

**ARCH CAPE DOMESTIC WATER SUPPLY DISTRICT  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING**

Thursday October 19<sup>th</sup> 2023. 6:00 – 7:20 PM

[Zoom Link](#)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87369759588?pwd=RFFDRjlzdFgrZFZOaFlxNlZxSndwQT09>

The Board Meeting adheres to a 1.25 hour meeting rule. Meeting discussion will conclude sharply at that time to allow for the last 3 agenda items. Any uncompleted or remaining business will be rolled over until the next monthly Board Meeting.

- I. **Call to Order** Bill
- II. **Conflict of Interest Declarations** Bill
- III. **Public Comments** – That are NOT related to Agenda Item X below Bill
- IV. **Agenda Approval (Action)** Bill
- V. **Accept September Minutes (Action)** – Pg. 2 Bill
- VI. **Financial & Administrative Reporting**
  - A. **Accept September Budget & Balance Sheet** - Pg. 3 Bill
  - B. **Accept September Payment of Accounts** - Pg. 5 Bill
  - C. **Accept Correspondence Requiring No Action** Bill
  - D. **Treasurer’s Report** Sam
- VII. **Utility: Information Technology (IT) Grant Opportunity (Action)** - Pg. 8 Bill
- VIII. **Staff Report and Correspondence for Action** - Pg. 9 Matt
  - Update on Truck
- IX. **Board Members Comments and Report** All
- X. **Watershed:**
  - A. **Finance Committee Briefing - Assessment & Next Steps (Information)** - Pg. 10 Rick G.
  - B. **Public Comment Hearing on Proposed Policy in its entirety**
  - C. **Proposed Public Access & Recreation Policy – Part I (Information)** - Pg. 30 Bill
- XI. **November Action Items**
  - A. **Water District Project Planning – Setting Priorities**
  - A. **Proposed Public Access & Recreation Policy – Part II**
- XII. **Public Comments** Bill
- XIII. **Adjournment** Bill

**ARCH CAPE DOMESTIC WATER SUPPLY DISTRICT BOARD OF  
COMMISSIONERS MEETING**

2

Thursday September 21, 2023

Pursuant to notice posted, the regular monthly Board Meeting for the Arch Cape Domestic Water Board was held in conjunction with the Sanitary District Meeting at the Fire Hall.

In attendance: Sanitary District: Casey Short, Chair, Darr Tindall, Thomas Mattia, Steve Hill, Excused: Jay Blake; Staff: Matt Gardner, Teri Fladstol, Water District: Bill Campbell, Chair, Tevis Dooley, Chris Mastrandrea, Bob Cerelli, Sam Garrison; Public.

Water District Meeting called to order by Bill Campbell at 7:05 pm

Public Comments: None

Agenda Approval: Motion by Bob Cerelli to accept Agenda as presented, Second by Chris Mastrandrea, motion carried.

August Minutes: Motion by Bob Cerelli to accept Agenda as presented, Second by Chris Mastrandrea, motion carried.

Cannon View Park representative, Richard Gibson made a request to build an Inter-Connect, at their expense, between the CVP distribution system and the Arch Cape distribution system. Request is coming forth now because they have applied for a grant to assist with the cost of the connection. The initial grant application is a letter of intent. Richard confirmed that the funding, if awarded, would be used to pay the costs of building the interconnect. Discussion ensued – motion made with specifics to address questions brought up during the discussion. Clarification was also made that the intent of the inter-connection is to be used as an emergency water source for CVP, not an on-going connection. Conditional motion by Chris Mastrandrea, second by Bob Cerelli as follows:

Conditionally Approve Cannon View Park's request to inter-connect the CVP water distribution system to the ACWD water distribution system subject to mutual agreement on the following issues, with the agreement formalized by ACWD legal counsel and signed by both parties, and CVP being awarded funding by the State in the form of a grant or low-income loan to cover all costs. CVP will take the lead in answering the following questions and will draw upon the District's Engineer as necessary at their expense.

1. What will be the final design (per considerations outlined in the 2018 design by the District's engineer)?
2. What will constitute an "emergency"?
3. What will be the process for activating the inter-connect and for turning it off?
4. Who will maintain the inter-connect "equipment" and undertake all necessary maintenance processes, e.g., sampling and at whose cost?
5. What would be the process for billing for ACWD water and at what price?
6. What are the appropriate health and safety protections that need to be in place?
7. What, if any, are the impacts on the permitted number of hookups for the Arch Cape Water District?
8. If/how do Federal and State mandates, such as but not limited to the water line inventory, apply to the interconnect and who will be responsible for assuring compliance?
9. Other questions that emerge.

In his capacity of Board liaison with District Manager, designate Tevis to work with Matt to recommend answers to these questions. Motion Carried.

Financial and Administrative Reporting: Request by Chair to show financials and payment of accounts by Fund. Motion by Bob Cerelli to accept August Budget & Balance Sheet, Second by Chris Mastrandrea; discussion on page 58 regarding category of "notices" – Teri confirmed they are notices required for Budget Meetings. Motion by Bob Cerelli to accept August payment of accounts, Second by Tevis Dooley; motion carried.

Sam Garrison reported on the meeting with Staff to balance checking accounts (1<sup>st</sup> Security & review LGIP) and process that will be followed moving forward. Sam reported on the thinning for the Forest, ARPA fund use, etc.

Dwelling Leak Policy: Public comments on revised policy that was reviewed last month were reviewed. Motion to accept changes to that policy, 23-09 WD, made by Bob Cerelli, Second by Tevis Dooley, Motion carried.

Board Reports:

Sam Garrison: None

Chris Mastrandrea: Hollis Funds have been transferred to our account.

Bob Cerelli: Truck is in need of work.

Tevis Dooley: Asbury Creek tour.

Bill Campbell: RFP responses were received, there may be an emergency meeting of this Board to make a decision about a contract. The Finance Committee is developing a short to long range assessment of operations and administrative services / costs and options for paying for those costs. This assessment will be presented to the Board at the October meeting and to the Community on November 5<sup>th</sup>. This will be an on-going process that will need to be in place by 2025.

A proposed Public Access & Recreation Policy - pages 68-72, based upon the NPS work and the community survey was drafted by two Board members, per previous motion by the Board, and considered by the Board. The Board set a public comment period which is to end October 10<sup>th</sup>. Two Board members will make recommendation to the Board for a final Proposed Policy which will be considered by the Board at the October meeting.

