1: 7.5YR 5/3 Brown Silt	Negative	Top 20 cm densely packed, roots thick between 30–60 cmbs
STP-44	Culvert Replacement (Temporary Crossing)	Strata 1 (0–50cm) Strata 2 (50–70cm) Strata 3 (70–105 cm)	Strata 1: 10YR 3/2 Very Dark Grayish Brown Silt Strata 2: 7.5YR 5/3 Brown Silty Clay Strata 3: Mottled 10YR 3/2 Very Dark Grayish Brown, 10YR 6/1 Gray, and 7.5YR 5/6 Strong Brown Silty Clay	Negative	Top 20 cm densely packed. Very rocky throughout, which is adjacent to the shoulder of the road. Buried modern Styrofoam is present, indicating very disturbed soil.

STP No.	Project Element	Depth	Soil Description	Results	Comments
STP-45	Culvert Replacement (Temporary Crossing)	Strata 1 (0–55cm)	Strata 1: 7.5YR 5/3 Brown silt	Negative	Dense roots through entire depth and many gravels. Terminated early due to dense root at bottom of the STP.

Appendix B.

Site forms

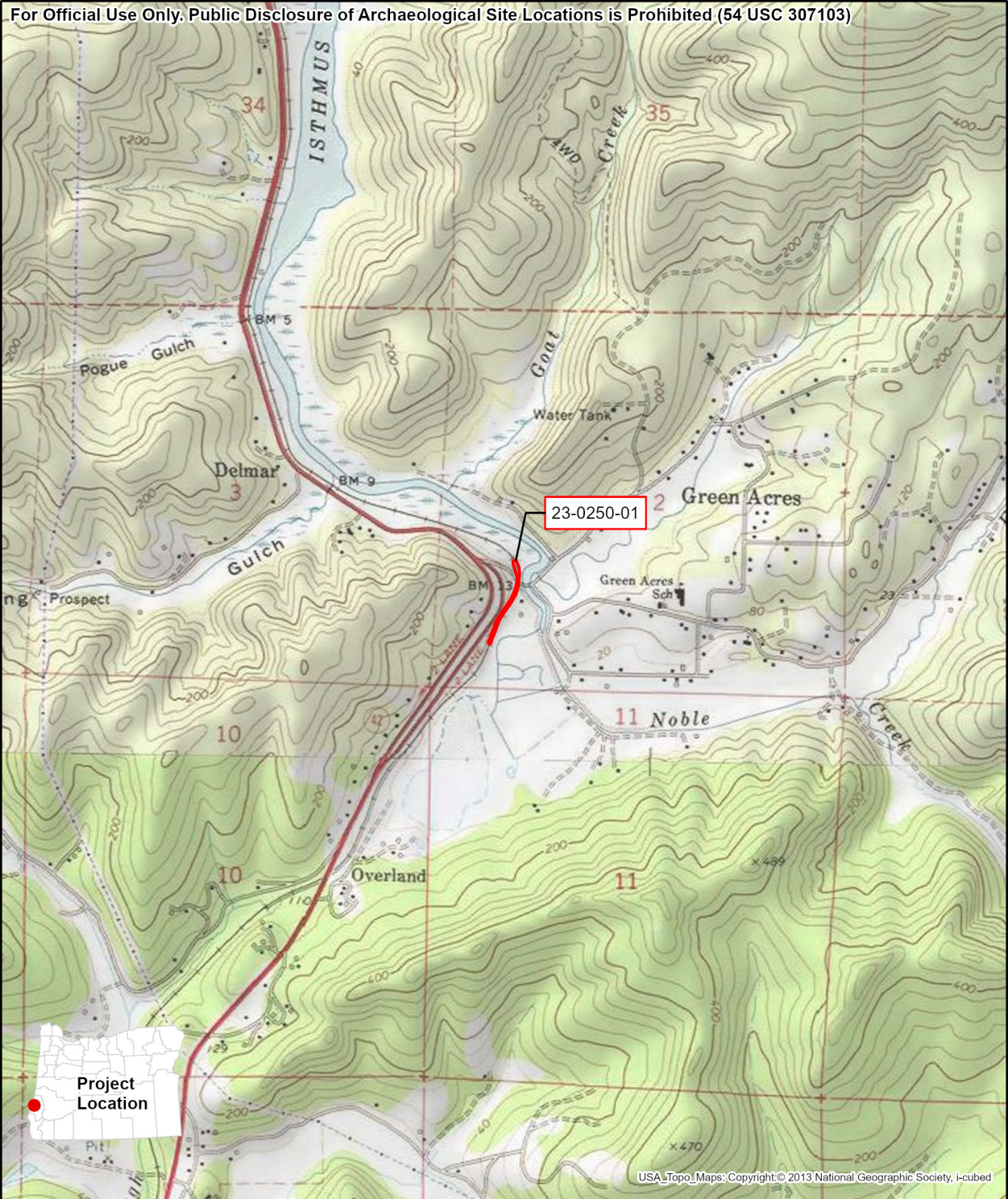
State of Oregon Archaeological Site Record

