Wild Iris Ridge

MANAGEMENT PLAN

October 2008

Wild Iris Ridge

MANAGEMENT PLAN

Prepared for

City of Eugene • Parks and Open Space Division • Natural Resources Section

1820 Roosevelt Blvd.

Eugene, Oregon 97401

www.eugene-or.gov/naturalresources

Prepared by

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1.0 Introduction and Background

1.1 Introduction

Wild Iris Ridge is a City of Eugene (City) owned property approximately 228 acres in size, situated mostly outside of the metropolitan urban growth boundary (UGB) in the south hills. The site lies just to the north of Bailey Hill in the headwaters of Willow and Spencer Creeks and was purchased in several phases between 2003 and 2007 by the City for habitat preservation, viewshed protection, and recreational use. A planned ridgeline trail extension will likely pass through this site in the future as adjacent properties are acquired along the trail corridor. The site boasts a range of plant communities, including remnant upland prairie and oak savanna, excellent wildlife habitat, stunning vistas, and varied topography. It also poses a number of difficult management issues such as colonization by invasive plant species, erosion, and potential fire hazard on the urban fringe. Because the site contains significant amounts of prairie, savanna, and oak woodland (all habitat types that have declined significantly in the Willamette Valley over the past 150 years), the site is particularly valuable from a habitat standpoint.

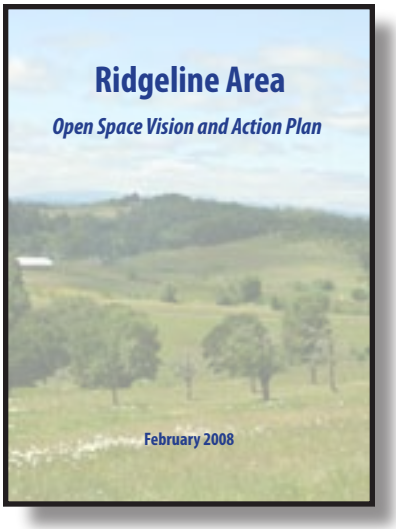
Wild Iris Ridge (upper prairie)

The purpose of this *Management Plan* is to provide direction for the short- and long-term maintenance and management of the site's plant communities, habitats, and facilities. This plan provides a context under which future management decisions can be made and facilities can be planned within the confines of available resources and funding. Due to the range of condition within this site's habitats, a degree of latitude has been written into the management strategies to allow flexibility in addressing localized habitat needs and opportunities.

1.2 Previous Site Planning and Policy Direction

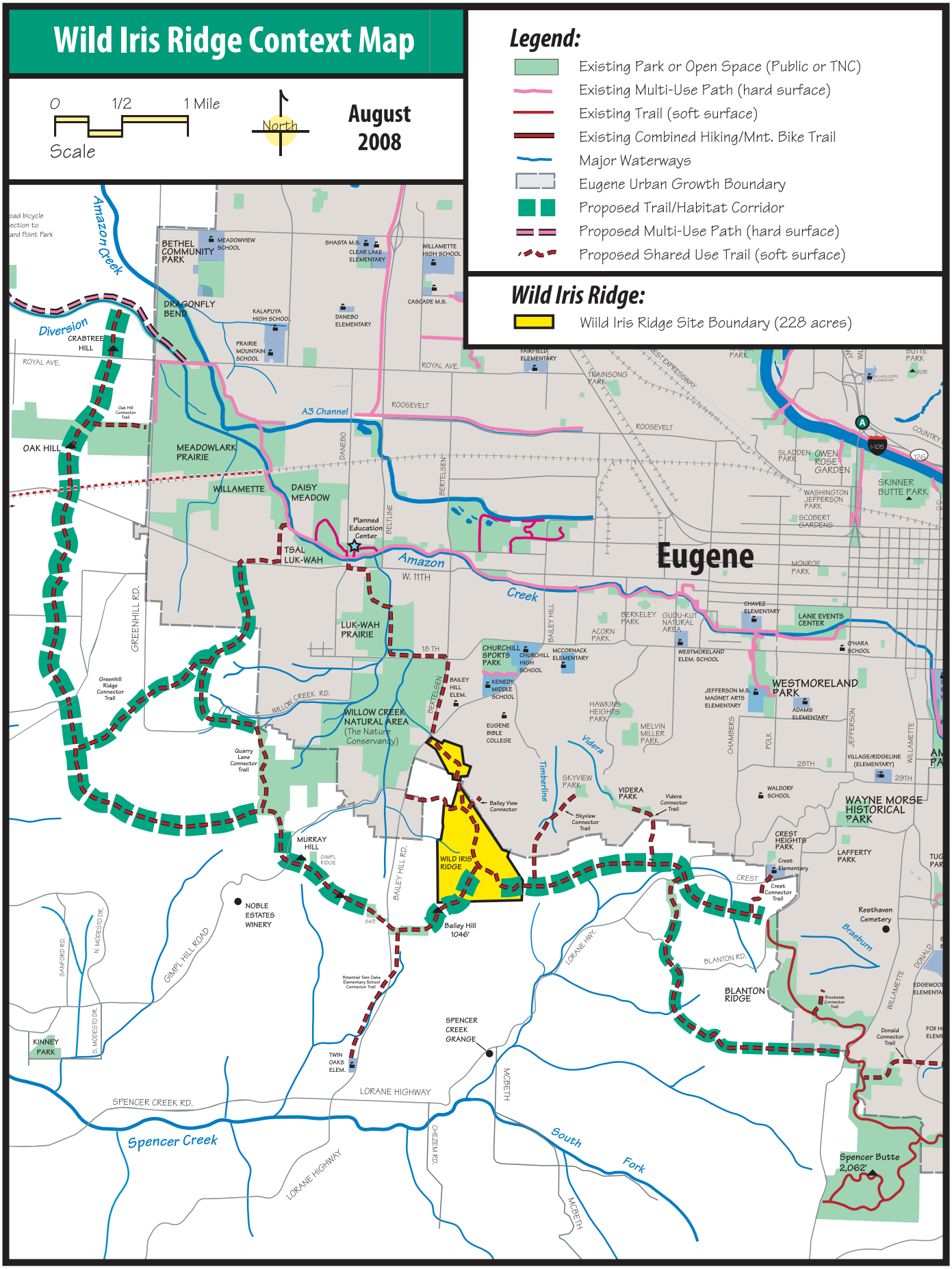
In September 2004, the *Wild Iris Ridge Interim Management Plan* was created to help guide management activities over the short-term for the newly acquired site and to help support grant applications for implementation funding. This plan specified priority habitat management actions, road removal, and specified some recreational access improvements. The plan noted that until public acquisition of adjacent parcels was completed, it would be difficult to plan for the ridgeline trial connections through the site; this is still the case. The 2004 plan addressed only the original 123 acres of the site.

In February 2008, the *Ridgeline Area Open Space Vision and Action Plan* was completed. This Plan provides general policy direction for recreation and habitat management in the ridgeline area, which includes Wild Iris Ridge. Creation of the vision was facilitated by Lane Council



The *Ridgeline Area Open Space Vision and Action Plan* provides general policy direction for long-term management of Wild Iris Ridge.

Wild Iris Ridge Context Map

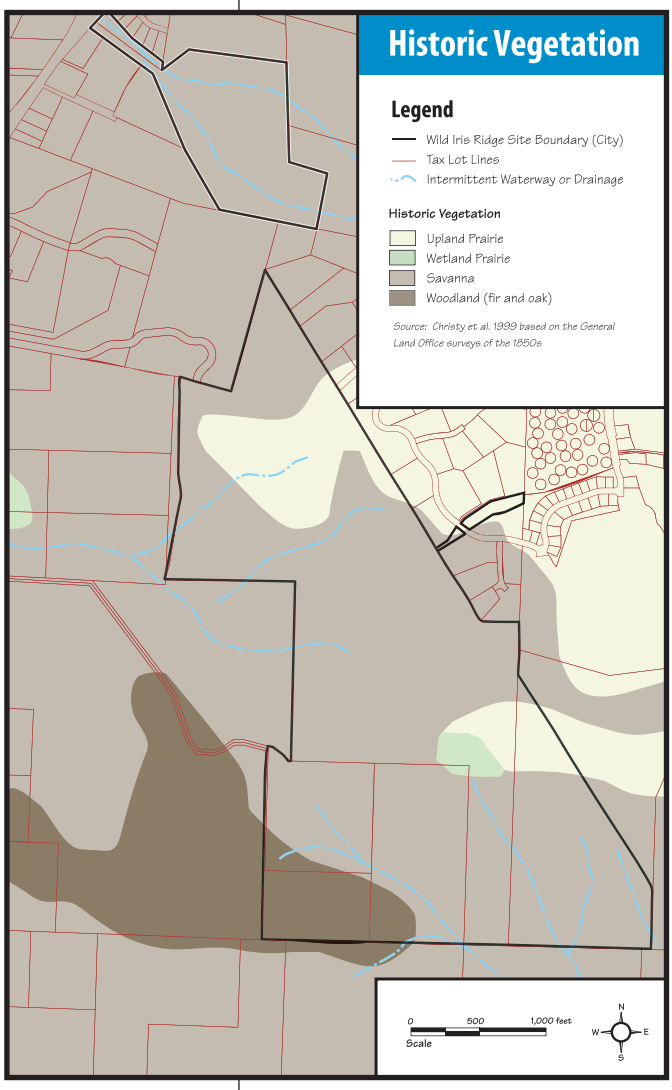


of Governments (LCOG) through a partnership including the City of Eugene, the U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM), The Nature Conservancy, McKenzie River Trust, Long Tom Watershed Council, Lane County Parks, and Willamalane Park & Recreation District. The Plan was subsequently endorsed by the Eugene and Springfield City Councils, the Lane County Board of Commissioners, and Willamalane Board. Many of the habitat management and recreational access elements of this updated *Wild Iris Management Plan* are reflective of the Ridgeline Area Vision. The *Ridgeline Area Open Space Vision Map* is included as Appendix-A of this report or go to www.lcog.org/ridgeline.

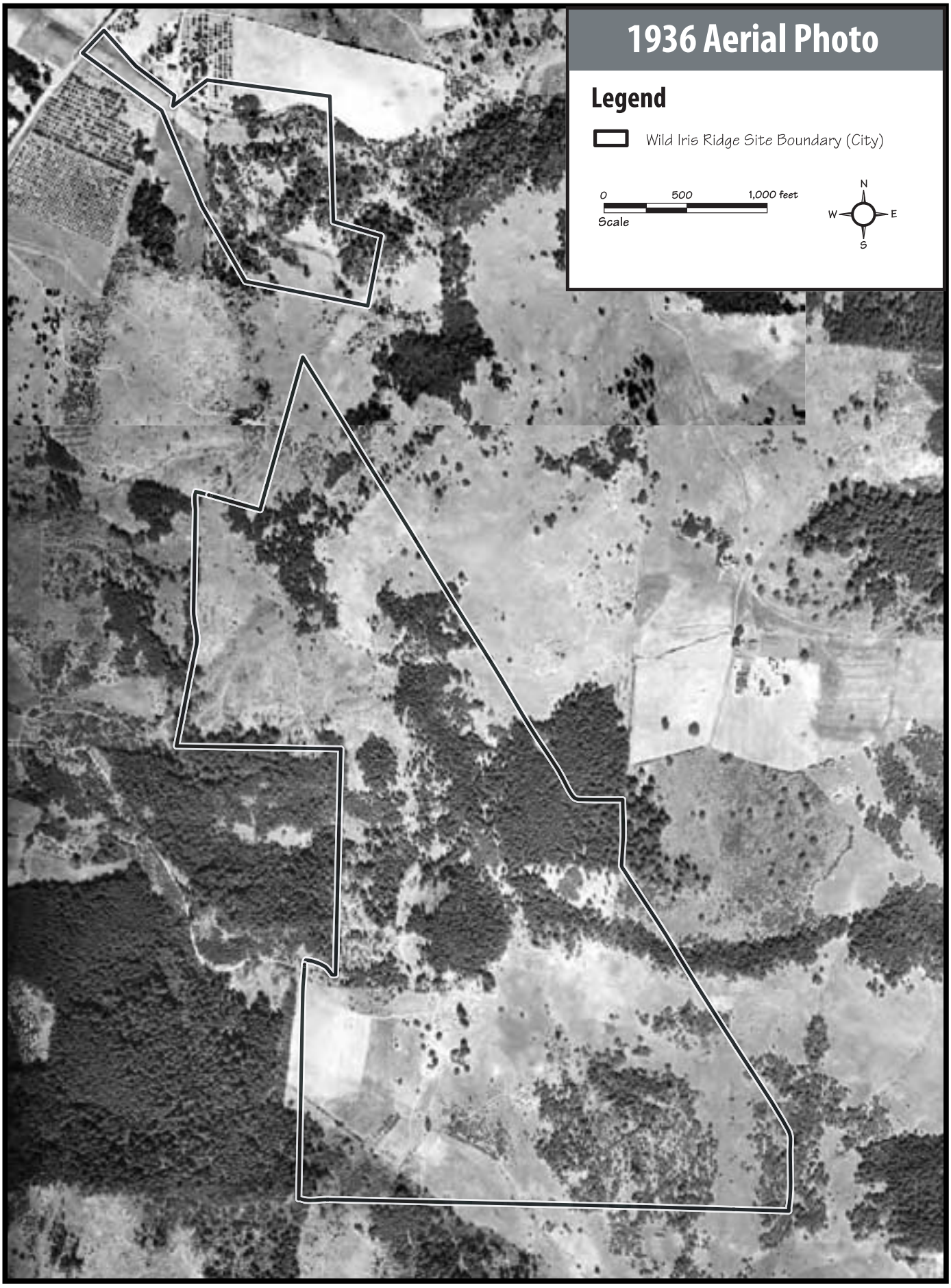
2.0 Site History and Existing Conditions