October Action Items:

Water District Project Planning – Setting Priorities

Watershed

Public Access & Recreation Policy

Finance Committee Findings & Next Steps

Public Comments:

Phil S. - the work being done for the thinning; they have been doing a great job. Questions about what the public access and recreation policy will be. Bill stated that it will be online for public review right after the meeting.

John Mersereau- is it possible to get on the email list to make sure that everyone that does not attend these meetings or goes on the website. Bill- there is a large email list for the survey and there will be a flyer posted at the post office. Public comment opens up tomorrow.

Dale Mosby- when was the policy drafted. Bill- the general process is based on the work that the national park committee. They provided a 130+ page report and created a draft of the policy that has then been sent out to the community. The policy draft is a product of that.

Motion to adjourn by Bob Cerelli, second made by Tevis Dooley, meeting adjourned at 8:20.

Submitted by:

Attest:

*Teri Fladstol, Secretary*

*WFCampbell III*

Teri Fladstol, Secretary

ARCH CAPE DOMESTIC WATER DISTRICT

	23-Jul	23-Aug	23-Sep	YTD	Budget	%
<b>Income</b>						
01-4100 · Beginning Balance						
01-4101 · Undesignated Balance	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 105,837	0%
01-4102 · Capital Reserve	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 75,828	0%
01-4200 · IGA Income (Sanitary District)	\$ -	\$ 9,106	\$ -	\$ 9,106	\$ 157,500	6%
01-4300 · Interest Income	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,000	0%
01-4400 · Cannon View Park Services	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,313	\$ 1,313	\$ 800	164%
01-4501 · Meter Hook-Up Fee	\$ 700	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 700	\$ 1,400	50%
01-4600 · Metered Water Service - Other	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,077	\$ 10,077		
01-4601 · User Fees	\$ 31,543	\$ 1,957	\$ 13,218	\$ 46,718	\$ 201,703	23%
01-4604 · Overage/Excess Usage	\$ 1,482	\$ 287	\$ 5,379	\$ 7,148	\$ 17,000	42%
01-4605 · Debt Service	\$ 2,973	\$ 204	\$ 2,093	\$ 5,270	\$ 20,740	25%
01-4700 · Miscellaneous Income	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0%
01-4751 · LGIP - Dividend	\$ 1,244	\$ 1,650	\$ 1,820	\$ 4,715	\$ -	100%
01-4800 · Grant Revenue - Other	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0%
02-4550 · SDC Revenue	\$ 6,390	\$ 7,281	\$ -	\$ 13,671	\$ 13,163	104%
03-4100 · Beginning Balance - Forest Fund	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 409,103	0%
03-4700 · Miscellaneous Income - Forest F	\$ -	\$ 800	\$ -	\$ 800		
03-4751 · LGIP - Dividend - Forest Fund	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 14,625	0%
03-4800 · Grant Revenue - Forest Fund	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 90,000	\$ 90,000		
03-4801 · Business OR - ARPA	\$ -	\$ 129,574	\$ -	\$ 129,574	\$ 776,626	17%
03-4804 · Safe Drinking Water (U22010)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 30,000	0%
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 44,332</b>	<b>\$ 150,859</b>	<b>\$ 123,900</b>	<b>\$ 319,091</b>	<b>\$ 1,825,325</b>	<b>18%</b>
<b>Expense</b>						
01-5000 · Personnel Services						
01-5001 · Wage - District Manager	\$ 6,667	\$ 6,667	\$ 6,667	\$ 20,000	\$ 80,000	25%
01-5002 · Wages - Operator	\$ 4,140	\$ 4,534	\$ 4,140	\$ 12,813	\$ 55,000	23%
01-5003 · Employer Payroll Taxes	\$ 1,071	\$ 1,083	\$ 921	\$ 3,075	\$ 12,500	25%
01-5004 · PERS Retirement	\$ 334	\$ 1,753	\$ -	\$ 2,087	\$ 35,250	6%
01-5005 · Medical Insurance	\$ 1,570	\$ -	\$ 785	\$ 2,355	\$ 40,000	6%
01-5006 · Worker's Compensation Insurance	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,400	0%
01-6001 · Administrative Services	\$ 3,250	\$ 3,200	\$ -	\$ 6,450	\$ 44,400	15%
01-6002 · Temporary Help	\$ 150	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 150	\$ 10,000	2%
01-6003 · Clothing Allowance	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,000	0%
01-6004 · Education	\$ 414	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 414	\$ 2,700	15%
01-6005 · Travel	\$ 225	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 225	\$ 1,000	23%
01-6006 · Office Supplies	\$ 50	\$ 146	\$ 221	\$ 417	\$ 2,300	18%
01-6007 · Postage	\$ 12	\$ 15	\$ -	\$ 27	\$ 2,500	1%
01-6008 · Vehicle	\$ 217	\$ 286	\$ 288	\$ 790	\$ 4,000	20%
01-6000 · Materials & Services						
01-6100 · Bank Service Charges	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10	\$ 10		
01-6101 · Facilities Use (Santiary)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,750	0%
01-6102 · Payroll Administration Service	\$ 40	\$ 40	\$ 40	\$ 120	\$ 500	24%
01-6103 · Liability & Property Insurance	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 12,000	0%
01-6104 · Licenses	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,000	0%
01-6105 · Dues & Taxes	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,190	\$ 3,190	\$ 1,450	220%
01-6106 · Professional Services	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,000	0%