Administrative Data									
Smithsonian Number:					Alt Site Nbrs:	23-0250-01			
Site Name:	Southern Pacific Railroad/Isthmus Transit Railroad Segment				Form Type:	New			
Managing Office*:	Private				County:	Coos			
Owners(s):	Private								
Ownership/Management Notes:	Oregon International Port of Coos Bay								
National Register Status:	Status Eligible	Role Fieldworker	Date 05/24/2023	Author Jonathan P. Keith					
Site Identification									
Site Type	• Other								
Features*:	• Railroad Grade/Trestle		Cultural Periods(s)*:		• 19th Century • Early 20th Century (1900-1930) • Depression/WWII (1929-1950) • Recent (post 1950)				
Dimensions:	Length	1138.1	Width	59.7	Units	Feet	Area	67944.57 Sq f	
Depth of Cultural Deposits	0 cm								
General Age	Historic								
Location Data									
Legal Description:	Township 27 S	Range 13 W	Section 2	¼	¼	¼	DLC SW	Meridian Willamette	
UTM Coordinates	Type Marked Pt./Datum	East 401292	North 4789979	Method GPS < 1m		Zone 10	Datum 83		
Map References	Map Name/Year COOS BAY 7'			Revision Year 1974					
Access Description	Heading northwest from Coquille, OR on Oregon Route 42 (OR-42) at the intersection with North Bank Ln. continue on OR-42 for 3.49 miles. At this point is an intersection with Green Acres Ln., turn eastward onto the latter for 0.10 miles and park by a utility box to the south. From here walk north (355.0 degrees) for 9.5 meters to reach the datum, the railroad crossing.								
Environmental Data									
Province	Coast Range								
Basin	South Coast								
Subbasin	COOS R								
Drainage Name	Noble Creek								
Elevation	From 10 To 32 ft								
Aspect	Aspect: ALL								
Depositional Environment	• Alluvial • Erosional								
Soil Description	The upper strata is a 7.5YR 5/3 Brown silt or a 10YR 3/2 Very Dark Grayish Brown Silt for at least 50 cm. The soil then transitions to a more silty clay texture until 70 cm. Below this strata the soil is highly mottled (10YR 3/2 Very Dark Grayish Brown, 10YR 6/1 Gray, and 7.5YR 5/6 Strong Brown) and more clayey silty clay. The soil is dense with imported rocks and gravels, around 25-40% of the matrix with dense tree roots.								
Vegetation Description	Vegetation at the site is densely wooded with trees and shrubs primarily Himalayan blackberry, Pacific blackberry, red huckleberry, skunk cabbage, Oregon ash, rusty menziesia, western redcedar, western hemlock, and Sitka spruce. The location on the hillslope is a transitional spot where low marshy plants are still present with								

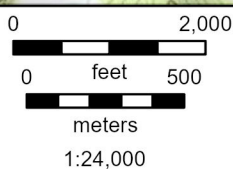
	upland forest vegetation emerging above the alluvial plain.					
Culturally Significant Vegetation	• Pacific Blackberry • Western Red Cedar • Red Huckleberry					
Water Sources	Name	Type	Stream Type	Stream Class	Distance	Direction
	Noble Creek	Stream	Perennial	NA	36 meters	91 deg
Site Setting	The observed segment of the site is in a valley adjacent to Noble Creek and is at a transitional zone from the Isthmus Slough and Beaver Slough, and goes along the valley acting as a route to connect Coos Bay and the Coquille River. The grade is cut below OR-42 and is raised at least 25 ft above the marshy alluvial plains to the east. Sediments are a brown silt, and contain a large amount of gravels, roots, and duff. Surface visibility was approximately 5 percent. Although the depth of the soils likely exceeds 1 m, the only buried artifacts are likely from older refuse of the tracks. The site is in good condition, as it continues to be used and is maintained, though the components are likely not original and many have likely been replaced. Vegetation at the site is primarily Himalayan blackberry, Pacific blackberry, red huckleberry, skunk cabbage, Oregon ash, rusty menziesia, western redcedar, western hemlock, and Sitka spruce. Current disturbance to the site includes adjacent road maintenance (for OR-42), railroad maintenance, and alluvial erosion.					
Site Description						
	Site 23-0134-01 is a newly recorded historic period segment of the Southern Pacific/Isthmus Transit Railroad documented by PaleoWest on May 24, 2023. The site is an 1870s historic period rail line, which is still used in the present day. The rail follows U.S. Highway 101 on the northern path until a split with OR-42 is reached at Davis Slough, where the rail continues southward along OR-42. The 134-mi rail connects Coquille with Eugene and is primarily used to transport products such as lumber, wood chips, and plate steel (Union Pacific 2023). The segment observed in the APE crosses Green Acres Lane. The railroad first appears on the March 1872 GLO maps labeled as Isthmus Railroad, and it appears on the 1898 Coos Bay, Oregon 30-minute USGS topographic map as Coos Bay Roseburg and Eastern Railroad (GLO 1872b; USGS 1898). In the 1937 edition of the 1900 Coos Bay, Oregon 30-minute, 1942 Coos Bay, Oregon 15-minute and the 1971 Coos Bay, Oregon 7.5-minute USGS topographic maps the railroad is labeled as "Southern Pacific", indicating a change in ownership in the early twentieth century (USGS 1900, 1942a, 1971a). The rail line originally used handcarts and mule pulled carts, but in 1874 it was expanded for steel rails to accommodate Coos Bay Union Coal and Navigation Company steam locomotives (Oregon Historic Sites Database 1976; Ruppenstein 2023). The expansion was a result of the growing logging and milling industry in the area (Oregon international Port of Coos Bay 2020). The rail became known as the Coos Bay Rail Line, and was operated by Southern Pacific Transportation Co. until 1996. After several changes of hands between RAILTEX and RailAmerica, it ceased operations in 2007 (Oregon International Port of Coos Bay 2020; Union Pacific 2023). However, after purchase by the International Port of Coos Bay in 2009, operations were restored in 2011 (Union Pacific 2023). The grade is around 2 ft high and is approximately 25 ft wide. The gravel appears to have been imported in the last several decades due to a lack of weathering. The railroad ties are around 105 in long and are 9 x 9 in wide/thick. The rails are spaced around 56.5 in apart. The rails are 3 in wide at the top and 11 in wide at the base, with a height of 9 in. The area around the rail is fairly forested, and a railroad crossing with Green Acres Lane is present in the APE. No artifacts were observed in association with the railroad and only modern refuse was present along the grade. Sediments are a brown silt, and contain a large amount of gravels, roots, and duff. Surface visibility was approximately 5 percent. Although the depth of the soils likely exceeds 1 m, the only buried artifacts are likely from older refuse of the tracks. The site is in good condition, as it continues to be used and is maintained, though the components are likely not original and many have likely been replaced. Vegetation at the site is primarily Himalayan blackberry, Pacific blackberry, red huckleberry, skunk cabbage, Oregon ash, rusty menziesia, western redcedar, western hemlock, and Sitka spruce.					