2.1 Site History

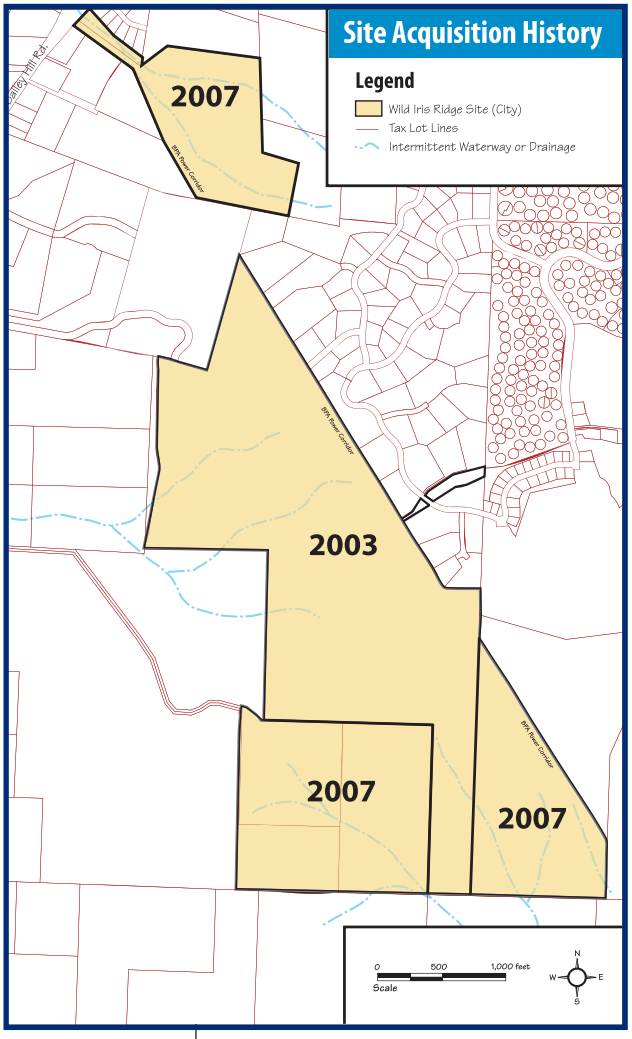
Based on interpretation of the Soil Survey of Lane County (SCS, 1987) and historic vegetation mapping (Christy et al. 1999 based on the General Land Office surveys of the 1850s), it is thought that the site was historically dominated by a mix of oak-pine savanna and prairie. This was part of a broader expanse of prairie and savanna habitat that was common throughout much of the southern Willamette Valley prior to Euro-American settlement. It is widely believed that the Native Americans practiced regular burning of understory vegetation in order to improve conditions for hunting, gathering, and possibly travel. These frequent fires were the major disturbance factor that maintained prairie, savanna, and woodland communities in the past by limiting the invasion of conifer species (Thilenius 1968, Taylor and Boss 1975, Kertis 1986, Agee 1990). As Euro-American settlers moved into the valley beginning in the mid 1800s and began suppressing fires, savannas and prairie began a steady decline as land was converted to agricultural and urban uses and as coniferous forests expanded.



Review of the historic and current aerial photos of the site (1936, 1952, 1968, 1977, 2000, 2004, and 2005), confirms the existence of significant areas of remnant prairie and savanna habitat still present on the site in 1936, with a gradual transition over time to a more a closed- canopied forest system. This has been a typical successional pattern in the Willamette Valley since the mid 1800s. Although the prairie and savanna patches present on the site have decreased in extent since 1936, several significant remnants remain (see Existing Vegetation map). Periodic selective logging is evident on the property as early as 1936 and continued on various portions of the site until 2000. A significant portion of the site was logged in 1999-2000, just prior to the first phase of acquisition. That logging operation removed


1936 Aerial Photo
Legend
Wild Iris Ridge Site Boundary (City)
0
500
1,000 feet
Scale
N
W
E
S

most of the merchantable Douglas-fir and bigleaf maple from those areas, leaving oak, madrone, and other less marketable species. Following the logging, most of that area was replanted with valley ponderosa pine. Grazing has likely occurred across most areas of the site at one time or another as is evidenced by a series of fence lines. A house once existed in the southwest portion of the site, but all that now remains is a small cabin, a shed, and some capped wells. The BPA power easement that runs through the property appears on the 1952 aerial photo and is maintained periodically by BPA to limit tree growth under the power lines. Disturbances associated with the logging, grazing, home site, and power easement management have all contributed to a prevalence of exotic invasive species on the site.



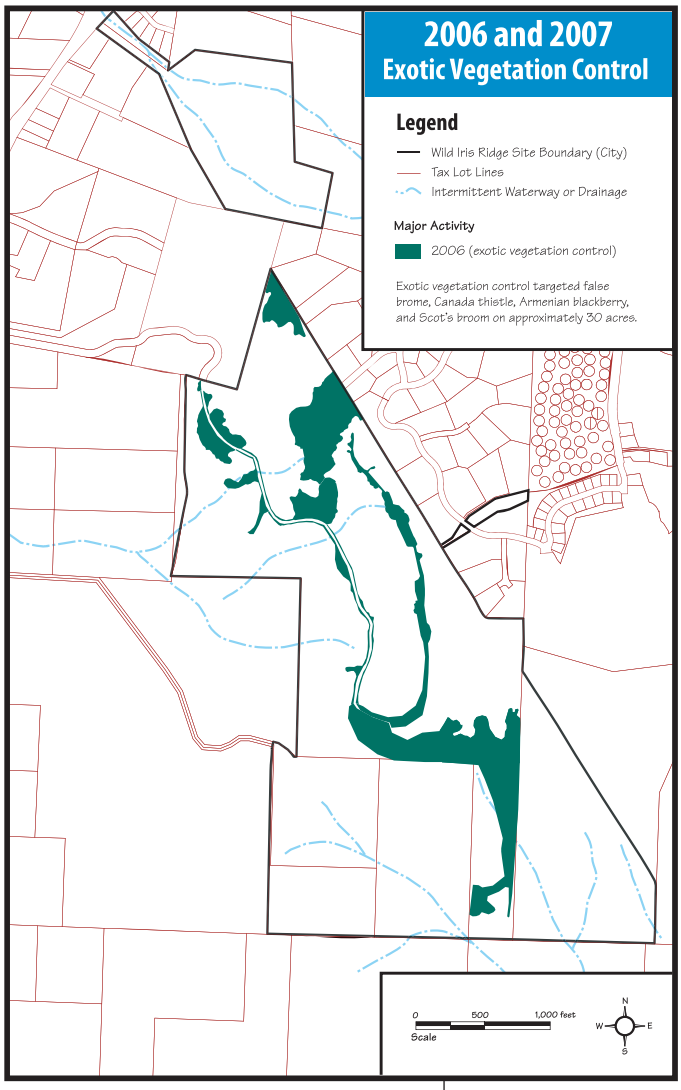
2.2 Acquisition History

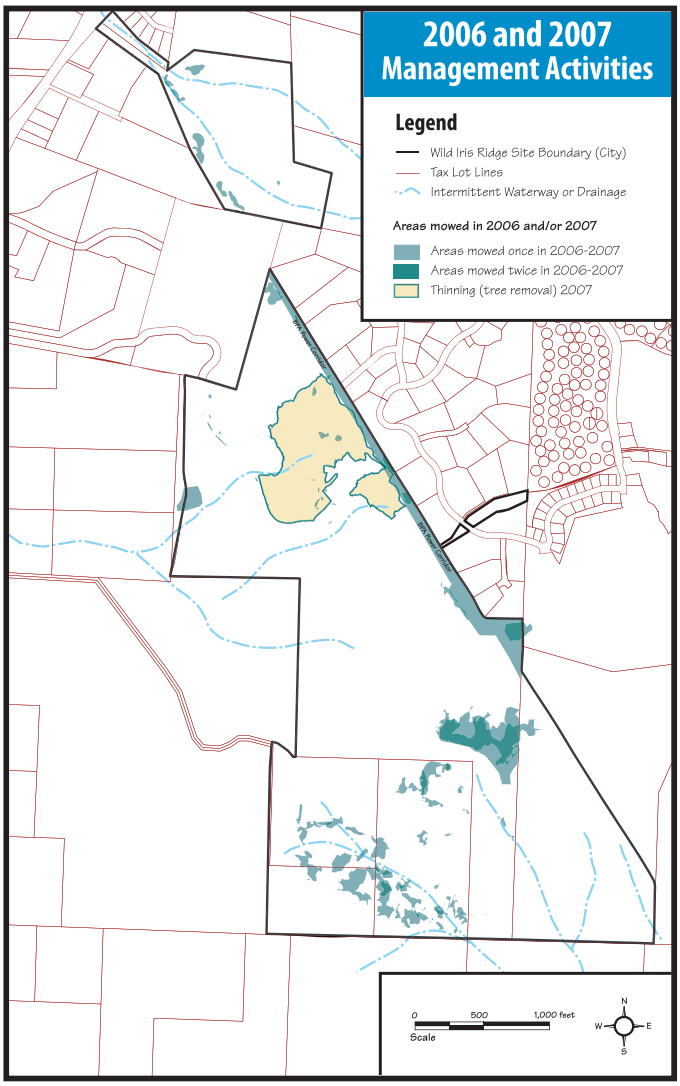
In January 2003, the City purchased the initial 123 acres of the site using 1998 parks and open space bond measure funds. Subsequent grant funding was obtained through the North America Wetlands Conservation Act (NAWCA). A *Notice of Grant Agreement* associated with the NAWCA funding ensures the site will be used in a *manor consistent with natural area values* (see Appendix C). In April 2007, an additional 49 acres on the southwest edge of the site was purchased utilizing funds generated through a combination of park system development charges (SDCs) and the 2006 parks and open space bond measure. In May 2007, 26 additional acres just to the north of the original purchase were acquired using a mix of funds from the Federal Forest Legacy Program, Park SDCs, and the 2006 bond measure. In November 2007, an additional 30 acres on the southeast edge of the site were purchased, also utilizing a combination of funds from the 2006 bond measure and Park SDCs. All three of the most recent acquisitions included a substantial donation component from the property owner. The 2007 acquisitions added significant areas of high quality habitat to the original Wild Iris Ridge site and provide great opportunities for future ridgeline trail connections through the area.

Approximately 13 acres of oak woodland and savanna were recently thinned, utilizing low impact techniques.

2.3 Recent Management Activities

Since the acquisition of the site, significant management activities have occurred, utilizing a combination of City maintenance funds, Bureau of Land Management fuels reduction funds, and Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB) grant funds. The majority of the management activities have occurred on the 123-acre parcel that was acquired first, with some initial management activities implemented on the southwestern parcel following acquisition in 2007.





Major management activities completed on the site since the time of acquisition by the City include:

- Oak woodland/savanna thinned on 13.3 acres (BLM fuels reduction funding)
- Woody species mowed (pine, blackberry, poison oak) for prairie enhancement on approximately 20 acres
- Woody and exotic species removal and mowing along the BPA power corridor (City, BPA maintenance crews)
- A study to look at the effectiveness of seeding versus plug planting in upland prairie was installed at the site in 2006.
- 5,000 cubic yards of slash pile removed and 400 cubic yards of slash burned (City, BLM fuels reduction funding)
- Over 23 acres were reseeded with native grass and forb species. Areas seeded included 13.3 acres of thinned oak savannah, 2 acres of land previously

Slash pile removal

occupied by slash piles, and 8 acres of land mowed and spot sprayed to control woody species.

- Invasive species control for Canada thistle, Scot's broom, Armenian blackberry on 28 acres (OWEB funding)
- Invasive species control for false brome, Canada thistle, Vinca major on 2 acres (City,)
- Park rules signs installed at perimeter of site (City)
- Junk car removal (City)
- Approximately 1,000 linear feet of road removed (re-graded and planted)

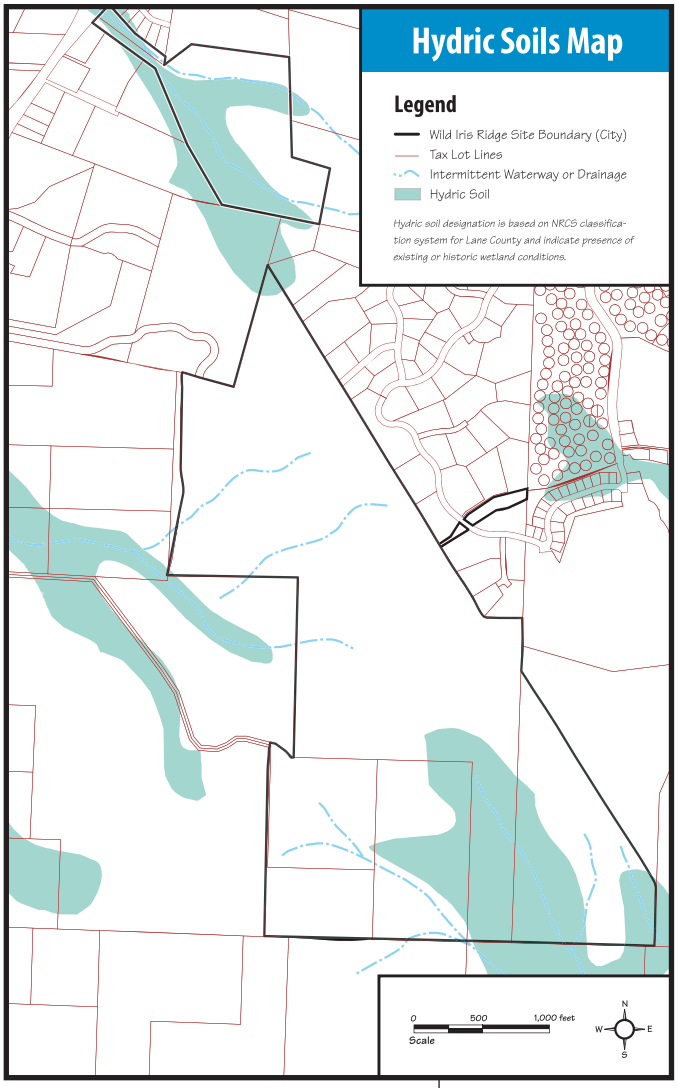
Approximately one-thousand lineal feet of unneeded roadway was removed, regraded, and planted in 2007.