01-6107 · Auditing Service	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 25,000	0%
01-6108 · Legal Services	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 9,500	0%
01-6109 · Notices	\$ 138	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 138	\$ 700	20%
01-6110 · Utilities	\$ 288	\$ 1,194	\$ 674	\$ 2,157	\$ 12,000	18%
01-6200 · Maintenance						
Asbury Creek Supply Pump	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 8,000	0%
Building R&M	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,500	0%
Hach TU5300	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,500	0%
HMI Controller	\$ 2,101	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,101	\$ 3,000	70%
Skid Filter (Evoqua)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,000	0%
System Leak	\$ 679	\$ 902	\$ -	\$ 1,581	\$ 9,000	18%
01-6200 · Maintenance - Other	\$ 296	\$ 101	\$ 2,074	\$ 2,471	\$ 35,000	7%
01-6201 · Chemicals	\$ 265	\$ -	\$ 3,202	\$ 3,467	\$ 6,500	53%
01-7001 · Meter Replacement	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	0%
01-7002 · Access Road to WWTP	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,000	0%
01-7501 · IFA Water Plant Upgrade	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 20,772	0%
01-8001 · Operating Contingencies	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 62,843	0%
01-8003 · Undesignated	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,416	0%
02-8001 · Operating Contingencies - Cont	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 88,990	0%
03-6751 · LGIP - Service Charge - Forest	\$ -	\$ 2	\$ -	\$ 2		
03-6840 · Reimburs Grant Expense - Forest	\$ -	\$ 500	\$ 40,851	\$ 41,351		
03-7800 · Business OR - ARPA	\$ 500	\$ 180	\$ -	\$ 680	\$ 638,899	0%
03-7801 · Permitting & Planning Fees	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,335	0%
03-7802 · Forestry Services	\$ -	\$ 14,878	\$ 28,699	\$ 43,577	\$ 48,258	90%
03-7803 · Project Management Services	\$ 27,533	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 27,533	\$ 98,969	28%
03-8001 · Operating Contingencies - Fores	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 421,393	0%
Total Expense	\$ 49,940	\$ 35,480	\$ 91,760	\$ 177,180	\$ 1,825,325	10%
Net Income	\$ (5,608)	\$ 115,379	\$ 32,140	\$ 141,911	\$ -	100%

## ARCH CAPE DOMESTIC WATER DISTRICT

	0.0 - General Fund		03 - Forest Fund		04 - LGIP	TOTAL
Income						
01-4400 · Cannon View Park Services	\$	1,313.00	\$	-	\$ -	\$ 1,313.00
01-4601 · User Fees	\$	13,218.00	\$	-	\$ -	\$ 13,218.00
01-4604 · Overage/Excess Usage	\$	5,379.00	\$	-	\$ -	\$ 5,379.00
01-4605 · Debt Service	\$	2,093.00	\$	-	\$ -	\$ 2,093.00
01-4600 · Metered Water Service - Other	\$	10,077.00	\$	-	\$ -	\$ 10,077.00
01-4751 · LGIP - Dividend	\$	-	\$	-	\$ 1,820.00	\$ 1,820.00
03-4800 · Grant Revenue - Forest Fund	\$	-	\$	90,000.00	\$ -	\$ 90,000.00
Total Income	\$	32,080.00	\$	90,000.00	\$ 1,820.00	\$ 123,900.00
Expense						
01-5000 · Personnel Services						
01-5001 · Wage - District Manager	\$	6,667.00	\$	-	\$ -	\$ 6,667.00
01-5002 · Wages - Operator	\$	4,140.00	\$	-	\$ -	\$ 4,140.00
01-5003 · Employer Payroll Taxes	\$	921.00	\$	-	\$ -	\$ 921.00
01-5005 · Medical Insurance	\$	785.00	\$	-	\$ -	\$ 785.00
Total 01-5000 · Personnel Services	\$	12,512.00	\$	-	\$ -	\$ 12,512.00
01-6006 · Office Supplies	\$	221.00	\$	-	\$ -	\$ 221.00
01-6008 · Vehicle	\$	288.00	\$	-	\$ -	\$ 288.00
01-6000 · Materials & Services						
01-6100 · Bank Service Charges	\$	10.00	\$	-	\$ -	\$ 10.00
01-6102 · Payroll Administration Service	\$	40.00	\$	-	\$ -	\$ 40.00
01-6105 · Dues & Taxes	\$	3,190.00	\$	-	\$ -	\$ 3,190.00
01-6110 · Utilities	\$	674.00	\$	-	\$ -	\$ 674.00
01-6200 · Maintenance	\$	2,074.00	\$	-	\$ -	\$ 2,074.00
01-6201 · Chemicals	\$	3,202.00	\$	-	\$ -	\$ 3,202.00
03-7802 · Forestry Services	\$	-	\$	28,699.00	\$ -	\$ 28,699.00
03-6840 · Reimburs Grant Expense - Forest	\$	-	\$	40,851.00	\$ -	\$ 40,851.00
Total Expense	\$	22,210.00	\$	69,550.00	\$ -	\$ 91,760.00
Net Income	\$	9,869.00	\$	20,450.00	\$ 1,820.00	\$ 32,140.00