Site Description	Current disturbance to the site includes adjacent road maintenance (for OR-42), railroad maintenance, and alluvial erosion. Discussion and NRHP Recommendation Because only part of the rail was recorded, this evaluation only refers to the currently observed segment. The site represents a continuously used Southern Pacific/Isthmus Transit Railroad, which has operated from the 1870s to the present, as the earliest map depicting the railroad segment is a March 1872 GLO survey map and an 1898 Coos Bay, Oregon 30-minute topographic map (GLO 1872b; USGS 1898). The site maintains aspects of integrity in association, setting, materials, design, location, workmanship, and feeling. While many parts of the rail line have likely been replaced and maintained over time, its construction is fairly consistent to how it would have been established and constructed in the mid to late-1870s. Thus, these aspects of integrity have only been minimal negatively impacted. The railroad is an important site in relation to the milling and logging industry of Coos County and the surrounding region. The railroad's construction not only effected the region's industry and economy of the time, but also led to the population boom of various coastal and inland communities in southwestern Oregon, particularly in Coos County. The railroad's impact can be seen today in the milling plants and operations which are still running due to its existence; these remaining industries act as a large employer in many of the local towns and cities. The site is recommended eligible for inclusion in the NRHP under Criterion A. There is no documented evidence of specific important individuals on a regional or local level who constructed or used this site. The site is recommended not eligible for inclusion in the NRHP under Criterion B. The railroad segment is not unique in its construction or design to other railroads in the area and region, thus the line lacks distinctive characteristics of design or construction that separates it from other railroads; considering its common design, the site is recommended not eligible for inclusion in the NRHP under Criterion C. Depth potential associated does exist with the rail, due to it being covered by a wide (at least 25 ft) grade, which has likely been regraded and recovered over time; however, any buried artifacts would likely be from old parts of the feature, and artifacts encountered are unlikely to yield significant information adding to the existing site narrative or generate information important to prehistory or history of the area. Therefore, the site is recommended not eligible for inclusion in the NRHP under Criterion D. Considering the aspects of integrity remaining, even with maintenance over time, the railroad is an important site related to the historic-era development of the logging and milling industry in Coos County and the region. As such, the site is recommended eligible for inclusion in the NRHP under Criterion A and avoidance is advised.								
Dates of Use	<table border="1"> <tr> <th>From</th><th>To</th><th>BP/AD/BC</th><th>Method</th></tr> <tr> <td>1872</td><td>2023</td><td>AD</td><td>Historic Record</td></tr> </table>	From	To	BP/AD/BC	Method	1872	2023	AD	Historic Record
From	To	BP/AD/BC	Method						
1872	2023	AD	Historic Record						
Site Observations	<table border="1"> <tr> <th>Present</th><th>Quantity</th></tr> <tr> <td>N/A</td><td>0</td></tr> </table>	Present	Quantity	N/A	0				
Present	Quantity								
N/A	0								
Estimated Counts	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Prehistoric:</td><td>Historic:</td></tr> </table>	Prehistoric:	Historic:						
Prehistoric:	Historic:								
Rock Art									
No Rock Art Specified									
Site Condition									
Visit Date	05/24/2023								
Site Condition	Good- Site Damage between 5% and 40%								
Field Recorder	J. Keith, C. Martinez (PaleoWest); Jesse Davis (Coquille Indian Tribe)								
Artifacts Collected?	No								
Activities/Work Performed	Pedestrian Survey and STP testing adjacent to the site.								
Impacts/Impact Agents	• Weathering • Erosion • Road • Utilities								