2.4 Topography and Surface Hydrology

Wild Iris Ridge is located on the upper reaches of the Willow Creek and Spencer Creek drainages, straddling a ridgeline that runs from Bailey Hill in a northeasterly direction. The site's elevation ranges from approximately 360 feet at the northern end to approximately 1,070 feet in proximity to the water tower. The site is hilly throughout and contains slopes ranging between 10 and 35 percent with a few flatter areas found along the ridge tops. The majority of the site's slopes face either west or south, with the exception of the toe-slope of Bailey Hill, which faces northeast. The solar aspect of the site tends to result in relatively dry summer conditions, which is one of the factors that have allowed savanna and prairie to persist over time.

Numerous seasonal waterways flow across the site such as the one pictured above, located along the southern property boundary.

A series of small, mostly seasonal waterways, flow on the site, many originating from seeps or springs. The waterways on the northern half of the site drain to Willow Creek to the northwest and the waterways on the southern half of the site drain southward toward Spencer Creek. These waterways are typically dry by mid- to late-summer, although very low flow was observed in one of the waterways in early August (based on 2004 field observations). In addition, two small agricultural ponds are present on the site and hold water throughout the summer. Based on field observations and the presence of mapped hydric soils on approximately 48 acres, wetland hydrology exists in areas along both the southern and northern edges of the site, although the vast majority of the site is in upland condition (see Hydric Soils Map next page).



2.5 Soils

The majority of the site is mapped by the Lane County Soil Survey (1987) as having the soil classification [43] Dixonville-Philomath-Hazelair complex. This soil is described as being shallow to moderately deep (12-40 inches to bedrock), well drained, and having a high potential for erosion due to rapid runoff. The site also contains two significant areas of [102c] Panther silty clay loam, a deep, poorly drained soil, classified as hydric (40-60 inches to bedrock). The areas of hydric soils are located on the northern and southern ends of the site (see Hydric Soils Map) and are associated with waterways. On the site's southern end, several small patches of other additional soil types are found over much smaller areas. These include [41] Dixonville silty clay loam, [52] Hazelair silty clay loam, [107] Philomath silty clay, [108] Philomath cobbly silty clay, [113] Ritner cobbly silty clay loam, and [125] Steiwer loam. All of these soil types are classified as upland and have a relatively shallow depth to bedrock ranging between 12 and 40 inches.

2.6 Vegetation Communities

The site's historic open prairie and oak savanna habitats, which were common throughout much of the Willamette Valley prior to Euro-American settlement, have been modified significantly over the past 150 years. A combination of factors including the cessation of burning practices, periodic logging, grazing, management of the power line corridor, multiple ownerships, and road building have all contributed to the site's current vegetation cover. In general terms, the site has transitioned from a relatively open prairie and savanna landscape, to the more closed-canopied forest habitat that is present today. In addition, a number of invasive exotic plant species such as Scot's broom (*Cytisus scoparius*), Armenian blackberry (*Rubus armeniacus*), and Canada thistle (*Cirsium arvense*), along with a host of non-native grasses and forbs, have colonized areas of the site.

As a result of the factors mentioned above, an extremely diverse matrix of conditions are currently spread across the site. Habitat types have been mapped based on aerial photo interpretation and field observations, but it should be noted that transitions between habitat types tends to be gradual and there is high variability in condition within each habitat type including cover, native composition, and canopy age. The following habitat types are currently present on the site:

Prairie

Approximately 33 acres of prairie are currently found within the site, mainly on south- and southwest-facing slopes and in areas that contain shallow soils and along the BPA power corridor. The prairie patches are widely scattered across the site. The majority of the

prairies are upland, although based on the mapped locations of hydric soils on the site, some could be categorized as wet prairie. The wet prairies are generally located in the southern and northern ends of the site and are associated with waterways and seeps (see Hydric Soils Map). The existing prairie locations generally correspond to prairies present on the 1936 aerial photo, but occupy a smaller acreage than they did historically. In some cases, trees, shrubs, and exotic species such as Scot's broom (*Cytisus scoparius*) and Armenian blackberry (*Rubus armeniacus*) have taken hold in the prairies. Significant management activities undertaken by the City in 2006 and 2007 have focused on removing woody and exotic species from many of the prairie patches. These activities have included mowing, pulling (Scot's broom), and herbicide applications and have been largely successful in reversing the encroachment of woody shrubs that were threatening the prairie structure and composition. Most of these prairie management actions have occurred on the central portion of the site that was initially acquired. A number of prairie areas present on the recently acquired parcels would also benefit from similar treatment.

Approximately 33 acres of prairie of various quality is located on the site. The prairie shown above (upper prairie) has been the focus of recent exotic vegetation control efforts, which targeted broom, thistle, and blackberry.

The grass and forb composition of these prairies is highly variable, but for the most part, they are dominated by a mix of non-native species typically associated with pastures including tall fescue (*Festuca arundinacea*), dog-tailed grass (*Cynosurus echinatus*), ripgut brome (*Bromus rigidus*), meadow foxtail (*Alopecurus pratensis*), barren brome (*Bromus sterilis*), colonial bentgrass (*Agrostis tenuis*), and Queen Annes' lace (*Daucus carota*). However, remnant populations of native grasses and forbs can still be found in some of these prairies. Native prairie species recorded on the site include June grass (*Koeleria macrantha*), Roemer's fescue (*Festuca roemeri*), California oatgrass (*Danthonia californica*), mule's ears (*Wyethia angustifolia*), cat's ear (*Calochortus tolmiei*), and wild iris (*Iris tenax*). A list of species observed to date in the upland and wet prairies is included as Appendix B.

The prairies were generally not disturbed during the recent logging activities which occurred across the central portion of the site with a few exceptions. Some increase in exotic species along the prairie fringes occurred due to the disturbance, slash piles were placed in some prairie areas, and some Ponderosa pine were planted in prairies during the required post-logging reforestation.

The shallow soils found across much of the site tend to favor prairie and savanna condition.

BPA Corridor: Portions of the BPA corridor have been significantly improved in recent years through combined City and BPA management activities, which have focused on exotic and woody species control through mowing, cutting, and herbicide

BPA Corridor

application. These areas can now best be characterized as prairie, with some dense patches of shrubs and small trees. Similar maintenance activities will benefit the remainder of the BPA corridor and are planned for the southern and northern ends of the corridor. The 2004 *WIR Interim Management Plan* calls for this corridor to be managed as prairie with a scattered shrub component. This corridor serves as a fire break between the site and the adjacent urban development, so managing this area to remove woody and exotic vegetation greatly improves that function.

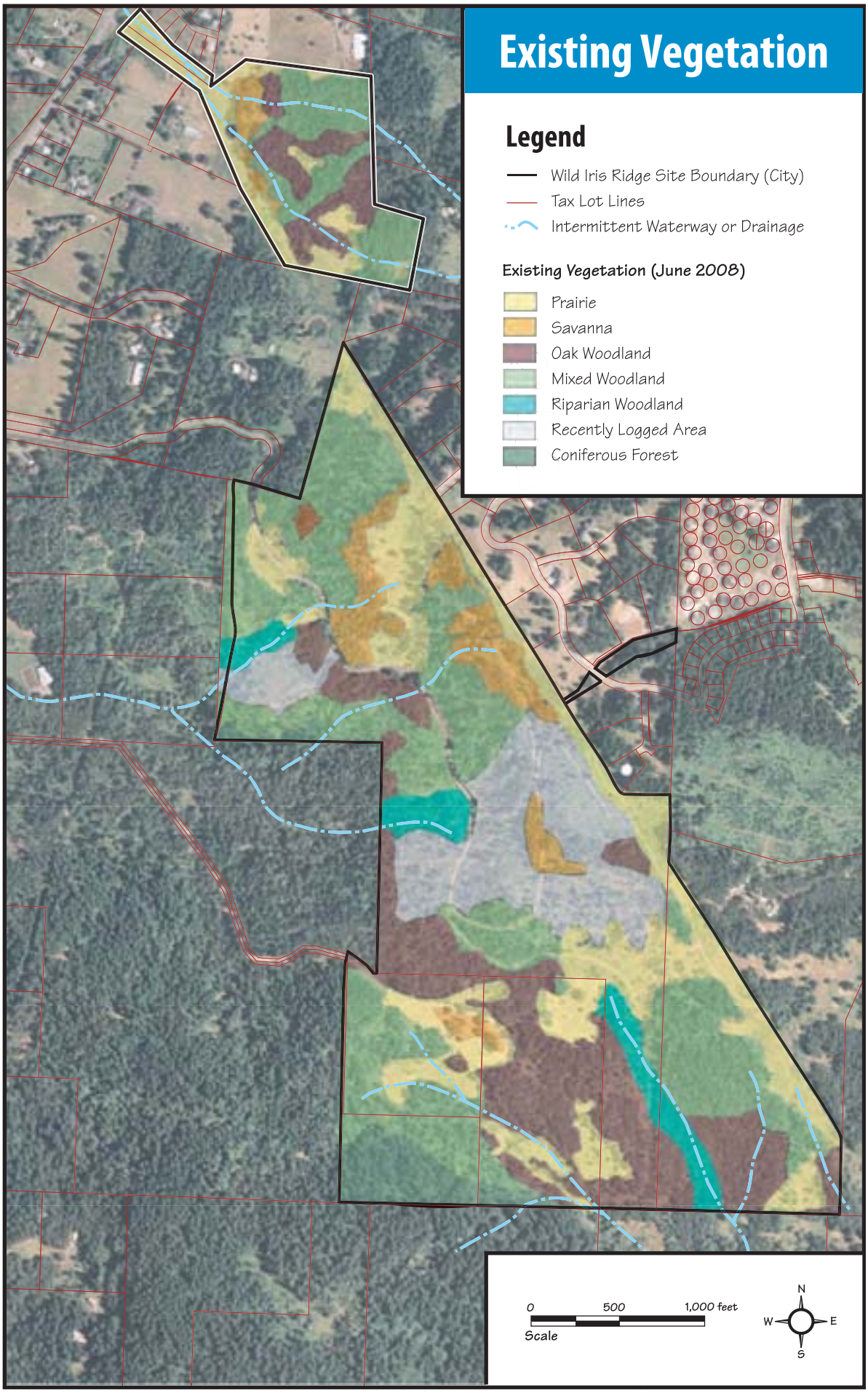
Woodland

Woodland is the most common habitat currently found on the site and includes several sub-categories. The woodland areas are generally dominated by deciduous trees and shrubs with conifers present in smaller quantities. The woodlands vary significantly in composition across the site, but can generally be broken into the following categories:

Oak woodland

<u>Oak woodland</u>:
Oak woodlands include dense stands of evenly aged young oak as well as some pockets of older, more widely spaced mature oaks. Stands of mature oaks are in some cases being colonized by thickets of young oak and Douglas-fir (*Psuedotsuga menziesii*). These areas primarily contain stands of Oregon white oak (*Quercus garryana*) with lesser amounts of California black oak (*Quercus kelloggii*). Also present are some older ponderosa pine (*Pinus ponderosa* var. *ponderosa*) and large madrone (*Arbutus menziesii*). A moderate to high-quality native understory exists throughout much of the oak woodland on the site including snowberry (*Symphoricarpus albus*) ocean spray (*Holodiscus discolor*), Oregon grape (*Berberis aquifolium*), serviceberry (*Amelanchier alnifolia*), poison oak (*Taxicodendron diversilobum*), hazelnut (*Corylus cornuta*), California fescue (*Festuca californica*), western fescue (*Festuca occidentalis*), and spreading rush (*Juncus patens*).

<u>Mixed woodland</u>:
Another common habitat type on the site is mixed woodland. These areas generally include species found in oak woodland with the addition of mature and young bigleaf maple (*Acer macrophyllum*), Douglas-fir (*Psuedotsuga menziesii*), and grand fir (*Abies grandis*). In some cases, mixed woodland areas include very large oak individuals, which


Existing Vegetation
Legend
Wild Iris Ridge Site Boundary (City)
Tax Lot Lines
Intermittent Waterway or Drainage
Existing Vegetation (June 2008)
Prairie
Savanna
Oak Woodland
Mixed Woodland
Riparian Woodland
Recently Logged Area
Coniferous Forest
0
500
1,000 feet
Scale
N
W
E
S

Riparian woodland

are typically in decline due to overtopping. Selective logging in these areas at various time periods played a significant role in determining the composition of these woodlands and has resulted in a somewhat unnatural mix of large hardwoods (oak, maple, and alder) with crowns that are not fully developed due to overcrowding and a mature shrub layer with pine planted in some openings.

Riparian woodland:
Located along the numerous waterways found on the site, riparian woodlands include many of the species found in the mixed woodlands, but also include typical riparian species such as Oregon ash (*Fraxinus latifolia*) and black cottonwood (*Populus trichocarpa*).

The recent logging activities in the central portion of the site focused on removal of large Douglas-fir in uplands, so tended to have minimal direct impact on the site's riparian woodlands.

Savanna

Savanna, loosely defined as prairie with widely scattered open grown tree species such as California black oak (*Quercus kelloggii*), Oregon white oak (*Quercus garryanna*), Ponderosa pine (*Pinus ponderosa*), and an occasional Douglas-fir (*Psuedotsuga menziesii*), can be found in numerous areas on the site. Tree species that have grown to maturity in this open landscape setting tend to exhibit an open-grown canopy due to the ample access to sunlight. Savanna condition can be found on approximately 15 acres of the site, generally along the prairie fringes. Evidence of a much wider extent of savanna habitat can be seen throughout many of the woodland areas where large open grown trees are present, surrounded by dense younger oaks and fir. Many of these larger trees are typically dead or dying due to shading.

Existing savanna habitat on the northern end of the site.

As is the case with the prairie habitat across the site, the grass and forb component of the savanna is generally degraded and dominated with non-native species with some very small native remnant patches.