Type	Num	Date	Name	Account	Account	Paid Amount
Check	2133	9/1/2023	MODA Health	01-5005 · Medical Insurance	01-5005 · Medical Insurance	(\$392)
Check	2133	9/1/2023	MODA Health	01-5005 · Medical Insurance	01-5005 · Medical Insurance	(\$392)
Bill Pmt -Check	2107	9/7/2023	A-Boy Electric & Plumbing	01-6200 · Maintenance	01-6200 · Maintenance	(\$6)
Bill Pmt -Check	2108	9/7/2023	Cascade Columbia Distribution	01-6201 · Chemicals	01-6201 · Chemicals	(\$1,597)
Bill Pmt -Check	2110	9/7/2023	Correct Equipment	01-6200 · Maintenance	01-6200 · Maintenance	(\$827)
Bill Pmt -Check	2112	9/7/2023	Jackson Oil	01-6008 · Vehicle	01-6008 · Vehicle	(\$144)
Bill Pmt -Check	2112	9/7/2023	Jackson Oil	01-6008 · Vehicle	01-6008 · Vehicle	(\$144)
Bill Pmt -Check	2113	9/7/2023	Pacific Power	01-6110 · Utilities	01-6110 · Utilities	(\$232)
Bill Pmt -Check	2114	9/7/2023	Quality Control Services	01-6200 · Maintenance	01-6200 · Maintenance	(\$95)
Check	EFT	9/11/2023	Sure Payroll	01-6102 · Payroll Administration Service	01-6102 · Payroll Administration Service	(\$20)
Check	EFT	9/11/2023	Sure Payroll	01-6102 · Payroll Administration Service	01-6102 · Payroll Administration Service	(\$20)
Check	2118	9/14/2023	Pacific Power	01-6110 · Utilities	01-6110 · Utilities	(\$314)
Check	EFT	9/15/2023	Sure Payroll	01-5003 · Employer Payroll Taxes	01-5003 · Employer Payroll Taxes	(\$235)
Check	EFT	9/15/2023	Sure Payroll	01-5002 · Wages - Operator	01-5002 · Wages - Operator	(\$1,084)
Check	EFT	9/15/2023	Sure Payroll	01-5001 · Wage - District Manager	01-5001 · Wage - District Manager	(\$1,667)
Check	EFT	9/15/2023	Sure Payroll	PERS Liability	PERS Liability	\$200
Check	EFT	9/15/2023	Sure Payroll	01-5003 · Employer Payroll Taxes	01-5003 · Employer Payroll Taxes	(\$235)
Check	EFT	9/15/2023	Sure Payroll	01-5002 · Wages - Operator	01-5002 · Wages - Operator	(\$1,084)
Check	EFT	9/15/2023	Sure Payroll	01-5001 · Wage - District Manager	01-5001 · Wage - District Manager	(\$1,667)
Check	EFT	9/16/2023	Verizon Wireless	01-6110 · Utilities	01-6110 · Utilities	(\$128)
Check	EFT	9/18/2023	Amazon.com	01-6006 · Office Supplies	01-6006 · Office Supplies	(\$69)
Check	EFT	9/18/2023	Amazon.com	01-6006 · Office Supplies	01-6006 · Office Supplies	(\$69)
Check	2120	9/21/2023	Correct Equipment	01-6200 · Maintenance	01-6200 · Maintenance	(\$1,145)
Bill Pmt -Check	2121	9/21/2023	DEQ	01-6105 · Dues & Taxes	01-6105 · Dues & Taxes	(\$3,190)
Check	2122	9/28/2023	Cascade Columbia Distribution	01-6201 · Chemicals	01-6201 · Chemicals	(\$1,604)
Check	2123	9/28/2023	CS&S	01-6200 · Maintenance	01-6200 · Maintenance	(\$42)
Check	2123	9/28/2023	CS&S	01-6200 · Maintenance	01-6200 · Maintenance	(\$42)
Check	EFT	9/29/2023	Sure Payroll	01-5003 · Employer Payroll Taxes	01-5003 · Employer Payroll Taxes	(\$225)
Check	EFT	9/29/2023	Sure Payroll	01-5002 · Wages - Operator	01-5002 · Wages - Operator	(\$986)
Check	EFT	9/29/2023	Sure Payroll	01-5001 · Wage - District Manager	01-5001 · Wage - District Manager	(\$1,667)
Check	EFT	9/29/2023	Sure Payroll	PERS Liability	PERS Liability	\$200
Check	EFT	9/29/2023	Sure Payroll	01-5003 · Employer Payroll Taxes	01-5003 · Employer Payroll Taxes	(\$225)
Check	EFT	9/29/2023	Sure Payroll	01-5002 · Wages - Operator	01-5002 · Wages - Operator	(\$986)
Check	EFT	9/29/2023	Sure Payroll	01-5001 · Wage - District Manager	01-5001 · Wage - District Manager	(\$1,667)
Check	EFT	9/30/2023	1st Security	01-6100 · Bank Service Charges	01-6100 · Bank Service Charges	(\$10)
Bill Pmt -Check	2109	9/7/2023	Columbia Locksmith LLC	03-6840 · Reimburs Grant Expense - Forest	03-6840 · Reimburs Grant Expense - Forest	(\$8)
Bill Pmt -Check	2111	9/7/2023	D&D Forestry, LLC	03-6840 · Reimburs Grant Expense - Forest	03-6840 · Reimburs Grant Expense - Forest	(\$40,843)
Bill Pmt -Check	2115	9/14/2023	Springboard Forestry	03-7802 · Forestry Services	03-7802 · Forestry Services	(\$28,699)

## **Grant Opportunity to Improve Districts' Information Technology October 19, 2023**

The Districts have serious shortcomings in a number of areas of their Information Technologies (computer systems that run the plant and are used for administrative purposes). A Grant program – ‘State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Program’ has been announced that would help with some of these shortcomings;

- Data Backup and Recovery
- Making sure that access to system information is secure
- Moving to a more secure web site and email (from gmail.com to .gov)
- Getting Consulting and Planning Services to implement any/all of these

A registration to apply for the Grant needs to be submitted by November 15 and, if the registration is approved, the application needs to be submitted by January 10<sup>th</sup>.

The District Manager and Operator do not have the time to undertake this registration and application process. If we are to move forward with this, a Board member, member of the community or Jigsaw Consulting with the interest and appropriate expertise would need to take this on.

### ***Proposed Motion***

“Authorize the President of the Water District Board to pursue / contract with appropriate resources (e.g., Board member, community member, Jigsaw Consulting) to undertake this project leading to a submitted application by January 10<sup>th</sup>.”



## October 2023 Staff Report

### Major accomplishments:

1. Magnesium Hydroxide internal hauling and billing with Cannon Beach (savings of 36 cents per pound. From 63 cents, to 27 cents due to partnership). (Sanitary)
2. Asbury “pump project, replacement pump” deferred maintenance project complete. On time and on budget, inclusive of additional work from electrician to replace wiring and componentry in well, due to staff performing replacement work on our own saved money to do the extra work.
3. Ordered PFAS kit to test our drinking water. (I encourage questions on this).
4. Eradication of mice from Dodge and moving forward with rehabilitation phase to get duty truck back in service.
5. Annual servicing of the districts flow meters (compliance).

### Critical few:

1. Membrane basins confined space entry parts installations (STILL WAITING)
2. Membrane basins, physical deep clean.
3. Water and Sewer tap (new) Shark Creek Lane.

### The unexpected:

1. First power outage of the season.
2. Deferred maintenance item call out 2200hrs. Failed sensor and stripped fittings put treatment basin into self-preservation mode. (I encourage questions on this) (Sanitary).
3. Power outage led to multiple issues at both the Asbury pump well (burned up a pump, blown transformer) and at the water plant (fault codes on pump shut down variable frequency drive and prohibited ability to make water on a skid). (I encourage questions on this).

### Other things of note:

1. Out of “low flow” water danger. Measurement devices in streams have been removed for the year.
2. I have submitted a claim and will have to do the paperwork for Pacific Power to pay for a new pump for the Water District for Asbury. I am investigating to see if this will cover the cost of labor as well, for Cannon Beach Electric to wire it in. Logan and I will perform the physical installation of the pump.
3. We moved the north end lift station generator to the water plant for storage. We are making room for the dodge to be parked in the shop in the evenings. Importantly for now, please know that the Sanitary District generator asset is RELOCATED for storage to the water treatment plant.

## **Watershed Operations and Financial Planning – Information Only October 19, 2023**

### Background

Per Direction of the Board at their July 2023 meeting, a Finance Committee was convened

- Rick Gardner
- Clark Binkley
- Beth Morey
- Mike Wodtke
- Casey Short
- Bill Campbell (Board Representative & Facilitator)

The Committee was given three objectives

- 1) A long-range operations and financial assessment, building upon the work done in August 2021
- 2) A Recommended sustainable management - operations model
- 3) A Recommended governance model that is aligned with the management model:

The briefing of the Board on October 19<sup>th</sup> is a deliverable in response to the 1<sup>st</sup> objective.