Protective Measures Recommended		No protective measures recommended, still active in some limited operation			
Bibliographic References					
Author	Publication Year	Title	Agency/Organization	Primary Reference	User Agency
General Land Office (GLO)	1872	Township No 28 South Range No 13 West Willamette Meridian	U.S. Department of the Interior	No	
Files Uploads					
• 23-0250-01 Attachments.pdf					
Form Entry Recorder:		Jonathan Keith		Date: 05/24/2023	

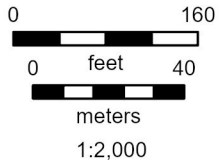
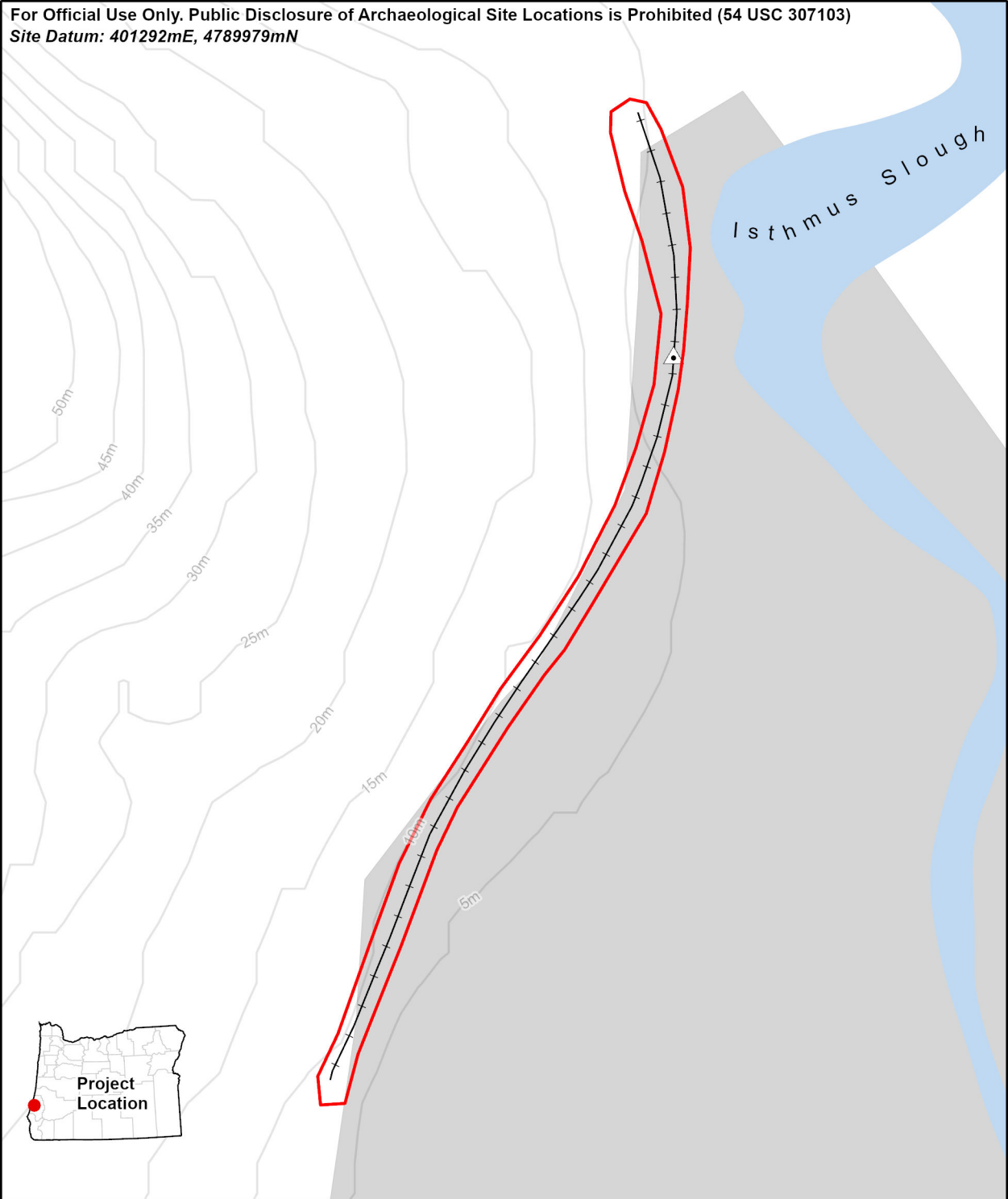


USA Topo Maps: Copyright © 2013 National Geographic Society, I-cubed



Site Location: 23-0250-01
USGS 7.5' Quadrangle:
Coos Bay, OR (1974)
T27S R13W Sec 2
UTM Zone 10, NAD 83

 Site Boundary



Site Sketch: 23-0250-01
USGS 7.5' Quadrangle:
Coos Bay, OR (1974)
T27S R13W Sec 2
UTM Zone 10, NAD 83

- APE
- Site Boundary
- Datum
- Rail and Grade
- Contour



Overview of site 23-0250-01 from southern end in the APE, facing north.



Overview of site 23-0250-01 from crossing, facing north.

Site: 23-0250-01



Overview of site 23-0250-01 from crossing, facing south.



Overview of site 23-0250-01 north of the crossing, facing southeast.