Recently Logged Areas

A significant portion of the central portion of the site was converted from a mixed woodland condition to what can be best described as a degraded savanna condition as a result of the 1999/2000 logging operation. At that time, most of the harvestable Douglas-fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*) and bigleaf maple (*Acer macrophyllum*) were removed, leaving an overstory of widely scattered individual Oregon white oak, California black oak, madrone, and ponderosa pine in varying densities. This logging operation closely resembled a clear-cut with some tree species left in place. Some scattered older oaks with a wide spreading canopy were present in this location following the logging, but more typically, the remaining oaks are thin and leggy, having grown in competition under heavy shade. Because of the disturbance associated with logging, these areas now contain significant amounts of Armenian blackberry and Scot's broom, although this condition has improved significantly as a result of 2006 and 2007 management activities. All of these logged areas were replanted with ponderosa pine (*Pinus ponderosa* var. *ponderosa*) in accordance with the Oregon Forest Practices Act. The pines have been planted at intervals of 10 to 15 feet. Many of the bigleaf maple in these areas have re-sprouted from the stumps of the trees that were cut. Approximately two thirds of the slash piles that were left after the logging operation have been burned or chipped, with the remaining piles scheduled for removal in 2008. The most heavily impacted areas total approximately 28, mostly contiguous, acres.

The area logged in 1999 and 2000

Coniferous Forest

A patch of coniferous forest approximately seven acres in size is located on the southwest edge of the site. This area, on the steep north facing slope of Bailey Hill, is dominated by Douglas-fir (*Psuedotsuga menziesii*) with some smaller quantities of grand fir (*Abies grandis*) and bigleaf maple (*Acer macrophyllum*) along with other sub-dominant species typical of coniferous forests in the area. This area has been logged at least once as is evident on the 1936 and 1952 aerial photo.

Ponds

Two small constructed farm ponds currently exist on the site. One is located in the northern portion of the site and one adjacent to the former home site on the site's northwest corner . Both ponds are located along a drainage and hold water throughout the year.

The southern pond (two are located on the site)

2.7 Rare Plant Survey Results

Between May 13 and 21, 2004, a rare plant survey was conducted by Environmental Solutions on the original 123 acres of the site. Local ecologists Nancy Holzhauser, John Koenig, and Ethen Perkins performed the survey and also mapped general plant communities. Search images were used from local known locations of listed (Federal and State Threatened or Endangered) species. Species surveyed for, but not located, include Willamette daisy (*Erigeron decumbens* var. *decumbens*), Bradshaw's lomatium (*Lomatium bradshawii*), Kincaid's lupine (*Lupinus sulphureus* var. *kincaidii*), white-topped aster (*Aster curtus*), wayside aster (*Aster vialis*), meadow sidalcea (*Sidalcea campestris*), tall bugbane (*Cimicifuga elata*), and shaggy horkelia (*Horkelia congesta).* One potential population of Hitchcock's blue-eyed grass (*Sisyrinchium hitchcockii*) and one potential population of thin-leaved pea (*Lathyrus holochlorus*) were identified during the survey.

A few sightings of rather uncommon (but not rare or listed) native plant species were found during this survey including Roemer's fescue (*Festuca roemeri*) and Junegrass (*Koeleria macrantha*) in the southern upland prairie area and several populations of California fescue (*Festuca californica*) amongst rocky openings within the oak woodlands in the south and west portions of the site. A map showing the exact rare plant locations and the rare plant survey narrative is on file at the City of Eugene Parks and Open Space office.

Rare plant surveys have not yet been conducted on the newly acquired areas, but will likely occur within the next year or two depending on available funding.

Residential development runs along most of the eastern edge of the site, parallel to the BPA corridor.

2.8 Adjacent Land Uses

Wild Iris Ridge is located just outside of the metropolitan urban growth boundary and city limits with the exception of the 26-acre acquisition on the site's northern edge, which lies just within the UGB. A significant amount of new single-family residential development has occurred in recent years in the area along the eastern edge of the site, adjacent to the power line corridor along Summit Sky Boulevard. The areas to the south and west of the site are currently being managed as forest including the top of Bailey Hill which has recently been logged, but based on recent trends, could see some additional low density residential development in coming years as land is re-zoned to a rural residential or marginal land designation. To the north, some large-lot residential development already exists, with some new homes currently being built immediately north of the site just off of Bailey Hill Road.

Legend

- Wild Iris Ridge Site Boundary (City Ownership)
- Tax Lot Lines
- Contours (20-foot)
- Existing Roads (gravel - all season)
- Existing Roads (dry season only)
- Significant View Points
- Intermittent Waterway or Drainage
- Structure
- Urban Growth Boundary

Bailey Hill Road
Pond
500
600
BPA Power Corridor
700
UGB
800
Driveway to Bailey Hill Rd.
Gate
900
Bailey View
1000
Los Altos Ln.
Summit
Sky
City
Blvd.
UGB
Water Tower
1060
1000
900
800
700
600
500
Road Segment Removed - 2001
Former Home Site
Pond
Shed
Cabin
Bailey Hill
1,046'
1040

EUGENE Parks and Open Space

Wild Iris Ridge

Existing Conditions Map

July 15, 2008

0 500 1,000 feet

Scale

One Acre

Aerial Photo Base: 2005

Map Produced by LCOG

N W E S

2.9 Site Access

Access to the site can currently be gained from numerous locations. The three primary vehicular access points are all from Bailey Hill Road. Combined, these provide good maintenance access to much of the site. Official public recreational access points have not yet been determined.

Southern access road

The primary access to the northern portion of the site is through a gated driveway from Bailey Hill Road. The lower portion of this driveway is passable year-round, but is not surfaced with gravel, so becomes less passable during the wet season. Access onto the main body of the site is gained via two City-owned gravel driveways, both approximately 2,000 feet in length and both with shared private access easements. A locked gate has been placed along this northern driveway and a cable currently blocks access from the southern driveway (the cable will be replaced by a gate). These two driveways access a series of roads that cross much of the site, several of which are graveled and usable throughout the year. The other roads are not surfaced and generally not passable for vehicles during the wet season. Erosion is evident parallel to some of the roadways on the site and is likely the result of a combination of poor cross drainage, clogged culverts, steep slopes, and increased runoff and disturbances resulting from the recent logging. In 2007, a segment of badly eroded roadway was removed (re-graded and planted) by the City.

Central access road

In addition to the vehicular access described above, the site can be easily accessed by foot from several spots along Summit Drive including the end of Bailey View Drive, although none of these access points is formalized. This access point, along with the BPA power corridor, has provided access onto the site by all-terrain vehicles (ATVs), which are in violation of City park and open space rules.

Currently, there is a gap in ownership between the northern 26 acre parcel and the remainder of the site, which prevents legal access between the two areas. The City has been negotiating acquisition of a connecting parcel.

3.0 Issues and Opportunities

3.1 Vegetation

Issues:

- Invasive exotic species such as Armenian blackberry, Scot's broom and Canada thistle are found throughout the site, with the highest concentrations found along the roadsides, the BPA corridor, and the areas that were disturbed during the recent logging operation. These species will continue to spread unless a significant maintenance effort is initiated.
- Many of the prairie and savanna areas are dominated by exotic grasses and forbs.
- Ponderosa pine has been planted densely across much of the site to satisfy the Oregon Forest Practices Act. Many pines were planted in the remnant prairies and underneath some of the large oak trees. These trees are now 5-10 feet tall and spaced 10-15 feet apart. This density is more than what would be desired for a future savanna condition.
- Some slash piles still remain, although many were burned or chipped in 2007.
- Conifer encroachment (mainly Douglas-fir) is occurring in the oak woodland and savanna areas and will shade out many of the oaks over time.

Opportunities:

- Remnant patches of savanna and prairie exist in numerous locations across the site. Several of these retain some level of native composition, including native grasses and forbs. In particular, prairie patches with relatively high native cover exist on the south and southwest end of the site.
- Several large Oregon white oak and California black oak individuals with wide spreading canopies indicative of savanna conditions are still present on the site.
- As a result of the logging operation, many of the Douglas-fir and bigleaf maple have been removed within the central portion of the site, creating an opportunity to manage these areas as savanna.
- The variety of pine that were planted across much of the site are a variety endemic to the Willamette Valley (Pinus ponderosa var. ponderosa).

3.2 Wildlife Habitat

Issues:

- Fencing on the perimeter and interior of the site may limit movement of some wildlife species such as deer and elk.
- Non-native vegetation has displaced native vegetation on which native wildlife species depend. This is particularly true with the grass and forb component.
- There is no baseline survey information for presence and relative abundance of birds, mammals, amphibians, and insects on the site.

Opportunities:

- The site provides diverse and relatively high quality habitat for a variety of wildlife species including those dependent on open prairie habitats. Although no formal wildlife surveys have been conducted for the site, abundant bird and reptile populations have been noted.
- The site contains patches of upland prairie and savanna, both an increasingly rare habitat in the Willamette Valley. This site provides a haven for those species that rely on these habitats.
- Large snags and logs are present on portions of the site providing good habitat for nesting birds, reptiles, and amphibians.
- The site's south facing slopes and exposed rock outcroppings tend to provide good habitat for reptiles.
- The site lies immediately adjacent to a relatively large area of undeveloped forest land to the south and west, making the site viable habitat for large mammals such as bear, cougar, elk, and coyote. Cougar tracks were noted during the summer of 2007 on the site.
- The site is proximate to The Nature Conservancy's Willow Creek Preserve, where there is a large breeding population of endangered Fender's blue butterfly (*Icaricia icarioides fenderi*). Opportunities exist to provide Fender's blue butterflies with enhanced nectar sources and possibly to create conditions for a breeding population by introducing Kincaid's lupine (*Lupinus sulphureus* var. *kincaidii*) to the site and providing travel corridors.

3.3 Access

Issues:

- A gap currently exists between the upper and lower portions of the site, preventing trail connectivity.
- Several of the roadways on the site are developing erosion problems.

- Two of the site's vehicular access roads are shared with neighbors and must be regularly maintained, especially following major restoration projects resulting in numerous trips on the roads with heavy equipment.
- Illegal ATV use is currently occurring on the site. Access seems to be coming from Bailey View Drive, private properties to the west of the site, Summit Sky Boulevard, and the power corridor.
- Occasional equestrian use is occurring on the site.
- Currently, no formal parking or access routes have been designated for recreational users. Pubic parking and access on the two southern vehicular access roads off Bailey Hill Road should be discouraged to reduce neighbor conflicts.
- Poison oak is abundant across most of the site, limiting access.

Opportunities:

- An existing network of roadways makes much of the site easily accessible for maintenance and management activities, especially during the dry season.
- Two potential pedestrian access points exist off of Summit Sky Boulevard (one at the end of Bailey View Drive and the other on City owned land that crosses Summit Sky Boulevard).
- Unused County road right-of-way along Bailey Hill Road adjacent to the northern end of the site could potentially accommodate a small public parking lot.

3.4 Recreation and Education

Issues:

- Recreational use of the site (hiking and mountain biking) is increasing without a formalized trail system or facilities (signage or parking).
- Illegal ATV and equestrian use is occurring on the site.
- There are few signs or boundary markers installed on the site making access points, trail routes, and boundaries unclear.

Opportunities:

- The system of roadways now located on the site could easily function as trails for walking and mountain biking with little modification.
- The site is located in a key location to accommodate the planned ridgeline trail system once adjacent properties are acquired.
- Opportunities are abundant for environmental education and interpretation focused on savanna and prairie restoration.
- Excellent views to Fern Ridge Reservoir to the northwest, Spencer Butte to the east, and Bailey Hill to the southwest currently exist on the site.

3.5 Maintenance

Issues:

- Very limited regular funding currently exists to maintain the site and implement the proposed management goals.
- All-weather roadways currently cross much of the site providing good access for maintenance vehicles.
- Conventional mowing may be difficult in some areas of the site due to steep terrain, such as along the BPA corridor. This may require some specialized equipment.
- Prescribed burning may be a useful management tool for the site, especially for savanna and prairie habitats, but would need to be weighed against risks to proximate structures.
- Because the site lies at the fringe of the urban area, fire management is an important site consideration. Much of the site sits on steep slopes just below the newly developed Summit Sky Boulevard.
- The extensive road network present on site will require continued maintenance of ditches, drains, and road surface over the long-term.
- Tall grass on roadways would potentially be a fire hazard if vehicles access the site during dry conditions.
- The east side of the power corridor is now being mowed by some of the adjacent property owners, However, the mowing is being done in the spring before any native grasses have a chance to go to seed. The City may have the opportunity to take over management of this area through a maintenance agreement.

Opportunities:

- All-weather roadways currently cross much of the site providing good access for maintenance vehicles.
- The BPA power corridor could be maintained as prairie habitat, providing both a habitat corridor for prairie species and serving as a fire break for the residential properties to the east. This would also be consistent with BPA's need to limit tree and shrub growth below the power lines and their maintenance crews could assist with this maintenance task.

4.0 Desired Future Condition

The Wild Iris Ridge Management Plan is intended to provide guidance for achieving the long-term vision for the site in support of the broader open space vision for the ridgeline area. The recently endorsed Ridgeline Area Open Space Vision and Action Plan (2008) identifies Wild Iris Ridge as a key component of a broader vision, which calls for the conservation and enhancement of rare and declining habitat types (prairie and savanna in particular); the creation of a 20-mile recreational trail between Fern Ridge Reservoir and the Buford Recreation Area; the provision of recreational resources in close proximity to the metro area; and the preservation of the areas visual quality. The acquisition of Wild Iris Ridge, with its range of plant communities, excellent wildlife habitat, stunning vistas, and strategic location along the planned ridgeline trail corridor is an extremely important step toward achieving this vision. However, the site also poses a number of difficult management issues such as invasive plant species, degraded habitat, potential fire hazard on the urban fringe, and lack of formalized recreational facilities.

Within this context, the long-term vision for Wild Iris Ridge is to achieve a mosaic of high quality prairie, savanna, and oak woodland habitats, interspersed with areas of mixed woodland and coniferous forest. Native plant species will dominate and each habitat type will exhibit appropriate vegetative structure and include a high species diversity and a limited component of non-native invasive species. Savanna- and prairie-dependent wildlife species such as the Western Meadowlark, Western Bluebird, and Fender's blue butterfly will thrive on the site as habitat is restored. Wild Iris Ridge will accommodate a network of trails linking the site to adjacent neighborhoods, the ridgeline trail, and the west Eugene wetlands. Safe parking areas will allow visitors to access the site for passive recreational activities such as hiking, bird watching, nature study, mountain biking, and picnicking. Numerous vista points will afford visitors excellent views to surrounding landmarks including Spencer Butte and Fern Ridge Reservoir. With its close proximity to the metropolitan area, the site will also function as an important educational resource for visitors including area schools, highlighting habitat management practices, native plants and wildlife, and the landscape history of the area in general.