### Synopsis

- 1) This is an educational document. It will provide the framework for the first of a number of conversations / surveys with the Arch Cape Community (rate payers and lot owners) over the next 12-18 months. It does not call for any decision to be made at this time.
- 2) The intent of the document is to guide the Community in understanding; a) the activities and related costs that are required to manage and operate the Watershed, b) the fiscally responsible options for paying for the ongoing management and operations costs.
- 3) The financial projections that are incorporated into the document are based on a set of cost and revenue assumptions developed by members of the Forest Management Committee and Finance Committees that have been put into interactive operations & planning model. The assumptions can be easily updated every year as part of the budgeting cycle to develop the budget for the next fiscal year and an updated long range forecast.

### Next Steps

This briefing will be made to the community as public meetings on Saturday November 4<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 via zoom and on Saturday November 8<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 in person at the Firehouse. Board members are encouraged to attend to hear the community's questions, concerns and perspectives first hand.

## Arch Cape Forest-Watershed



# Near and Long Range Planning: Operational Needs and Payment Options

Briefing to Arch Cape Water District Board  
by Watershed Finance Committee  
October 19, 2023

# Background

- **Forest Purchase:** June 2022
  - 1453 Acres: 750 Acres of Source Water Protection Area (SWPA) and 700 acres outside of the SWPA
  - Price: \$4,710,000
  - Funding: Paid for with Federal Grants and Matching Funds
- **Improvements :** \$1,100,000+ of funded improvements to be made to the Watershed, primarily the roads
  - Scope: Repair, Removal and Decommissioning of roads to eliminate sedimentation into the source drinking water, for fire protection access and for safety
  - Funding: Federal ARPA (COVID) funds, Oregon Clean Drinking Water funds, Hollis funds
  - Expiration Dates: Under Contract by 12-31-2024, Substantially Complete by 09-01-26. Last invoice paid: 12-31-26
  - Use it or Lose it: Any remaining money goes back to Federal Treasury.
- **Ongoing Management and Operations:** *Subject of Today's Discussion*
  - This is the financial responsibility of the Arch Cape Water District
  - There is no previously approved plan for what it will cost or how it will be paid
  - There are currently \$450,000 in contributions, donations and grants



# Setting the Stage for Today's Discussion

In July, the Water District Board convened a Watershed Finance Committee to work with them and the community to develop a long range operations and finance plan.

- **What we have learned:**

- Developed a set of assumptions about the operations and administrative work that will be required and its costs.
- Considering logging and rate increases as alternative or blended methods to pay for those costs
- Built a modeling tool to evaluate alternative scenarios / options

- **Unknowns:**

- Allocation of Roads Maintenance Costs, estimated at \$13,000 / yr with inflation: Initial discussions with NCLC per contractual easement recommended. NCLC payment will decrease estimated costs to the District.
- Approach and costs for managing the Watershed: Finance Committee is just beginning to research and evaluate whether to increase district staff, outsource to a forestry company or hire consultant(s). Will increase estimated costs

- **The Path Ahead:** Ongoing Discussions with Arch Cape Water District Rate Payers

- Understand preferences for logging or rate increases and set timeframes for decisions
- Formalize a annual budget process to refine financial projections and payment decisions on a year to year basis

# Annual Operating Expenses – if no logging

These estimates are based on assumptions contained in the Appendices. Expenses are likely to change slightly, up or down, as we learn more over time.

OPERATING EXPENSES	Annual Avg.
Insurance	-
ODF Fire Assessment	(2,450)
Property Manager	(5,568)
Consulting Forester	(4,410)
Finance & Administration	(5,076)
Project Mgmt	TBD
Legal	(970)
Audit	(2,000)
Update Management Plan (per FLP contract) every 10 years	(1,200)
Road Maintenance	(13,060)
Pre-Commercial Thinning	(254)
Materials - Supplies	(520)
Contingency	TBD
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>(35,508)</b>



Management Approach still needs to be evaluated.



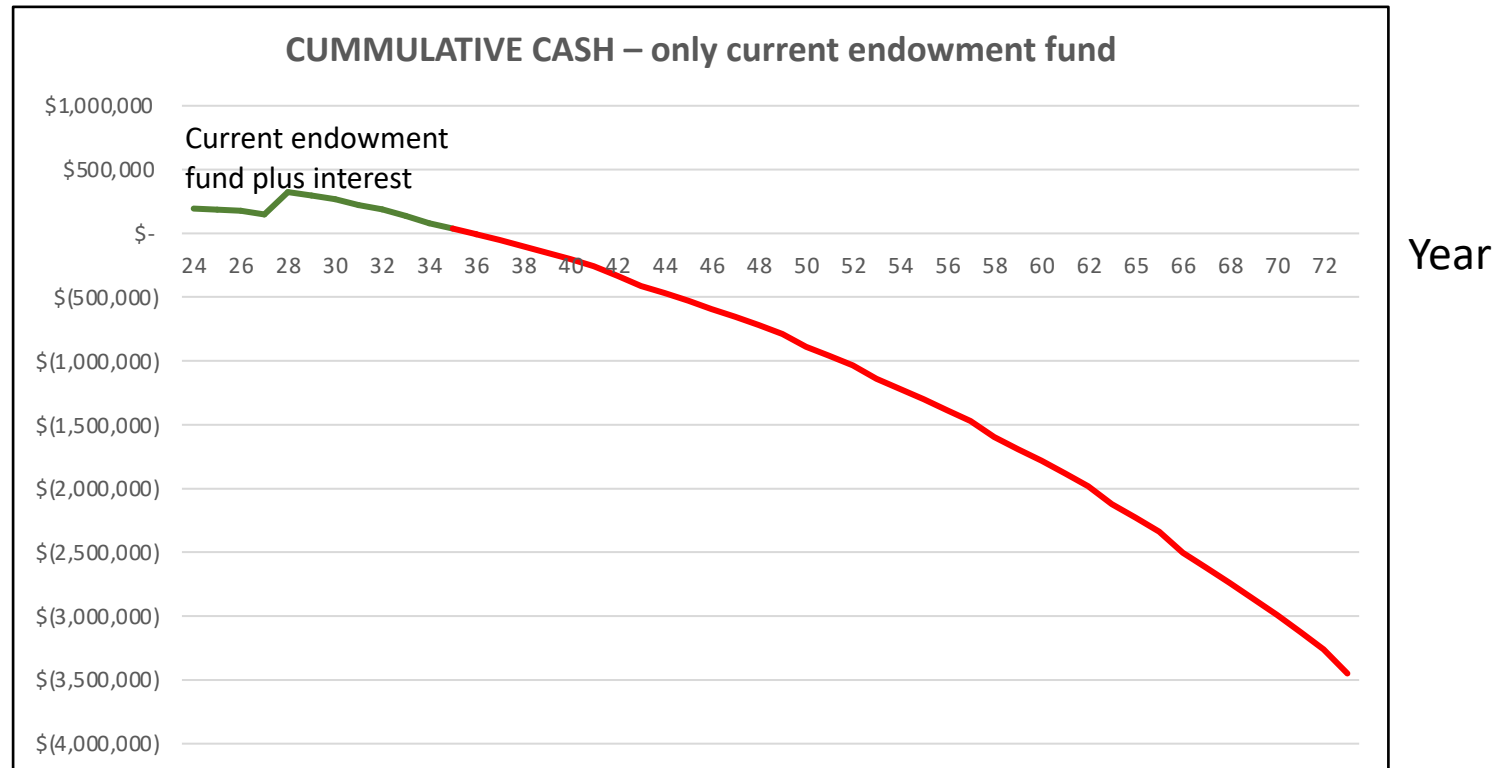
Per the easement, NCLC is responsible for their usage share of these costs. A monitoring/ recording process may need to be put in place.