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Union Pacific

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- 1900 *Coos Bay, Oregon* 30' USGS Topographic Quadrangle, 1937 edition. USGS, Washington, D.C.
- 1942a *Coos Bay, Oregon* 15' USGS Topographic Quadrangle. USGS, Washington, D.C.
- 1942b *Coquille, Oregon* 15' USGS Topographic Quadrangle. USGS, Washington, D.C.
- 1971a *Coos Bay, Oregon* 7.5' USGS Topographic Quadrangle. USGS, Washington, D.C.

Site: 23-0250-01

1971b *Coquille, Oregon* 7.5' USGS Topographic Quadrangle. USGS, Washington, D.C.

2023 ARA550470010055. EarthExplorer. Electronic document,
<https://earthexplorer.usgs.gov/scene/metadata/full/5e83d8e4870f4473/ARA550470010055/>, accessed April 25, 2023.

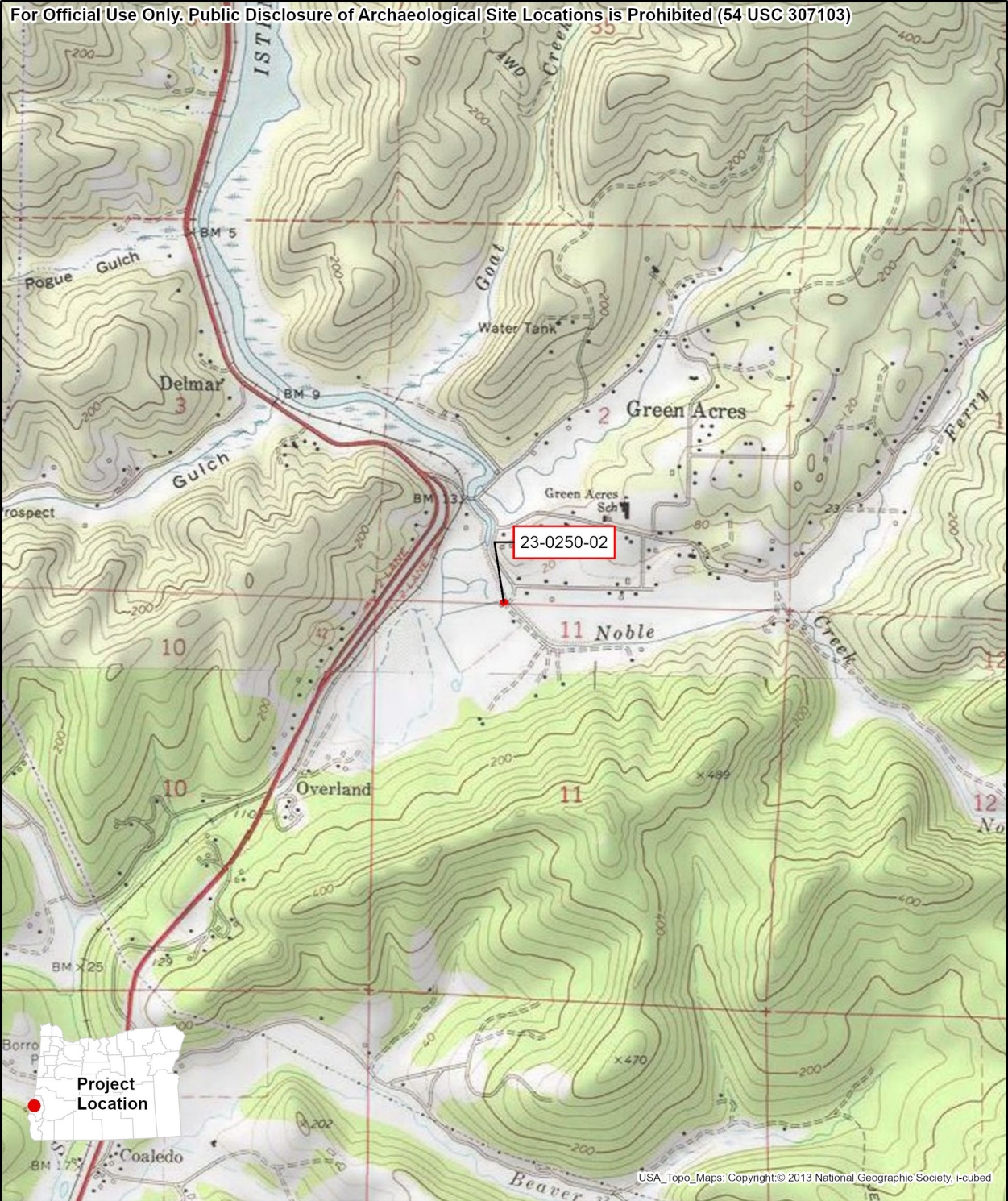
State of Oregon Archaeological Site Record