The management actions described in this plan are intended to help the site achieve its potential and will serve as a model for other similar sites in the region. Because necessary funding to achieve the full vision as described is currently limited, higher priority actions have been identified to focus immediate action. Lower priority actions will be implemented over time as additional funding is secured.

5.0 Management Goals

The purpose of this *Management Plan* is to provide direction for the short- and long-term management of the site's plant communities, habitats, and facilities. A series of goals have been developed to direct these activities under the categories of habitat management; recreation; maintenance and access; and physical resources. Each goal is supported by specific objectives, which describe how to attain the goal, as well as indicators to help assess when objectives have been met. Due to the range in condition of this site's habitats and uncertainty with exact routing of the ridgeline trail through the area, a degree of latitude has been written into the plan to allow for flexibility that responds to localized condition and future acquisitions of nearby properties.

5.1 Habitat Management Goals

Goal 1 (Prairie)
Maintain and enhance upland and wetland prairie where it currently exists (approximately 33 acres) [Refer to areas coded as P1, P2, and P3 on the *Habitat Management Plan* map]

Objective 1a. Control woody species encroachment into the areas of established prairie. This will be achieved through a combination of rough-mowing (late summer or fall), burning (fall) as feasible, and other manual and mechanical methods as appropriate.

Indicator: All trees, saplings, and shrubs are removed from the interior prairie, with the exception of large open grown oaks or pines.
Indicator: The total amount of prairie habitat is maintained at a minimum of 33 acres, with possible expansion of where opportunities exist of up to 50 acres.

Woody and exotic vegetation will be controlled in prairie areas.

Objective 1b. Control the spread of non-native invasive species. This will be achieved through a combination of mowing, pulling, and herbicide application.

Indicator: Armenian blackberry and Scot's broom occupies less than 5% cover (combined).
Indicator: Other invasive species including reed canary-grass, Canada thistle, and bull thistle occupy less than 5% cover (combined). These species are eradicated where possible.
Indicator: False brome, Harding grass and other highly invasive species, are eradicated.

Objective 1c. Manage high quality prairie areas to protect existing native composition and diversity. This will be achieved through a combined approach of spot herbicide application, mowing, burning and supplemental grass and forb planting (plugs and seed). [Refer to areas coded as P1 on the *Habitat Management Plan* map]

Several small patches of relatively high quality prairie can be found on the site, mainly along the southern edge. These areas contain a high diversity of native forbs and grasses and will be managed to protect these attributes.

Indicator: High quality prairie areas are identified, mapped, and annually inspected.
Indicator: Baseline vegetation condition in these areas is recorded (species present and general abundance and notation of exotic vegetation of concern)
Indicator: Native composition (percent cover) is stable or increasing.
Indicator: Native diversity is stable or increasing.
Indicator: Non-native composition is stable or decreasing and no new exotic species are establishing.

Objective 1d. Restore a native grass and forb component to highly degraded prairie areas. This will be achieved through a combination of broadcast herbicide application (possibly grass specific in areas), spot herbicide application, mowing, burning, and introduction of native grasses and forbs (plugs and seed). Note: Most of the existing prairie is currently in a degraded condition, so this objective will be phased over time, with experimental techniques tested on smaller areas initially. [Refer to areas coded as P2 and P3 on the *Habitat Management Plan* map]

Indicator: Overall native composition (percent cover) is stable or increasing. Native forb composition is increasing.
Indicator: Native diversity is increasing.
Indicator: Non-native composition is decreasing and no new exotic species are establishing.

Objective 1e. Improve habitat conditions for native prairie dependent wildlife species such as the savannah sparrow, short-eared owl, Northern harrier, Roosevelt elk, gopher snake, and Western meadowlark. This will be achieved through creating better prairie and savanna habitat conditions and connectivity and by avoiding conducting work activities during critical life stages of wildlife species (such as nesting).

Indicator: Populations of prairie dependent species are increasing.
Indicator: Habitat for Fender's blue butterfly has been established (see Obj. 9d)

Savanna density in a recently thinned portion of the site

Goal 2 (Savanna Structure)
Enhance oak-pine savanna habitat structure, placing priority on releasing individual open-grown oaks (*Quercus garryana* and *Quercus kelloggii*) and pine (*Pinus ponderosa*).

Objective 2a. Maintain structure of existing savanna areas. This will be achieved by limiting new tree growth within these areas and selective tree removal and thinning using chain saws and low impact timber harvesters. Thinning will focus on younger trees, exotic trees, and conifers. [Refer to areas coded as S1 on the *Habitat Management Plan* map]

Indicator: 90% of open-grown oaks within existing areas of savanna are released.
Indicator: No seedlings or saplings of tree species other than oak, madrone, or pine are located within the drip-line of each tree/tree cluster. Saplings of these species may occur at low densities, but should not

compete with the mature oaks.
Indicator: Younger Douglas-fir are eradicated from the savanna area (removed or girdled). Larger open grown fir are left as a component of the savanna.

Objective 2b. Thin selected woodland areas to savanna density, focusing on areas adjacent to existing savanna and prairie, and areas around mature oaks exhibiting open-grown canopy morphology. This will be achieved through selective tree removal and thinning using chain saws and low impact timber harvesters. Thinning will focus on younger trees, exotic trees, and conifers. [Refer to areas coded as S2 on the *Habitat Management Plan* map]

Indicator: Younger Douglas-fir and bigleaf maple are reduced by 50% in these fringe areas (removed or girdled).
Indicator: Average target tree density in these transitional areas will vary based on site conditions, but will be approximately 5-20 trees per acre (5-50% cover to drip line).
Indicator: A variety of age classes of oaks are represented.

Objective 2c. Convert recently logged areas to a savanna condition by removing young pine, maple, and exotic vegetation. Large oak, madrone, and pine will be retained along with some younger trees of these species. Portions within this area with few large trees present may ultimately be converted to a prairie condition. [Refer to areas coded as S3 on the *Habitat Management Plan* map]

Numerous large open grown oaks, such as the one pictured above, are being overtaken and shaded out by conifers. Thinning in these areas will help ensure long-term survival of these legacy trees.

Indicator: 90% of open-grown oaks within this area are released.
Indicator: No seedlings or saplings of tree species other than oak, madrone, or pine are located within the drip-line of each tree/tree cluster. Saplings of these species may occur at low densities, but should not compete with the mature oaks.
Indicator: Average target tree density in savanna areas should be approximately 5-10 trees per acre (5-25% cover to drip line), with exceptions based on exact site conditions.
Indicator: Younger Douglas-fir are eradicated from this area. Larger open grown fir are left as a component of the savanna.
Indicator: Younger Ponderosa pines are thinned within the savanna so that they are placed randomly at intervals ranging between 25 and 150 feet. Large, open grown pine are left as a component of the savanna.
Indicator: The total amount of savanna habitat is expanded from 15 acres to approximately 56 acres.

The recently logged areas (pictured above) will be maintained as savanna.

Goal 3 (Savanna Understory)
Enhance native composition and diversity of the savanna understory.

Objective 3a. Control the spread of non-native invasive species. This will be achieved through a combined approach of spot herbicide application, rough mowing, and burning.

Indicator: Armenian blackberry and Scot's broom, occupy less than 10% cover (combined).

Native grass and forb composition will be improved over time in the savanna and prairie areas.

Indicator: Other invasive species including Canada thistle and bull thistle occupy less than 5% cover. These species are eradicated where possible.
Indicator: False brome, Harding grass, English ivy, and other new highly invasive species are eradicated in the savanna areas before becoming established.

Objective 3b. Manage areas that currently contain a high level of native grass and forb composition to preserve and expand those populations. This will be achieved through a combined approach of spot herbicide application, mowing, burning and supplemental grass and forb planting (plugs and seed), with special care given to not impacting the existing native species.

Indicator: High quality savanna areas and special populations are identified, mapped, and annually inspected.
Indicator: Native composition (percent cover) is stable or increasing.
Indicator: Native diversity is stable or increasing.
Indicator: Non-native composition is stable or decreasing and no new exotic species are establishing.

Objective 3c. Restore a native grass, forb, and shrub component to highly degraded savanna areas. This will be achieved through a combination of broadcast herbicide application (possibly grass specific in areas), spot herbicide application, mowing, burning, and introduction of native grasses and forbs (plugs and seed)

Indicator: Native composition (percent cover) is increasing.
Indicator: Native diversity is increasing.
Indicator: Non-native composition is decreasing and no new exotic species are establishing.

Selective thinning of woodland will expand and connect prairie and savanna habitats.

Indicator: Clusters of native shrubs are present and cover approximately 5-10% of the savanna area on average (Campbell, 2004) and not to exceed tree cover.

Goal 4 (Savanna and Prairie Habitat Patches and Connectivity)
Provide connectivity between existing isolated patches of prairie and savanna habitat to create larger and more viable habitat blocks for prairie/savanna dependent wildlife species such as the Western Meadowlark, Western Bluebird, and Fender's blue butterfly.

Indicator: The total amount of savanna habitat is expanded from 15 acres to approximately 56 acres.
Indicator: The total amount of prairie habitat is maintained at a minimum of approximately 33 acres with possible expansion up to 50 acres.

Objective 4a. Thin selected areas of woodland that currently create barriers between isolated patches of prairie and savanna. This will be achieved through selective tree removal and thinning using chain saws and low

impact timber harvesters. Thinning will focus on younger trees and confers.

Indicator: Trees are thinned from habitat connector areas to create a savanna or prairie condition. Trees remaining are primarily oak and pine.
Indicator: The area is maintained to prevent new trees from establishing.

Objective 4b. Establish native savanna and prairie grasses and forbs within the habitat connector areas. This will be achieved through methods described under Goal 3 (savanna understory)

Indicator: Native composition (percent cover) is increasing.
Indicator: Native diversity is increasing.
Indicator: Non-native composition is decreasing and no new exotic species are establishing.

Recently thinned woodland along prairie edge

Goal 5 (Oak Woodland)
Enhance oak woodland structure and composition. [Refer to areas coded as O1 on the *Habitat Management Plan* map]

Objective 5a. Remove Douglas-fir from oak woodlands. This would be achieved through selective thinning using chain saws and hand tools.

Indicator: 75% of existing fir are removed from oak woodland. Mature fir may be topped or girdled or in some cases left as a small component of the woodland where appropriate (i.e. legacy open grown Douglas-fir may be appropriate to leave).

Objective 5b. Control non-native invasive species such as Armenian blackberry (*Rubus armeniacus*), pear (*Pyrus communis*), exotic cherry (*Prunus* spp.), English hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*), and Scot's broom (*Cytisus scoparius*) in oak woodlands. This would be achieved by a combined approach of cutting and herbicide application.

Indicator: Non-native trees and shrubs such as cherry, pear, English hawthorn, English ivy, laurel, and holly are removed from the oak woodlands with a target reduction of 50% with native understory species seeded into treatment areas.
Indicator: Understory is comprised of no more than 10% non-native blackberry and Scot's broom (combined) and less than 10% cover by all other invasive species.

Young conifers that are encroaching on oak woodland area will be targeted for removal.

Objective 5c. Selectively remove smaller trees and conifers where specimens of mature oaks with open-grown morphology exist within the oak woodlands to ensure long-term survival. This would be achieved through use of chain saws and hand tools. Use of heavy equipment will be limited in these areas to minimize disturbance of understory plants and soil compaction.

Indicator: 50% of open-grown oaks within the mixed woodland areas are released.
Indicator: No seedlings or saplings of tree species other than oak or madrone are located within the drip-line of each tree/tree cluster. Oak and madrone seedlings may be allowed at low densities.

Invasive species will be controlled in woodland areas in an effort to increase native cover and diversity.

Objective 5d. Protect and enhance existing high quality understory plant populations.

Indicator: High quality native understory populations are identified, mapped, and inspected annually.
Indicator: Percent cover of target high quality native understory populations are stable or increasing.

Goal 6 (Riparian Woodland)
Enhance riparian woodland composition. [Refer to areas coded as R1 on the *Habitat Management Plan* map]

Objective 6a. Control non-native invasive species such as Armenian blackberry (*Rubus armeniacus*), pear (*Pyrus communis*), exotic cherry (*Prunus* spp.), English hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*), and Scot's broom (*Cytisus scoparius*) in riparian woodlands. This would be achieved through a combination of cutting, pulling, and herbicide application.

Indicator: Non native trees and shrubs such as cherry, pear, English hawthorn, laurel, lemon balm, and holly are removed from the riparian woodlands with a target reduction of 50%, with native understory species seeded into the treatment areas to limit re-colonization by exotic species.
Indicator: Understory is comprised of no more than 10% non-native blackberry and broom, and less than 35% cover by all other invasive species.

Objective 6b. Where specimens of mature oaks with open-grown morphology exist within the riparian woodland areas, selectively remove smaller trees and conifers to ensure long-term survival. This would be achieved through cutting using chain saws and hand tools.

Indicator: 50% of open-grown oaks within the mixed woodland areas are released.

Goal 7 (Mixed Woodland)
Enhance native composition of mixed woodland. [Refer to areas coded as M1 on the *Habitat Management Plan* map]

Objective 7a. Control non-native invasive species from mixed woodlands. This would be achieved through a combination of cutting, pulling, and herbicide application.

Indicator: Non native trees and shrubs such as cherry, pear, English hawthorn, laurel, and holly are removed from the mixed woodlands with a target reduction of 50% with native understory species seeded into treatment areas to limit re-colonization by exotic species.
Indicator: Understory is comprised of no more than 10% non-native blackberry and broom, and less than 40% cover by all other invasive species.

Objective 7b. Where specimens of mature oaks with open-grown morphology exist within the mixed woodland areas, selectively remove smaller trees and conifers to ensure long-term survival. This would be achieved through cutting using chain saws and hand tools.

Indicator: 50% of open-grown oaks within the mixed woodland areas are released.
Indicator: No seedlings or saplings of tree species other than oak or madrone are located within the drip-line of each tree/tree cluster. Oak and madrone seedlings may be allowed at low densities.