Average Annual Cost without inflation



# Cumulative Operating Cash -Projection If no additional revenue

Without any additional revenue, the \$450,000-ish of current contributions will last until 2035. After that, there is likely to be no remaining money to pay for operating costs.



Reminder: Depending upon costs for TBD management approach – the money is likely to run out sooner

# Options for Paying for Operating Costs

Logging, of some intensity, and/or water rate increases are the only viable alternatives for paying for the costs. (Future donations could reduce or eliminate the need for either.)

- **Option 1 - Ecological Harvest (Year 10 / Year 30):** Light harvest in years 10 & 30 across the Watershed - **inside and outside** of the source water protection area. Large clumps of trees left across 20-60% of the landscape of varying heights, species, and ages. Some dispersed trees, of particularly windfirm species, are often retained as well.
  - Year 10 – 20% of 97 acres harvested for 3,143 Million Board Feet (MBF)
  - Year 30 – 20% of 67 acres harvested for 3,050 Million Board Feet (MBF)
- **Option 2 - Harvest to pay operating costs: Optimized Harvest (Year 10 & Year 30):** “Clear cut” harvest in years 10 and 30 – **only outside** the source water protection area to maximize revenue
  - Year 10 – 263 acres harvested for 2,644 Million Board Feet (MBF)
  - Year 30 – 149 acres harvested for 4,067 Million Board Feet (MBF)

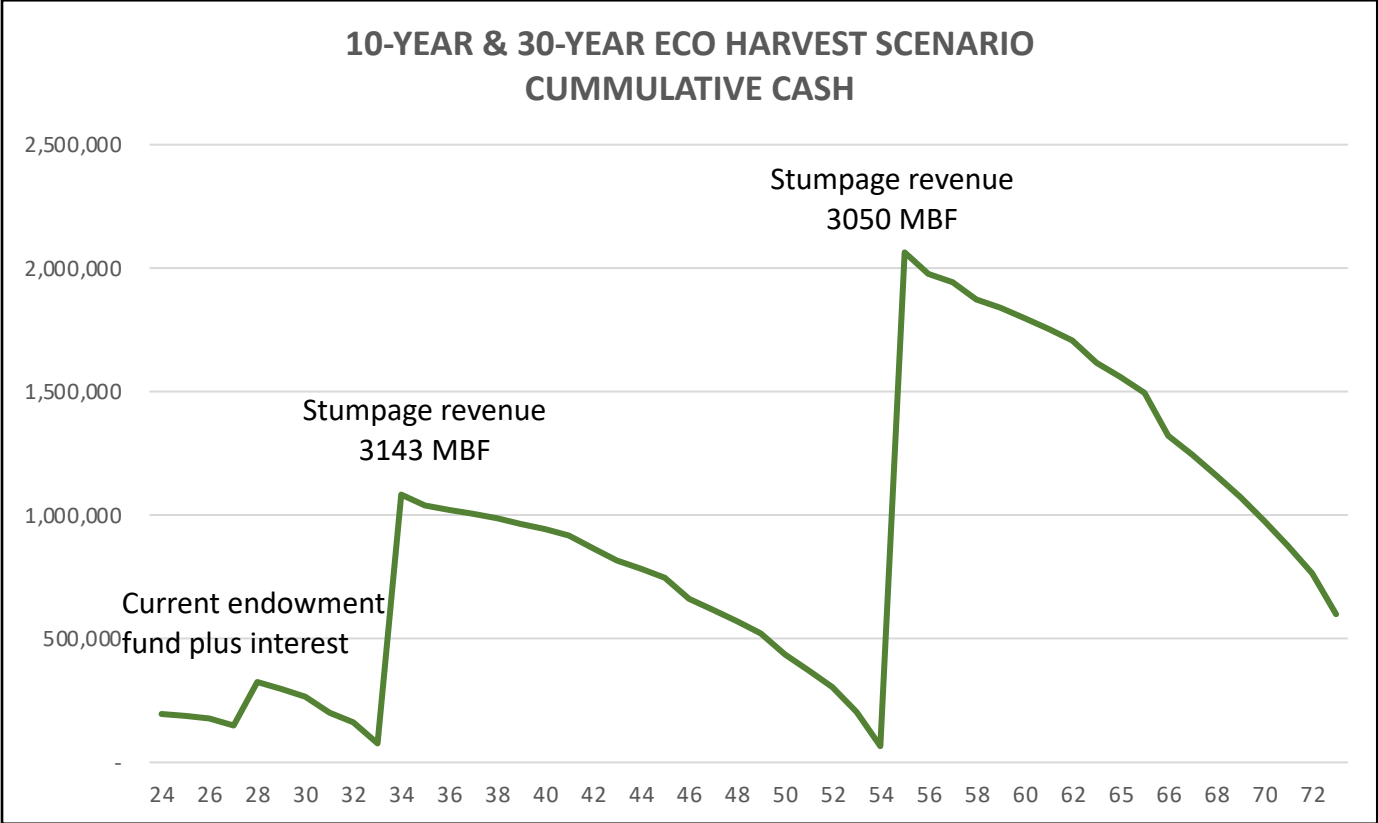
Note: Timber in these stands is currently of significantly less quality and density than in those stands targeted above. In year 30 there is more mature timber to harvest per acre than there is in Year 10.