Administrative Data									
Smithsonian Number:					Alt Site Nbrs:		23-0250-02		
Site Name:					Form Type:		New		
Managing Office*:		Private			County:		Coos		
Owners(s):		Private							
Ownership/Management Notes:		FOREMAN, JOSEPH L. & DIANA L.							
National Register Status:		Status	Role	Date	Author				
		Not Eligible	Fieldworker	05/24/2023	Jonathan P. Keith				
Site Identification									
Site Type		• Other							
Features*:		• Foundation • Historic Structure Remains			Cultural Periods(s)*:		• Depression/WWII (1929-1950) • Recent (post 1950)		
Dimensions:		Length	74.1	Width	57.1	Units	Feet	Area	4231.11 Sq f
Depth of Cultural Deposits		0 cm							
General Age		Historic							
Location Data									
Legal Description:	Township	Range	Section	¼	¼	¼	DLC	Meridian	
	27 S	13 W	2	SW	SE	SW		Willamette	
	27 S	13 W	11	NW	NE	NW		Willamette	
UTM Coordinates	Type	East	North	Method		Zone	Datum		
	Marked Pt./Datum	401450	4789557	GPS < 1m		10	83		
Map References	Map Name/Year			Revision Year					
	COOS BAY 7'			1974					
Access Description	Heading northwest from Coquille, OR on Oregon Route 42 (OR-42) at the intersection with North Bank Ln. continue on OR-42 for 3.49 miles. At this point is an intersection with Green Acres Ln., turn eastward onto the latter for 0.13 miles, a fork will be reached and continue to the southeast on Green Acres Ln for 0.09 miles. Another fork will be reached and proceed to drive south on Lower Loop Road for 0.16 miles. A fork will be reached and then drive south on Noble Creek Road for 0.05 miles and park by a gate after a single lane bridge is crossed. From north of the gate walk west (250.5 degrees) for 12.2 meters to reach the datum, the center of the structure.								
Environmental Data									
Province		Coast Range							
Basin		South Coast							
Subbasin		COOS R							
Drainage Name		Noble Creek							
Elevation		From 5 To 10 ft							
Aspect		Aspect: SW							
Depositional Environment		• Alluvial • Erosional							
Soil Description		The upper strata varies upon location as the lower ground is a mottled 10YR 3/2 Very Dark Grayish Brown and 7.5YR 5/6 Strong Brown silty clay, while the soil in the berm is a mottled 10YR 5/3 Brown and 7.5YR 5/6 Strong Brown silty clay. The upper 30 cmbs of the strata is very compacted, likely due to cattle trampling and agricultural development. This upper strata is present unit around 50 to 80 cmbs. It transitions to a 5Y 4/1 Dark Gray Clay and the water table is encountered around 100 cmbs.							
Vegetation Description		Vegetation at the site is primarily grasses, Juncus, and meadow foxtail with Himalayan blackberry and shrubs on the berm for the road. The field surrounding the site is actively used cattle pasture							

	and is marshy, cattail is found further away in pastures not currently being grazed.					
Culturally Significant Vegetation	• Cattail					
Water Sources	Name	Type	Stream Type	Stream Class	Distance	Direction
	Noble Creek	Stream	Perennial	NA	19 meters	63 deg
Site Setting	The observed segment of the site is in a valley adjacent to Noble Creek and is at a transitional zone from the Isthmus Slough and Beaver Slough. Sediments at the site were a very dark grayish brown and mottled brown and strong brown silty clay, which eventually transitions to a dark gray clay below 50 cmbs. Generally, the water table is hit between 90–100 cmbs. Surface visibility was approximately 15 percent due to grazed grasses and pushed soil as the site is adjacent to Noble Creek Road/Bramble Lane. Although the depth of the soils likely exceeds 2 m, no buried artifacts were encountered in STPs in the surrounding area. The site is in poor condition, as the loft barn was demolished around 2010 and continues to decay. Current disturbance to the site include road maintenance, demolition, alluvial erosion, and weathering. The remaining fragments of the roof and walls have vegetation growing around it. Modern refuse is common around the road and the tidegate.					
Site Description						
	Site 23-0250-02 is a newly recorded historic period mid-twentieth century loft barn foundation (Coos County Assessor 2023) documented by PaleoWest on May 24, 2023. The site is a 1940 to 1950s historic period dirt floor loft barn concrete foundation. The barn was demolished around 2010 and was located adjacent to Noble Creek Road/Bramble Lane and near an access road. To the west and south of the site are grassy pastures used for livestock grazing, primarily cattle, and an east-west channel is to the north. To the east of the site is Noble Creek Road/Bramble Lane and Noble Creek. The loft barn was likely used in relation to cattle grazing activities in the pastures.					
	Looking at the 1857 and 1872 GLO maps along with the 1898 Coos Bay 30-minute and 1942 Coos Bay 15-minute map, no structures appear at the barn’s location (GLO 1857, 1872a, 1872b; USGS 1898, 1942). However, the structure does appear on the 1971 7.5-minute Coos Bay topographic map (USGS 1971). Historic aerials show that the structure did not exist in 1942, but appeared by 1957 (NETR 2023; USGS 2023). While an assessor record does exist of the structure, it lacks the construction date for a more concrete date (Coos County Assessor 2023). Vegetation at the site is primarily grasses, Juncus, and meadow foxtail with Himalayan blackberry and shrubs on the berm for the road. The loft barn was adjacent to an access road, which is obvious when viewed from the current gate.					
	The concrete foundation is 32 ft (southwest–northeast) by 23 ft (southeast–northwest). The foundation has two steps, the outer is 6 in wide and is 4 in high from the ground, and the inner is 6 in wide and 9 in high. The total measurement of the foundation is 1 ft wide and 13 in high. Although some materials from the barn are still in the area, no non-structural artifacts were observed, and only modern refuse is present.					
	Sediments at the site were a very dark grayish brown and mottled brown and strong brown silty clay, which eventually transitions to a dark gray clay below 50 cmbs. Generally, the water table is hit between 90–100 cmbs. Surface visibility was approximately 15 percent due to grazed grasses and pushed soil as the site is adjacent to Noble Creek Road/Bramble Lane. Although the depth of the soils likely exceeds 2 m, no buried artifacts were encountered in STPs in the surrounding area. The site is in poor condition, as the loft barn was demolished around 2010 and continues to decay. Current disturbance to the site include road maintenance, demolition, alluvial erosion, and weathering. The remaining fragments of the roof and walls have vegetation growing around it. Modern refuse is common around the road and the tidegate.					
Site Description	Discussion and NRHP Recommendation					
	The site represents the remaining concrete foundation of a loft barn that was constructed between 1942 and 1957. The site fails to appear on any maps, but does appear on aerial imagery between this time span (NETR 2023, USGS 2023). In addition to the aerials, assessor data shows that the structure was a					