Goal 8 (Coniferous Forest)
Enhance coniferous forest composition.

Objective 8a. Control non-native invasive species within the coniferous forest area. This would be achieved through a combination of cutting, pulling, and herbicide application.

Indicator: Non native trees and shrubs such as cherry, pear, English hawthorn, laurel, and holly are removed from the coniferous forest with a target reduction of 50%.
Indicator: Understory is comprised of no more than 10% non-native blackberry and broom and less than 20% cover by all other non-native invasive species.

Goal 9 (General Wildlife Habitat Enhancement)
Enhance habitat conditions for native wildlife species.

Objective 9a. Retain and enhance the two existing farm ponds on the site to provide a water source for wildlife during the dry season.

Indicator: Some water remains within the ponds throughout the season.
Indicator: Native composition (percent cover) is increasing.
Indicator: Native diversity is increasing.

Objective 9b. To better facilitate movement of larger mammals through the site, remove un-needed fencing from the interior of the site and replace perimeter fencing where needed over time with wildlife friendly fencing.

Indicator: All interior site fencing is removed.
Indicator: Perimeter fencing is being converted to wildlife friendly fencing over time, especially where wildlife movement is evident (game trails and tracks).

Objective 9c. Provide habitat snags in various locations across the site to improve bird habitat (nesting, roosting, and feeding). This will be achieved by leaving dead

The interior fencing on the site will be removed to improve access for maintenance and to aid movement of wildlife.

and dieing trees standing and by girdling or topping selected larger trees during the planned thinning operation (this would occur primarily in areas designated as oak woodland or savanna).

Habitat snag

Indicator: The overall number of habitat trees on the site is stable or increasing.
Indicator: Habitat snags present are of a variety of sizes and levels of decay.

Objective 9d. Improve butterfly habitat conditions by introducing larval host and nectar producing plant species such as cat's ear (*Calochortus tolmiei*), great camas (*Camassia leichtlinii* var. *suksdorfii*), Rosy checkermallow (*Sidalcea virgata*), Hooker's onion (*Allium acuminatum*), Kincaid's lupine (*Lupinus sulphureus kincaidii*), and wooly sunflower (*Eriophyllum lanatum*) to the prairie and savanna habitats. This will be achieved through supplemental planting of selected forbs (seed and plugs) and appropriately timed burning and rough mowing that favors these species (late summer or fall).
Indicator: Strategically located butterfly enhancement areas are designated and mapped.
Indicator: Populations of host and nectar producing plant species are increasing in prairie and savanna areas, especially in designated butterfly enhancement areas.
Indicator: There is butterfly habitat connectivity between TNC's Willow Creek Preserve and targeted butterfly prairie enhancement areas.
Indicator: Native butterfly populations are increasing across the site.
Indicator: A Fender's blue butterfly population is established on the site over the long-term.

Objective 9e. Retain habitat conditions suitable for western gray squirrels in proximity to known nesting areas. This will be achieved by retaining trees with squirrel nests and a tree canopy in those areas (including Douglas-fir) that allows movement and provides escape routes.

Spring azure butterfly

Indicator: Gray squirrel nesting areas are identified and mapped.
Indicator: Trees in identified nesting areas are adequately spaced to provide connectivity between canopy branches.

Goal 10 (Plant and Wildlife Surveys and Mapping)
Provide baseline data on site vegetation and wildlife

Objective 10a. Conduct a rare plant survey on the newly acquired portions of the site.

Indicator: Locations of rare plant populations and other plant species of interest are identified and mapped using GPS coordinates.

Objective 10b. Identify the locations of all large open-grown oaks (24" or larger dbh).

Indicator: Locations of large open-grown oaks are mapped using GPS coordinates.

Objective 10c. Identify areas of prairie, savanna and woodland with particularly high native grass and forb composition so that these areas can be managed and enhanced in a way that protects that valuable resource.

Indicator: Locations of prairie and savanna with particularly high native grass and forb composition are mapped using GPS coordinates.

Objective 10d. Survey the site for invasive plant species and map.

Indicator: All populations of highly invasive species such as false brome, Harding grass, and English ivy are mapped.
Indicator: Large concentration of more widespread invasive species such as blackberry and broom are mapped.

Objective 11e. Conduct wildlife surveys on the site, focusing on key wildlife species. This could include breeding bird surveys, butterfly surveys, and identification of Western gray squirrel nest trees. Surveys could possibly utilize local volunteers such as Lane County Audubon, the local chapter of the North American Butterfly Association, University of Oregon, Lane Community College, and the Rachel Carson High School.

Indicator: Baseline wildlife surveys are conducted across the site prior to implementation of enhancement efforts.
Indicator: Wildlife surveys are conducted in the years subsequent to enhancement efforts using similar methodology to the baseline surveys so that success can be gauged.

Balsamroot

Goal 11 (Monitoring)
Provide adequate vegetation and wildlife data to inform management decisions and gauge effectiveness of enhancement efforts.

Objective 11a. Develop and implement an effective monitoring program to document changes to the site's vegetation communities over time.

Indicator: Baseline vegetation data has been collected in areas proposed for enhancements prior to implementation of major enhancement actions. This will range from establishment of photo-points in areas where structural enhancements such as thinning are proposed to quantitative monitoring in areas where enhancements to the vegetation community (grasses and forbs) are proposed. Pre- and post-implementation monitoring will be utilized to gauge success.

Scotch broom before and after control
Photopoint station 6 (lower prairie, east side)

The example (right) taken in the upper meadow area shows how photo points will be used to monitor management actions.

5.2 Public Access and Recreation Goals

Wild Iris Ridge will accommodate a segment of the planned ridgeline trail extension and provide a trail link to the West Eugene Wetlands. In addition, an interior trail network will be developed.

Goal 12 (Regional Trail Connectivity)
Provide connectivity from the site to other existing and planned trail networks.

Objective 12a. Provide passage for the planned ridgeline trail through the site. The exact alignment of the trail will be determined when acquisition of the trail corridor is completed to the east and west, but is likely to be located along the site's southern edge. This trail will be a shared-use trail and designed to accommodate hikers and mountain bikes. A portion of this trail may utilize the existing road network on the site.

Indicator: The ridgeline trail users are able to pass through the site.

Objective 12b. Provide a trail connection from the planned ridgeline trail toward the west Eugene wetlands and the Fern Ridge Path to the north. This trail will be a shared use trail and designed to accommodate hikers and mountain bikes.

Indicator: Trail users are able to travel from the planned ridgeline trail (which will likely pass through the southern end of the site) to Bailey Hill Road (adjacent to the west Eugene wetlands). From this point, a proposed trail connection will continue to the Fern Ridge Path along Amazon Creek.

Goal 13 (Public Access)
Provide designated entry points, trails, and other amenities to facilitate public access and use of the site for passive recreational and educational purposes, while limiting impacts to natural resources.

Objective 13a. Create a clearly marked network of trails within the interior of the site, which will include a combination of hiker-only trails and shared-use trails (mountain bikes and hikers).

Indicator: The trails are clearly identified and lead to points of interest across the site including viewpoints and various habitat zones.
Indicator: The trails are sited to minimize potential impacts to sensitive natural areas (rare plant locations, waterways, wetlands).
Indicator: The trail network includes loop options of various lengths.
Indicator: A portion of the trail network provides access to users with limited mobility and will allow them to experience natural areas and vista points.
Indicator: Trails are well sited and constructed at a high standard with appropriate surfacing, grade, and drainage to improve user enjoyment and safety and to limit possible injury and conflict of user groups.

Objective 13b. In the short-term, construct a hiker only trail through the upper prairie (approximately 800 feet in length) and a shared-use trail connection between Bailey View Drive and the upper road (approximately 200 feet in length).

These connections, combined with the existing road network, will create a loop approximately one mile in length.

Objective 13c. Provide safe and adequate parking for visitors who are traveling to the site by auto and bike.

Indicator: A main parking area able to accommodate ten cars and one bus will be sited on Bailey Hill Road utilizing the existing public road right-of-way if possible (adjacent to the Evan acquisition). A second phase of parking at the same location will be planned to accommodate additional vehicles in the future if needed.
Indicator: The main parking area is sited and designed to minimize potential for break-ins and vandalism problems. This would include siting the parking lot to be visible from Bailey Hill Road and adjacent homes.
Indicator: The main parking area is sited to minimize impacting significant natural resources including wetlands (ideally sited in the public road right-of-way).
Indicator: The main parking lot is not used during non-daylight hours except for special events (gate will be closed).
Indicator: Additional on-street parking will be provided at the two trailheads off of Summit Sky Boulevard. These are not intended to provide the primary site parking. In the long-term a parking lot may be sited in this area if demand is high, possibly within the BPA power corridor.

The long-term goal is to construct a parking lot along Bailey Hill Road at the site's northern end. This will serve as the primary public access point for the site.

Objective 13d. Eliminate non-permitted vehicular (ATV) and equestrian use of the site. This will be achieved through addition of gates, fencing, or boulders at common entry points and through additional signage.

Indicator: All non-permitted vehicular and equestrian use is eliminated from the site.

Objective 13e. Designate two trailheads to provide access to the site from the adjacent residential neighborhood to the east (Summit Sky Boulevard).

Indicator: A trail connection is provided from the end of Bailey Avenue onto the site.
Indicator: A trail connection is provided through the City owned property along Summit Sky Boulevard.

Signage will be placed to clarify park boundaries and regulations.

Goal 14 (Signage)
Provide way-finding and informational signage at all trailheads and at key locations on the site.

Objective 14a. Provide park boundary signage at key locations around the perimeter of the site to limit accidental trespass.
Indicator: Park boundary signs are in place along all property borders.
Indicator: Visitors are not inadvertently wondering onto adjacent private property.
Indicator: Hunters, ATV users, and equestrians are not accidentally entering City owned property.

Objective 14b. Provide interpretive signage at key locations along the site's trail network.
Indicator: Un-guided visitors are able to learn some basic information about the site such as the site history, wildlife, habitat zones, and management practices.

Objective 14c. Provide way-finding signage and/or site maps at all trail-heads and trail junctions.
Indicator: Visitors are able to plan their site visit from the trailhead.
Indicator: Visitors are able to determine where they are and possible return routes.

Goal 15 (Facilities)
Provide basic support facilities for site visitors.

Objective 15a. Provide site amenities such as benches, picnic tables, trash receptacles, dog waste stations, and trailhead bike racks at key locations.

Key viewpoints will be maintained over time. The viewpoint shown above is from the upper prairie, looking west toward Fern Ridge Reservoir.

Goal 16 (Views)
Provide views from the site to area landmarks such as Spencer Butte and Fern Ridge Reservoir.

Objective 16a. Open and preserve key designated viewpoints as needed. This will be achieved through careful tree and shrub pruning and removal as needed (see Action Plan Map).

Indicator: Views from designated areas of the site are maintained or improved over the long-term.

Objective 16b. Establish photo-points at the designated viewpoints on the site (see Action Plan Map) so that changes can be monitored over time.

Goal 17 (User Safety)
Provide a safe environment for Wild Iris Ridge visitors.

Objective 17a. Provide a consistent level of supervisory presence on the site to deter, identify, and resolve any public safety issues.

Indicator: City Parks and Open Space staff and/or Eugene Public Safety staff visit the site on a regular basis and address any pubic safety concerns as soon as possible.
Indicator: Docents or other volunteers are recruited to patrol the site on a periodic basis to report illegal activities, maintenance needs, and other problems and to provide visitors with information.
Indicator: A *neighborhood watch* or similar program is established where nearby residents are enlisted to help monitor and report illegal activities at trailhead parking lots and other potential problem areas.

5.3 Access and Maintenance Goals

Goal 18 (Maintenance Access)
Provide adequate access onto the site for maintenance activities and fire control.

Objective 18a. Maintain the existing access drive from Bailey Hill Road (near the intersection of Gimpl Hill Road) through the central portion of the site as far as the BPA corridor for all season vehicular access to accommodate maintenance and emergency vehicles. This road will be gated at the current location and this road will not function as a primary entrance to the site for the public.

Indicator: Gravel surfacing allows vehicular access throughout the year along this entire segment.
Indicator: Erosion problems are addressed as they occur.
Indicator: The road culverts and roadside ditches are maintained to prevent erosion.
Indicator: Grass is mowed as needed along the upper portion of the road to prevent risk of fire from vehicles.

The central access road will provide all-season vehicular access to much of the site for maintenance and emergency response and will also double as part of the recreational trail network.

Objective 18b. Maintain the existing southern access drive from Bailey Hill Road onto the southern portion of the site as far as the turn-around at the former home site. A new locking gate is scheduled be installed along the road at the power line crossing to allow vehicles to turn around. This roadway will not function as a primary entrance to the site for the public.

Indicator: Gravel surfacing allows vehicular access throughout the year along this entire segment.
Indicator: Erosion problems are addressed as they occur.
Indicator: The road culverts and roadside ditches are maintained to prevent erosion.
Indicator: Grass is mowed as needed at the turn-around area near the former home site to prevent risk of wild fire starting from vehicles.

Objective 18c. Maintain the existing gated access point from Bailey Hill Road at the northern end of the site. The roadway leading from that point will be kept clear, but will not be improved for all-season access. Ultimately, the right-of-way on Bailey Hill Road will be the location of the planned public parking area.

Indicator: Fallen trees and limbs are removed from the roadway as needed to keep it passable.
Indicator: Grass is mowed as needed to prevent woody vegetation from establishing and to reduce risk vehicle caused fire.

The remainder of the southern access road will be removed.

Objective 18 d. Remove approximately 1,000 feet of road segment on the southern end of the site (a continuation of the 2007 road removal). Additional road removal will be considered once major vegetation management efforts on the site are completed.

Indicator: The road surface is regraded to match the adjacent grade.
Indicator: The former roadway is re-vegetated with and aggressive mix of native grasses and forbs.

Objective 18e. Retain the existing network of access roads for dry season only maintenance access. When possible, maintenance vehicles such as mowers will avoid accessing the site during the wet season, except along all-season roadways, and should avoid crossing waterways and seep areas at all times.