- **Option 3 - Raise water rates to pay operating costs:** No harvest projected

Note: Harvest events are not fixed to a specific year - but to a timeframe when logging will be required for financial reasons and when pricing will be optimal



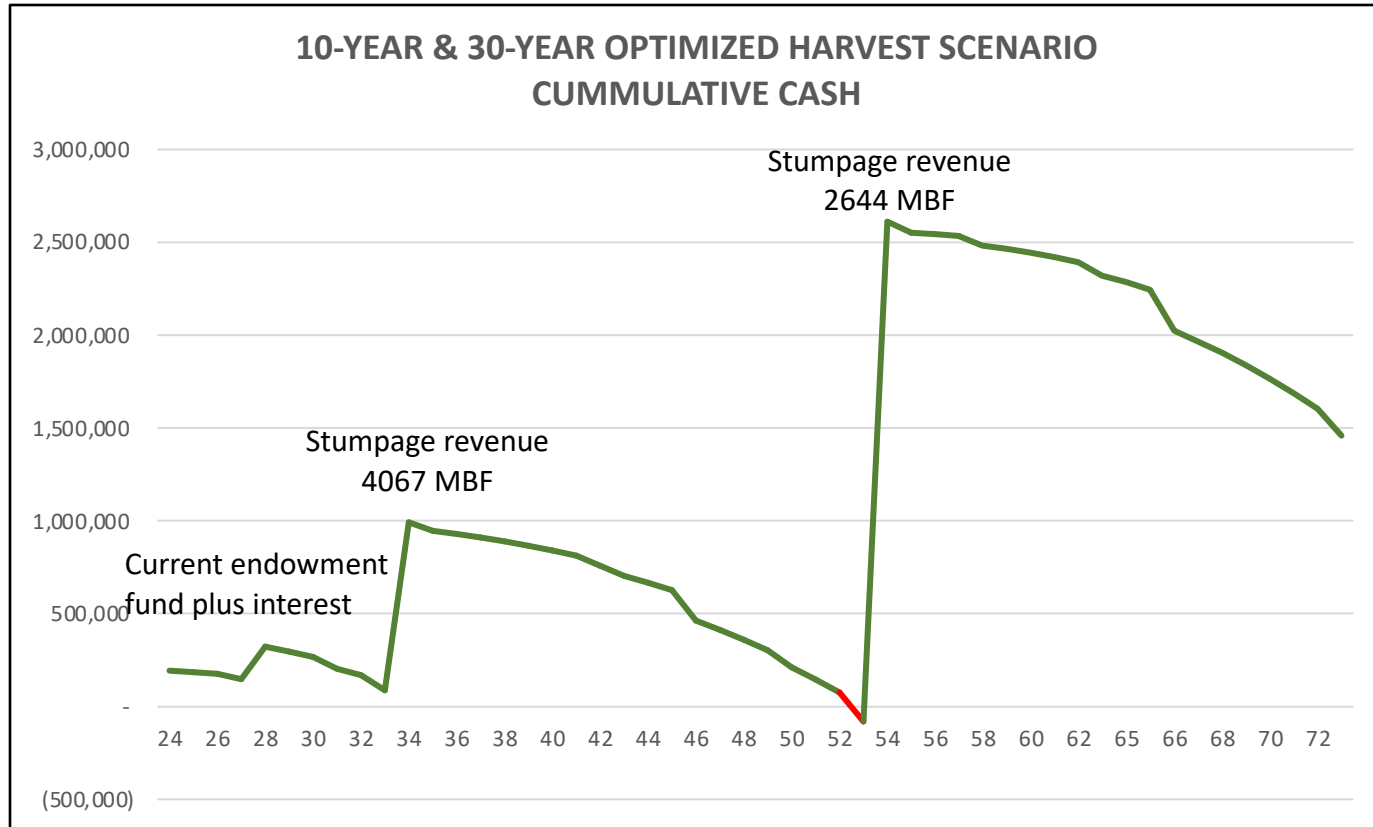
Option 1: Harvest to pay operating costs  
Ecological Harvest (Year 10 / Year 30) across Watershed  
Cumulative Operating Cash