	loft barn, but no dates are provided regarding construction (Coos County Assessor 2023). Reviewing imagery also shows that, around 2010, the barn was demolished; it remains in a demolished state at present. The site maintains aspects of integrity in association, setting, materials, design, location, workmanship, and feeling. However, as the walls of the structure have been demolished and only the foundation remains intact, materials, design, workmanship, and feeling have been negatively impacted and will likely experience a loss of these aspects over time. The displaced roofing will likely continue to collapse, and the concrete foundation will continue to weather. There is no evidence to suggest this site is associated with any specific event or events important to history. The site represents a mid-twentieth century loft barn related to the cattle pastures to the east, which is similar to most agricultural infrastructure along Noble Creek and the Isthmus Slough. Dealing with tidal waters was a common occurrence with most farms along the creek and slough, and the site is not unique in this aspect. The site is recommended not eligible for inclusion in the NRHP under Criterion A. There is no documented evidence of specific important individuals or farmers on a regional or local level who constructed or used this site. The site is recommended not eligible for inclusion in the NRHP under Criterion B. The loft barn is also not unique, as it is similar to many additional agricultural out-structures in the area; if any distinctive characteristics of design or construction existed, they have been compromised and negatively effected by the demolition of the building. The poor state of the loft barn's foundations will continue to degrade over time, and the design is fairly simple like many dirt floor structures; thus, considering the current state and simple design the site is recommended not eligible for inclusion in the NRHP under Criterion C. Depth potential associated does exist, as adjacent utilities are buried at least 1–2 m deep. The site had no associated surface artifacts, and any refuse was modern or from the walls/roof of the structure. Additionally, even if any buried artifacts exist, they are likely from portions of the feature and non-structural artifacts encountered are unlikely to yield significant information adding to the existing site narrative or generate information important to prehistory or history of the area. Therefore, the site is recommended not eligible for inclusion in the NRHP under Criterion D. Despite aspects of integrity remaining, the site is recommended not eligible for listing on the NRHP, as the site represents a common loft barn and additional structure for a farm, which is typical for almost all properties along Noble Creek and the Isthmus Slough. Additionally, the site is in poor condition to the point where continued weathering will continue to negatively impact aspects of integrity over the next several decades. As such, the site is recommended not eligible for inclusion in the NRHP under all Criteria and no further work should be required.			
Dates of Use	From 1942	To 2010	BP/AD/BC AD	Method Other
Site Observations	Present N/A			Quantity 0
Estimated Counts	Prehistoric: Historic:			
Rock Art				
No Rock Art Specified				
Site Condition				
Visit Date	05/24/2023			
Site Condition	Poor- Site Damage between 60% and 95%			
Field Recorder	J. Keith and C. Martinez (PaleoWest); Jesse Davis (Coquille Indian Tribe)			
Artifacts Collected?	No			
Activities/Work Performed	Pedestrian Survey and STP testing adjacent to the site.			
Impacts/Impact Agents	• Weathering • Erosion • Road • Utilities • Agriculture • Animal/trampling			
	No protective measures recommended, structure already			

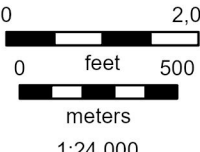
Protective Measures Recommended		demolished and cleared in 2010			
Bibliographic References					
Author	Publication Year	Title	Agency/Organization	Primary Reference	User Agency
Nationwide Environmental Title Research (NETR)	2023	Historic Aerials. Online Database	Nationwide Environmental Title Research (NETR) Archives	No	
Files Uploads					
• 23-0250-02 Attachments.pdf					
Form Entry Recorder:		Jonathan Keith		Date: 05/24/2023	