Indicator: Fallen trees and limbs are removed from the roadway as needed to keep it passable during the dry season.
Indicator: Erosion problems are addressed as they occur.

Objective 18f. Create a gated access point onto the site from the end of Bailey View Drive. This point will double as a public access point.

Goal 19 (Wildfire Prevention)
Reduce the risk of wildfire through vegetation management and access.

Objective 19a. Retain the existing network of access roads as described above to provide access for fire vehicles if needed.

The BPA power corridor will be maintained to reduce flammable woody and exotic vegetation and function as a fire break between the site and adjacent homes. The power corridor on the southern end of the site (pictured above) is most in need of this treatment.

Objective 19b. Manage the site for fuel reduction as described under the prairie, savanna, and woodland management goals and objectives. This will be achieved through a combination of thinning, exotic species control, and prescribed burns.

Objective 19c. Utilize the BPA power corridor as a fire break. This will be achieved through annual or bi-annual mowing by BPA and City crews. This power corridor is situated at the higher elevation of the site and immediately adjacent to the urban density residential development, so is in an ideal location for a fire break.

Indicator: BPA power corridor is largely free of flammable woody and exotic vegetation.
Indicator: BPA power corridor is mowed on an annual or bi-annual basis (fall) to reduce fuel loads.

Objective 19d. Ensure any prescribed burns scheduled for the site do not pose a threat to adjacent properties.

Indicator: If prescribed burning is used as a management tool, a fire plan will be developed and approved by the Oregon Department of Forestry and burning will

be done with extreme caution, within an area contained by fire breaks, and with assistance from trained personnel.

Objective 19e. Remove slash piles from the site.

Indicator: The slash piles remaining from the 2003 logging operation have been chipped or burned (most have already been removed).
Indicator: Any new slash piles creating during site management will be burned or chipped within one year of creation.

Objective 19f. Provide educational signage warning of potential fire danger.

Indicator: Fire education signage is posted at all major site entrances.

5.4 Adaptive Management Goal

Goal 20 (Adaptive Management)
Utilize an adaptive management model at Wild Iris Ridge to gauge the success of enhancement activities and adjust future management actions.

Objective 20a. Document major enhancement and management efforts and activities as they occur.

Indicator: Geographic extent of activities is recorded using GPS
Indicator: Management and enhancement activities such as tree removal, exotic vegetation control techniques, species planted, and seeding rates are recorded as they occur.
Indicator: Monitoring strategies are put in place that will help demonstrate the relative success of various management efforts over time.
Indicator: The monitoring data is utilized to inform future management and enhancement decisions.

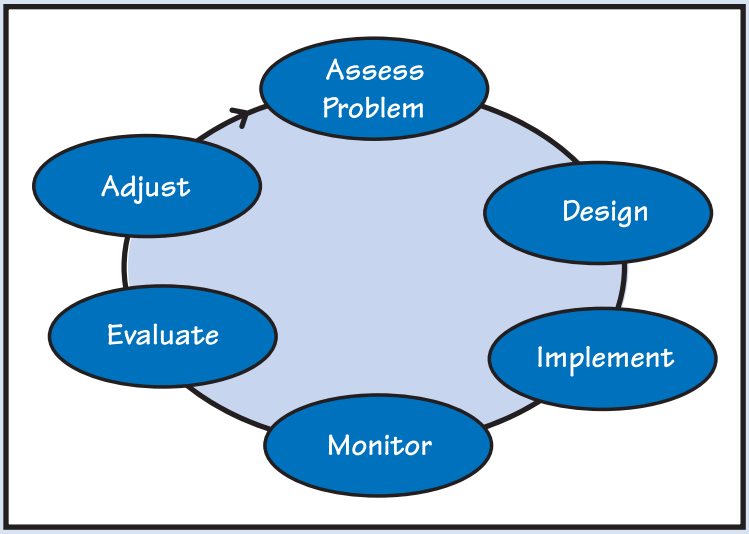
Objective 20b. Document general recreational use over time.

Indicator: The types and locations of recreational use occurring on the site are recorded.
Indicator: Utilization of parking areas is monitored.

Adaptive Management Process

Adaptive management is a systematic process for continually improving management policies and practices by learning from the outcomes of operational programs. In an adaptive management approach, management actions are documented as they occur and then monitored over a period of time. The interpretation of monitoring results is then used to modify and improve management practices and techniques, and to identify unforeseen problems that need to be addressed.

The diagram (below) shows a six-step cycle that is typical of an adaptive management approach.



5.5 Converting Forest Land to Non-forest Uses

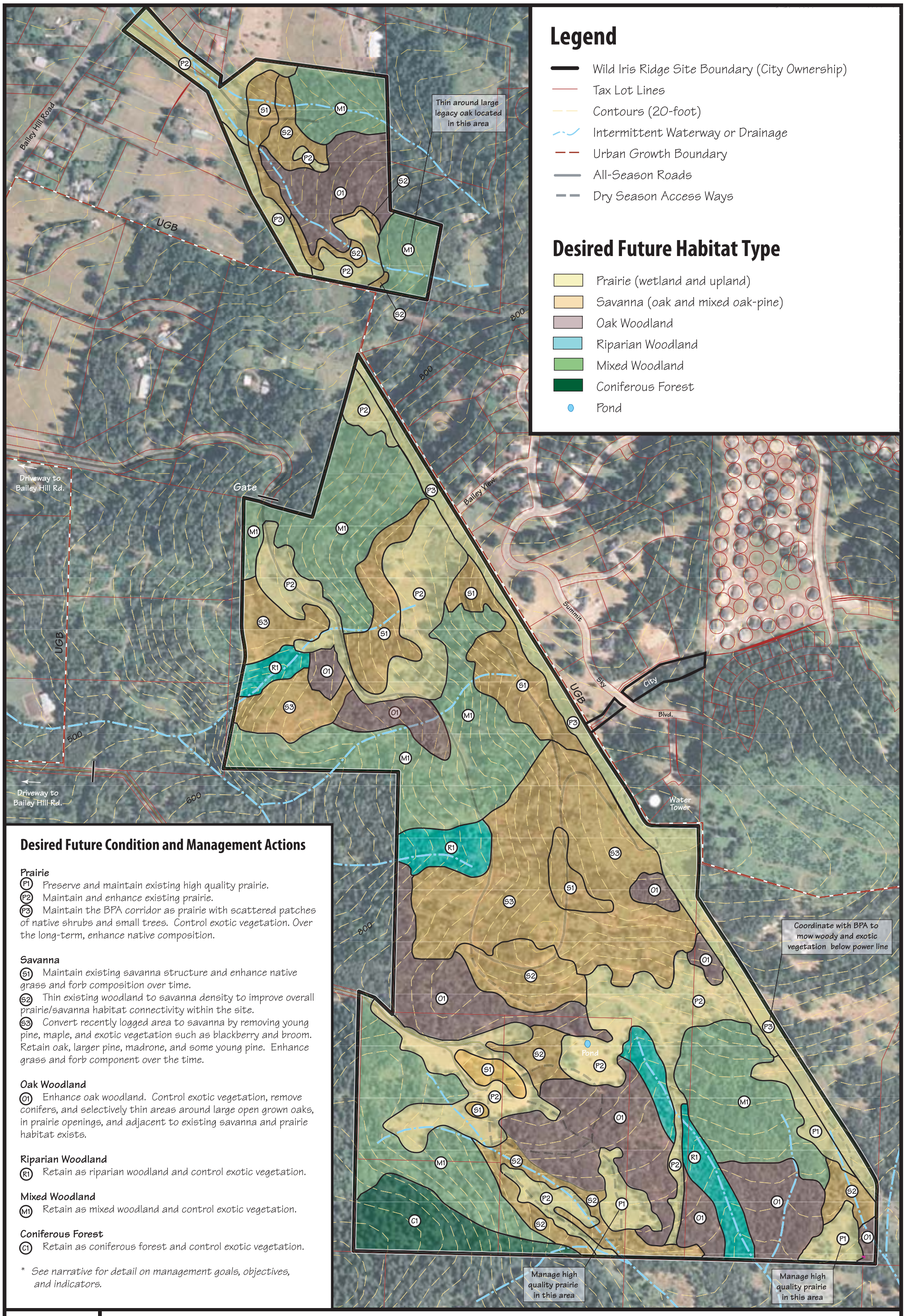
Under the Oregon Forest Practices Act, the previous owner of the central potion of the site (2004 acquisition) was required, under state law, to re-forest the site, in this case with ponderosa pine. Because the site is now in City ownership and will be managed primarily for habitat as opposed to forest production, an official change in the site's land use is recommended to officially free the site from requirements under the Forest Practices Act. This would not apply to the northern most portion of the site because is lies within the UGB. The Oregon Department of Forestry (ODF), which oversees the Forest Practices Act, has a simple process for indicating a proposed forestland conversion or change in the use of the land. Once this process is completed, ODF will no longer oversee the site's management.

Steps for making this land use conversion are as follows:

1. Submit a Notification of Operation form indicating the proposed forestland conversion activity to the local ODF office (a form is available at the local ODF office or at the ODF web site).

2. A Written Plan (form supplied by ODF) fully describing the planned conversion must be submitted. The plan must describe the intended change in land use and identify on a map the specific portion of the site where the proposed changes will occur. In this case, the requested land use change would be for the entire site.

3. The written plan and any required paperwork and/or approvals from other agencies must be submitted to ODF prior to starting your forestland conversion operation.



Desired Future Condition and Management Actions

Prairie

(P1) Preserve and maintain existing high quality prairie.
(P2) Maintain and enhance existing prairie.
(P3) Maintain the BPA corridor as prairie with scattered patches of native shrubs and small trees. Control exotic vegetation. Over the long-term, enhance native composition.

Savanna

(S1) Maintain existing savanna structure and enhance native grass and forb composition over time.
(S2) Thin existing woodland to savanna density to improve overall prairie/savanna habitat connectivity within the site.
(S3) Convert recently logged area to savanna by removing young pine, maple, and exotic vegetation such as blackberry and broom. Retain oak, larger pine, madrone, and some young pine. Enhance grass and forb component over the time.

Oak Woodland

(O1) Enhance oak woodland. Control exotic vegetation, remove conifers, and selectively thin areas around large open grown oaks, in prairie openings, and adjacent to existing savanna and prairie habitat exists.

Riparian Woodland

(R1) Retain as riparian woodland and control exotic vegetation.

Mixed Woodland

(M1) Retain as mixed woodland and control exotic vegetation.

Coniferous Forest

(C1) Retain as coniferous forest and control exotic vegetation.

* *See narrative for detail on management goals, objectives, and indicators.*

EUGENE Parks and Open Space

Wild Iris Ridge

Habitat Management Plan

0 500 1,000 feet
Scale

One Acre

Aerial Photo Base: 2005

Map Produced by LCOG

N W E S

DRAFT
October 2008

6.0 Implementation Priorities

The table below prioritizes the recommended actions based on the need for immediate action versus actions which can occur in the longer-term. A number of the recommended actions will likely occur on an annual or semi-annual basis as part of an ongoing maintenance program and this has been indicated. The prioritization is intended to indicate preferred implementation sequencing. However, the order in which the recommended actions are implemented is based largely on the type of funding sources that can be obtained.

The following categories have been selected to indicate overall priorities:

- I Short Range (highest priority): Will be undertaken as soon as funding is available
- II Medium Range
- III Long Range
- RM Regular Maintenance (performed on an annual of bi-annual basis)

Habitat Management Goals and Objectives

Habitat Management Goals and Objectives*	Priority	Notes
Goal 1 (prairie): Maintain and enhance upland and wetland prairie where it currently exists.		Approximately 33 acres including BPA corridor
Objective 1a. Control woody species encroachment into the areas of established prairie.	RM	All existing prairie mowed or burned on an annual or bi-annual basis
Objective 1b. Control the spread of non-native invasive species.	I-III, RM	Priority I: eradicate populations of highly invasive species such as false brome or Harding grass before it becomes established.
Objective 1c. Manage high quality prairie areas to protect existing native composition and diversity.	I, RM	Locations of high quality areas to be determined based on plant surveys. Relatively small area currently exist, but must be mapped
Objective 1d. Restore a native grass and forb component to highly degraded prairie areas.	II-III	Various techniques will be tested on a small scale, followed by larger scale restoration
Objective 1e. Improve habitat conditions for native prairie dependent wildlife species.	I-III	Will occur as habitat enhancements are implemented
Goal 2 (Savanna Structure): Enhance oak-pine savanna habitat structure, placing priority on releasing individual open-grown oaks and pine.		
Objective 2a. Maintain structure of existing savanna areas.	RM	All existing savanna areas mowed or burned on an annual or bi-annual basis
Objective 2b. Thin selected woodland areas to savanna density, focusing areas adjacent to existing savanna and prairie and areas around mature oaks exhibiting open-grown canopy morphology.	I-II	Priority I: releasing existing large oaks; Priority II: fringe areas
Objective 2c. Convert recently logged areas (approx. 28 acres) to a savanna condition by removing young pine, maple, and exotic vegetation. Large oak, madrone, and pine will be retained along with some younger trees of these species.	I	High priority due to significant levels of young pine, blackberry, and Scot's broom.
Goal 3 (Savanna Understory): Enhance native composition and diversity of the savanna understory.		
Objective 3a. Control the spread of non-native invasive species.	II, RM	
Objective 3b. Manage areas that currently contain a high level of native grass and forb composition to preserve and expand those populations.	I-II	Locations of high quality areas to be determined based on plant surveys. Relatively small area currently exist.
Objective 3c. Restore a native grass, forb, and shrub component to highly degraded savanna areas.	III	

