

Oregon Parks and Recreation Commission

September 18, 2008

Agenda Item: 14a

Action

Topic: Adoption of Names for Park Properties

Presented by: Cliff Houck

Background: OPRD policy Com 10-5 (naming of Oregon State Parks) requires an action by the Commission. The policy establishes that State Parks are generally not named for individuals unless the individual has been instrumental in the creation of the park or has made long-term contributions to the State Park system. The policy recommends that the Oregon Geographic Names Board (OGNB) be consulted and that staff consult any tribe with cultural affiliation and/or the appropriate tribe for the area.

In keeping with the policy OPRD has forwarded a list of names for recently acquired properties to the Oregon Geographic Names Board for their consideration. Also, OPRD contacted the appropriate and affiliated tribes for each of the properties for their input.

The properties were classified in accordance with the 1995 Systems Plan that categorized OPRD properties into ten classifications: State Park, State Corridor, State Scenic Waterway, State Trail, State Recreation Site/Area, State Natural Site/Area, State Heritage Site/Area, State Wayside, State Greenway, and Endowment.

Crissey Field State Recreation Site

The Siletz Tribe was notified, and there was no comment. The OGNB unanimously recommended the proposed name as consistent with the historic use of the property.

Beaver Creek State Natural Area

The Siletz Tribe was notified, and there was no comment. The OGNB noted that there are five streams named Beaver Creek in the U.S. Geological Survey's Geographic Names Information System. Lincoln County officials advised that the Beaver Creek in this case is the most significant and best known of the five creeks. The OGNB board concurred with the proposed name.

Arizona Beach State Recreation Site

The Siletz Tribe was notified, and there was no comment. The OGNB unanimously recommended the proposed site name.

Fort Lane State Heritage Site

The Siletz, Cow Creek and Grand Ronde Tribes were notified, and there were no comments received. The OGNB unanimously recommended the proposed site name.

Golden State Heritage Site

The Siletz, Cow Creek and Grand Ronde Tribes were notified, and there were no comments received. The OGNB unanimously recommended the name “Golden” however expressed concern that including the word “State” might be misleading because of the connection to the state of California. A possible solution to this would be to name the site *Town of Golden State Heritage Site*.

Eight Dollar Mountain State Natural Area

The Siletz, Cow Creek and Grand Ronde Tribes were notified, and there were no comments received. The OGNB members unanimously concurred with the proposed name.

Bates State Park

The Siletz, Cow Creek and Grand Ronde Tribes were notified, and there were no comments received. The OGNB board members discussed the view that the name “Bates” is overused in the local area. However, local residents and Grant County officials have expressed their support for the proposed name and the majority of the OGNB board members concurred with the name *Bates State Park*.

Action Requested: Commission approval of each Park name

Prior Action by Commission: none

Prepared by: Cliff Houck