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PALEO WEST



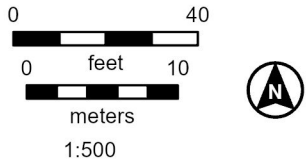
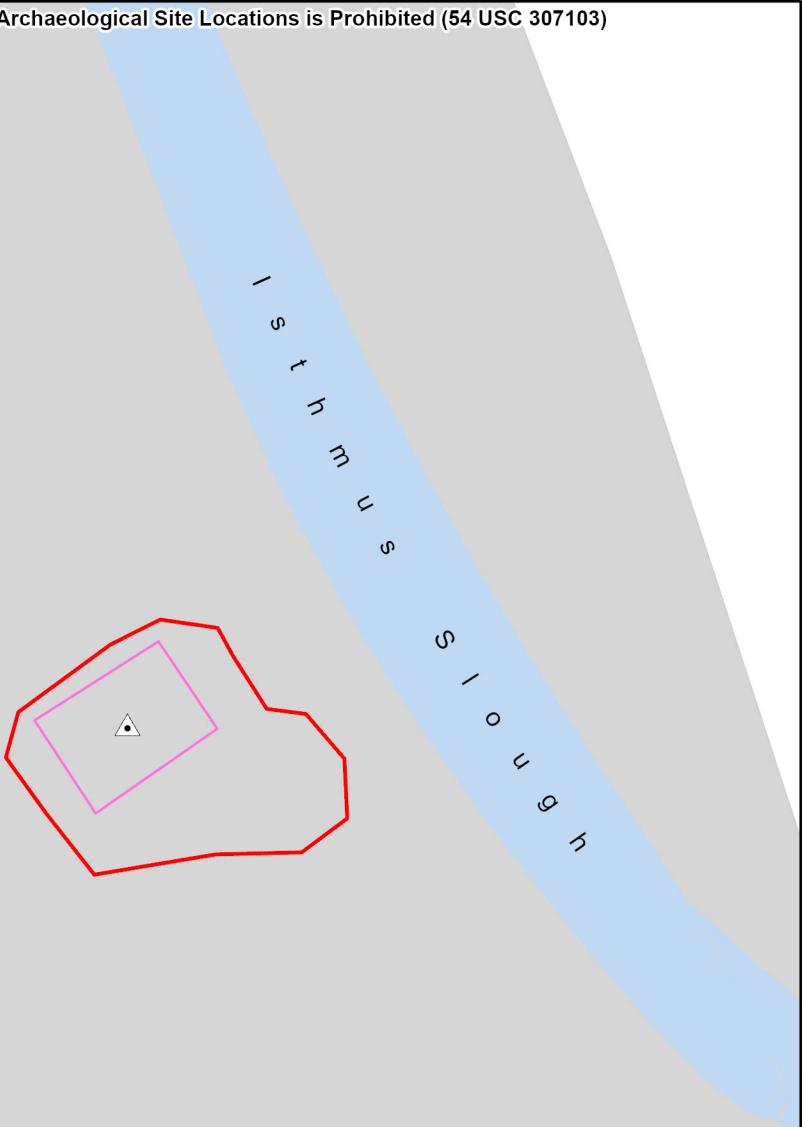
0 2,000
0 feet 500
meters
1:24,000



Site Location: 23-0250-02
USGS 7.5' Quadrangle:
Coos Bay, OR (1974)
T27S R13W Sec 2, 11
UTM Zone 10, NAD 83



Site Boundary



Site Sketch: 23-0250-02
USGS 7.5' Quadrangle:
Coos Bay, OR (1974)
T27S R13W Sec 2, 11
UTM Zone 10, NAD 83

- APE
- Site Boundary
- Datum
- Shelter Foundation



Overview of site 23-0250-02, facing southwest.



Overview of site 23-0250-02, facing south.

Site: 23-0250-02



Overview of site 23-0250-02, facing east.



Overview of site 23-0250-02, facing north.

References

Coos County Assessor

- 2023 Improvement Summary: Account ID 693600. Electronic document, <https://records.co.coos.or.us/pso/download/?report=Improvement&accountId=693600&rollType=Real&year=2023&improvementId=519490>, accessed May 25, 2023.

General Land Office (GLO)

- 1857 *Township No 27 South Range No 13 West Willamette Meridian*. Electronic document, https://glorerecords.blm.gov/details/survey/default.aspx?dm_id=325724&sid=fpzrcv32.gsi#surveyDetailsTabIndex=0, accessed April 4, 2023.
- 1872a *Township No 27 South Range No 13 West Willamette Meridian*. Electronic document, https://glorerecords.blm.gov/details/survey/default.aspx?dm_id=325728&sid=fpzrcv32.gsi#surveyDetailsTabIndex=0, accessed April 4, 2023.
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Nationwide Environmental Title Research (NETR)

- 2023 *Historical Aerials*. Online database. Available at: <https://www.historicaerials.com/>, accessed May 23, 2023.

U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)

- 1898 *Coos Bay, Oregon* 30' USGS Topographic Quadrangle. USGS, Washington, D.C.
- 1900 *Coos Bay, Oregon* 30' USGS Topographic Quadrangle, 1937 edition. USGS, Washington, D.C.
- 1942 *Coos Bay, Oregon* 15' USGS Topographic Quadrangle. USGS, Washington, D.C.
- 1971 *Coos Bay, Oregon* 7.5' USGS Topographic Quadrangle. USGS, Washington, D.C.
- 2023 ARA550470010055. EarthExplorer. Electronic document, <https://earthexplorer.usgs.gov/scene/metadata/full/5e83d8e4870f4473/ARA550470010055/>, accessed April 25, 2023.



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