Habitat Management Goals and Objectives*	Priority	Notes
Goal 4 (Savanna and Prairie Habitat Patches and Connectivity): Provide connectivity between existing isolated patches of prairie and savanna habitat to create larger and more viable habitat patches.		
Objective 4a. Thin selected areas of woodland that currently create barriers between isolated patches of prairie and savanna.	II-III	
Objective 4b. Establish native savanna and prairie grasses and forbs within the habitat connector areas.	III	
Goal 5 (Oak Woodland): Enhance oak woodland structure and composition.		
Objective 5a. Remove Douglas-fir from oak woodlands.	I-II	
Objective 5b. Control non-native invasive species	I-II	
Objective 5c. Selectively remove smaller trees and conifers where specimens of mature oaks with open-grown morphology exist.	I	
Goal 6 (Riparian Woodland): Enhance riparian woodland composition.		
Objective 6a. Control non-native invasive species	II	
Objective 6b. Where specimens of mature oaks with open-grown morphology exist within the riparian woodland areas, selectively remove smaller trees and conifers to ensure long-term survival.	I	
Goal 7 (Mixed Woodland): Enhance native composition of mixed woodland.		
Objective 7a. Control non-native invasive species from mixed woodlands. This would be achieved through a combination of cutting, pulling, and herbicide application.	II	
Objective 7b. Where specimens of mature oaks with open-grown morphology exist within the mixed woodland areas, selectively remove smaller trees and conifers to ensure long-term survival. This would be achieved through cutting using chain saws and hand tools.	I	
Goal 8 (Coniferous Forest): Enhance coniferous forest composition.		
Objective 8a. Control non-native invasive species within the coniferous forest area.	III	
Goal 9 (General Wildlife Habitat Enhancement): Enhance habitat conditions for native wildlife species.		
Objective 9a. Retain and enhance the two existing farm ponds on the site to provide a water source for wildlife during the dry season.	-	Monitor condition
Objective 9b. To better facilitate movement of larger mammals through the site, remove un-needed fencing from the interior of the site and replace perimeter fencing where needed over time with wildlife friendly fencing.	I, III	Priority I: Interior fencing; Priority III: perimeter fencing improvements
Objective 9c. Provide habitat snags in various locations across the site to improve habitat	RM	Increase total number over time
Objective 9d. Improve butterfly habitat conditions by introducing larval host and nectar producing plant species	II-III	Existing higher quality prairie areas will be phase II.
Objective 9e. Retain habitat conditions suitable for western gray squirrels in proximity to known nesting areas.	I-III	Priority I: Map nesting areas; Priority II-III: Retain habitat in conjunction with thinning activity
Goal 10 (Plant and Wildlife Surveys and Mapping) Provide baseline data on site vegetation		
Objective 10a. Conduct a rare plant survey on the newly acquired portions of the site.	II	
Objective 10b. Identify the locations of all large open-grown oaks (24" or larger dbh).	I	Possible intern or student project
Objective 10c. Identify areas of prairie and savanna with particularly high native grass and forb composition so that these areas can be managed and enhanced in a way that protects that valuable resource.	I	
Objective 10d. Survey the site for invasive plant species.	I	

Habitat Management Goals and Objectives*	Priority	Notes
Objective 10e. Conduct wildlife surveys on the site, focusing on key wildlife species.	II	Possibly utilized skilled volunteers
Goal 11 (Monitoring): Provide adequate vegetation and wildlife data to inform management decisions and gauge effectiveness of enhancement efforts.		
Objective 11a. Develop and implement an effective monitoring program to document changes to the site's vegetation communities over time.	I	Should be done prior to major enhancement efforts

Public Access and Recreation Goals and Objectives

Public Access and Recreation Goals and Objectives*	Priority	Notes
Goal 12 (Regional Trail Connectivity) Provide connectivity from the site to other existing and planned trail networks.		
Objective 12a. Provide passage for the planned ridgeline trail through the site.	III	Pending adjacent land acquisitions for trail corridor
Objective 12b. Provide a trail connection from the planned ridgeline trail toward the west Eugene wetlands and the Fern Ridge Path to the north.	III	Pending adjacent land acquisitions for trail corridor
Goal 13 (Public Access): Provide designated entry points, trails, and other amenities to facilitate public access and use of the site for passive recreational and educational purposes, while limiting impacts to natural resources.		
Objective 13a. Create a clearly marked network of trails within the interior of the site, which will include a combination of hiker-only trails and shared-use trails.	I-III	See below
Objective 13b. Construct a hiker only trail through the upper meadow (approximately 800 feet in length) and a shared-use trail connection between Bailey View Drive and the upper road (approximately 200 feet in length).	II	
Objective 13c. Provide safe and adequate parking for visitors who are traveling to the site by auto and bike.	III	Parking area on Bailey Hill Road (north end of site)
Objective 13d. Eliminate non-permitted vehicular (ATV) and equestrian use of the site.	I	
Objective 13e. Designate two connector trails to provide access to the site from the adjacent residential neighborhood to the east (Summit Sky Boulevard).	I	
Goal 14 (Signage): Provide way-finding and informational signage at all trailheads and at key locations on the site.		
Objective 14a. Provide park boundary signage at key locations around the perimeter of the site to limit accidental trespass.	I	
Objective 14b. Provide interpretive signage at key locations along the site's trail network.	III	
Objective 14c. Provide way-finding signage and/or site maps at all trail-heads and trail junctions.	II	
Goal 15 (Facilities): Provide basic support facilities for site visitors.		
Objective 15a. Provide site amenities such as benches, picnic tables, trash receptacles, dog waste stations, and trailhead bike racks at key locations.	III	May be moved up in priority based on use
Goal 16 (Views): Provide views from the site to area landmarks such as Spencer Butte and Fern Ridge Reservoir.		
Objective 16a. Open and preserve key designated viewpoints as needed.	II, RM	

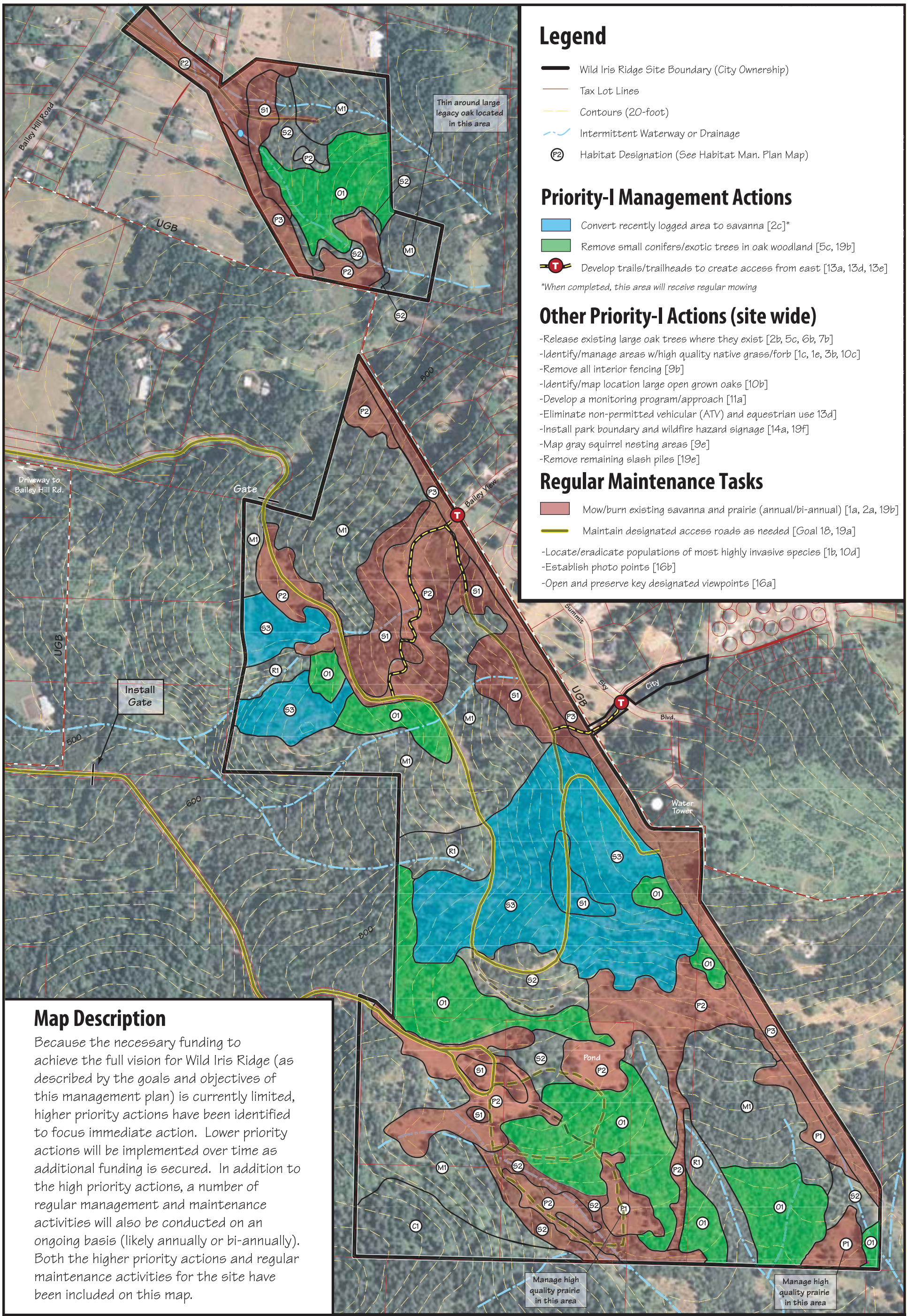
Public Access and Recreation Goals and Objectives*	Priority	Notes
Objective 16b. Establish photo-points at the designated viewpoints on the site.	I, RM	
Goal 17 (User Safety): Provide a safe environment for Wild Iris Ridge visitors.		
Objective 17a. Provide a consistent level of supervisory presence on the site to deter, identify, and resolve any public safety issues.	I-III	Priority I: City POS and public safety staff visit site on regular basis; Priority II: Neighborhood watch; Priority III: Docent program

Access and Maintenance Goals and Objectives

Access and Maintenance Goals and Objectives*	Priority	Notes
Goal 18 (Maintenance Access): Provide adequate access onto the site for maintenance activities and fire control.		
Objective 18a. Maintain the existing access drive from Bailey Hill Road (near the intersection of Gimpl Hill Road).	RM	
Objective 18b. Maintain the existing southern access drive from Bailey Hill Road onto the southern portion of the site.	RM	
Objective 18c. Maintain the existing gated access point from Bailey Hill Road at the northern end of the site.	RM	
Objective 18 d. Remove approximately 1,000 feet of road	II	
Objective 18e. Retain the existing network of access roads for dry season only maintenance access.	RM	
Objective 18f. Create a gated access point onto the site from the end of Bailey View Drive. This point will double as a public access point.	I	
Goal 19 (Wildfire Prevention): Reduce the risk of wildfire through vegetation management and access.		
Objective 19a. Retain the existing network of access roads as described above to provide access for fire vehicles if needed.	I	
Objective 19b. Manage the site for fuel reduction as described under the prairie, savanna, and woodland management goals and objectives. This will be achieved through a combination of thinning, exotic species control, and prescribed burns.	I-II	Will generally be implemented as part of the proposed prairie and savanna management activities
Objective 19c. Utilize the BPA power corridor as a fire break. This will be achieved through annual or bi-annual mowing by BPA and City crews. This power corridor is situated at the higher elevation of the site and immediately adjacent to the urban density residential development, so is in an ideal location for a fire break.	II, RM	Schedule BPA maintenance of southern and northern end of power corridor
Objective 19d. Ensure any prescribed burns scheduled for the site do not pose a threat to adjacent properties.	-	
Objective 19e. Remove slash piles from the site.	I, RM	Priority I: Remaining slash piles left from logging operation; New piles to be removed within one year of creation.
Objective 19f. Provide educational signage warning of potential fire danger.	I	
Goal 20 (Adaptive Management) Utilize an adaptive management model at Wild Iris Ridge to gauge success enhancement activities and adjust future management actions.		
Objective 20a. Document major enhancement and management efforts and activities as they occur.	I-III	Document as management occurs
Objective 20b. Document general recreational use over time.	II-III	Document periodically

Adaptive Management Goal and Objectives

Adaptive Management Goal and Objectives*	Priority	Notes
Goal 20 (Adaptive Management) Utilize an adaptive management model at Wild Iris Ridge to gauge success enhancement activities and adjust future management actions.		
Objective 20a. Document major enhancement and management efforts and activities as they occur.	I-III	Document as management occurs
Objective 20b. Document general recreational use over time.	II-III	Document periodically



Legend

- Wild Iris Ridge Site Boundary (City Ownership)
- Tax Lot Lines
- Contours (20-foot)
- Intermittent Waterway or Drainage
- (P2) Habitat Designation (See Habitat Man. Plan Map)

Priority-I Management Actions

- Convert recently logged area to savanna [2c]*
- Remove small conifers/exotic trees in oak woodland [5c, 19b]
- (T) Develop trails/trailheads to create access from east [13a, 13d, 13e]

When completed, this area will receive regular mowing

Other Priority-I Actions (site wide)

-Release existing large oak trees where they exist [2b, 5c, 6b, 7b]
-Identify/manage areas w/high quality native grass/forb [1c, 1e, 3b, 10c]
-Remove all interior fencing [9b]
-Identify/map location large open grown oaks [10b]
-Develop a monitoring program/approach [11a]
-Eliminate non-permitted vehicular (ATV) and equestrian use 13d]
-Install park boundary and wildfire hazard signage [14a, 19f]
-Map gray squirrel nesting areas [9e]
-Remove remaining slash piles [19e]

Regular Maintenance Tasks

- Mow/burn existing savanna and prairie (annual/bi-annual) [1a, 2a, 19b]
- Maintain designated access roads as needed [Goal 18, 19a]

-Locate/eradicate populations of most highly invasive species [1b, 10d]
-Establish photo points [16b]
-Open and preserve key designated viewpoints [16a]

Map Description

Because the necessary funding to achieve the full vision for Wild Iris Ridge (as described by the goals and objectives of this management plan) is currently limited, higher priority actions have been identified to focus immediate action. Lower priority actions will be implemented over time as additional funding is secured. In addition to the high priority actions, a number of regular management and maintenance activities will also be conducted on an ongoing basis (likely annually or bi-annually). Both the higher priority actions and regular maintenance activities for the site have been included on this map.

EUGENE Parks and Open Space

Wild Iris Ridge

Implementation Priorities

0 500 1,000 feet
Scale

One Acre

Aerial Photo Base: 2005
Map Produced by LCOG

N W E S

September 2008