 - Based on current estimate of operating expenses

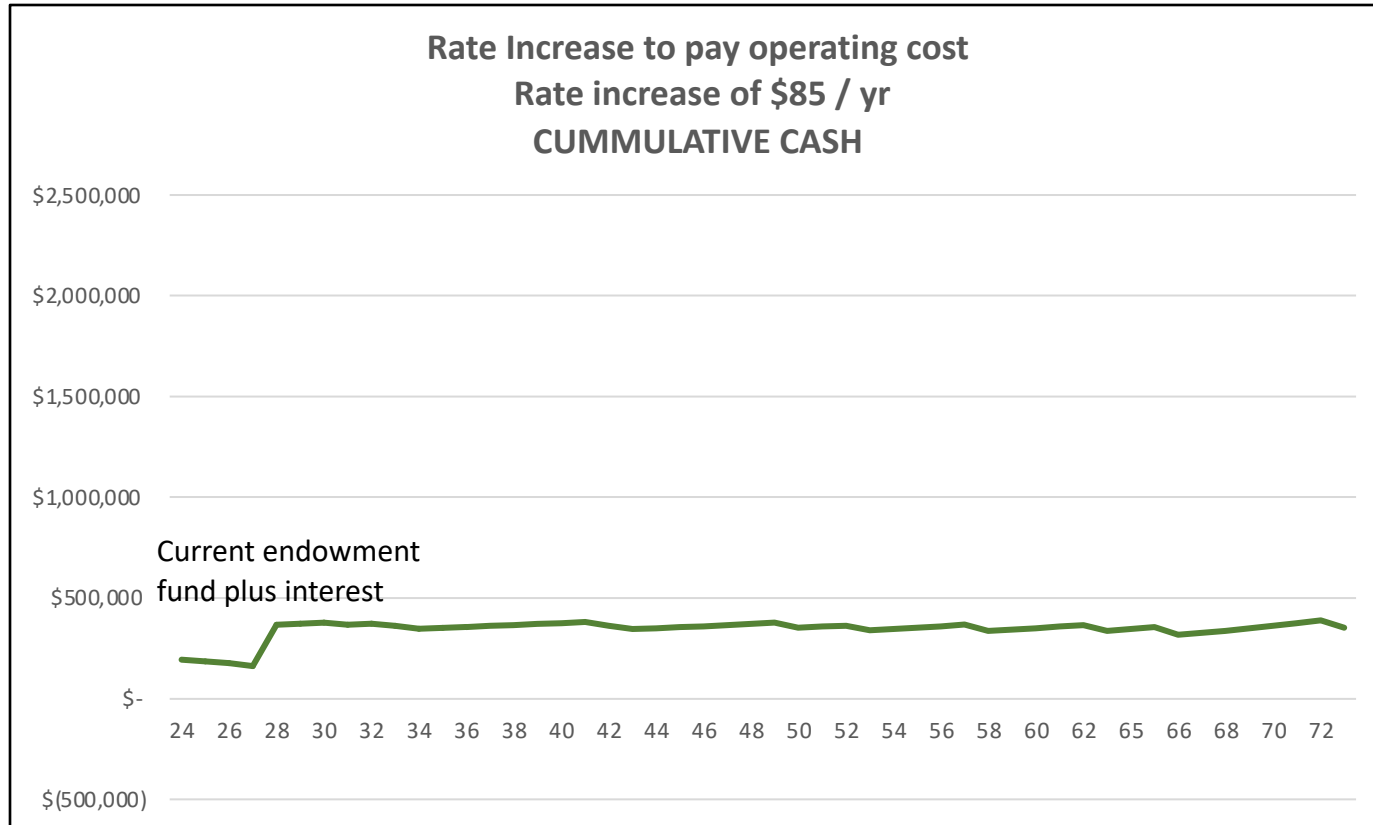
Year

Option 2: Harvest to pay operating costs  
Optimized Harvest (Year 10 / Year 30) outside SWPA  
Cumulative Operating Cash



 - Based on current estimate of operating expenses

Option 3: Rate Increase to pay operating costs  
Rate increase of \$85 / year starting in July 2025  
Cummulative Operating Cash



- Based on current estimate of operating expenses
- Rate increases would need **to start in July 2025** to maintain this funding level

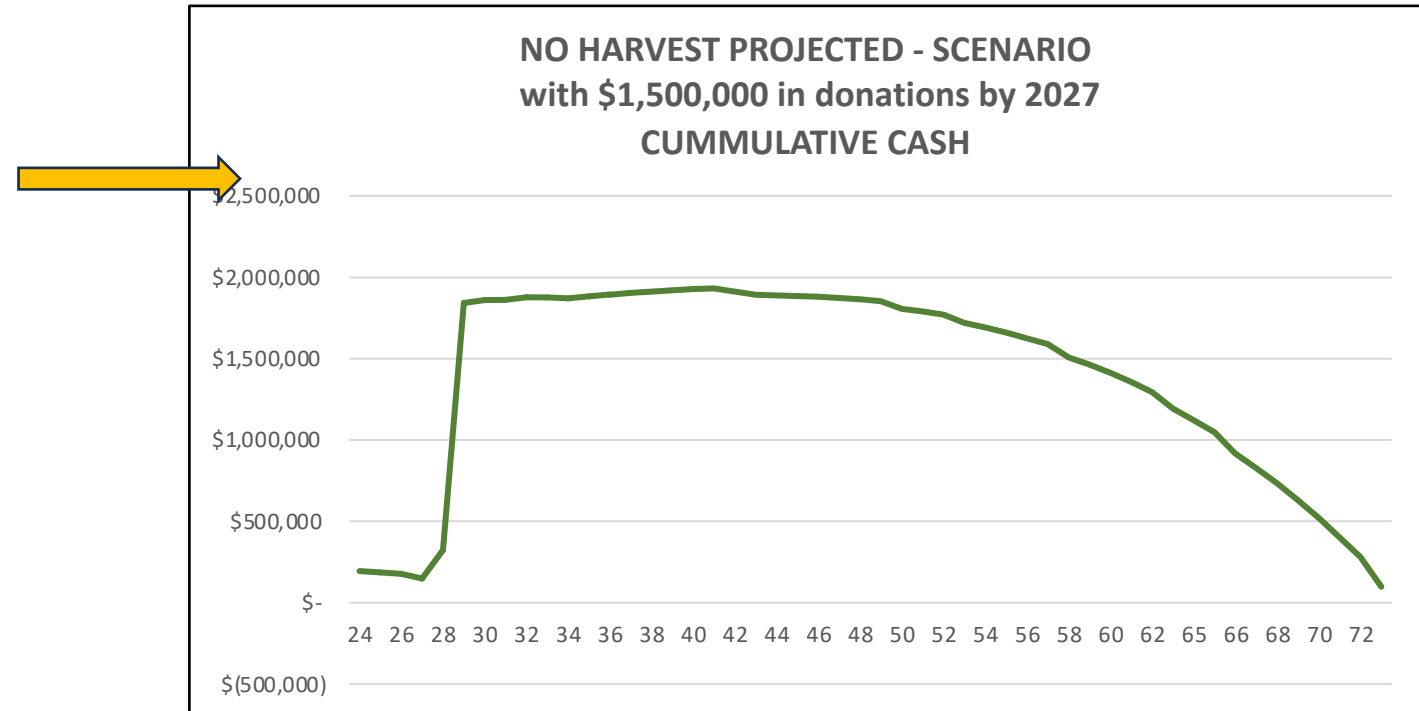
- Rate increases start with 306 hookups (per ACWD long range budget)
- Hookups increase by 2 each year (per ACWD long range budget)
- 3% annual inflation in rate amount

# Alternative Revenue Possibilities

**Donations:** To the extent that donations are received, they push out the need to log / raise rates --- or they could eliminate those needs entirely. If donations are to be pursued, the Community needs to put a process in place to raise them.

**Grants:** It may be possible to get grants, however our general understanding is that grants do not typically cover operating costs. Likely would require some amount of work to be done – like thinning of roads. There would be additional costs to research, apply for and manage grants.

**Levys:** A levy is an alternative to rate increases, but the effect on rate payers and/or owners will be about the same. If the levy doesn't pass, then rate increases will be required. There are also costs to get a levy on the ballot.



# Payment Option Decision Timeframes

- Review and updating of the operations and financial plan needs to be formalized as part of the budget process that happens each spring. Payment Option decision timeframes can be reassessed each year.
- Based upon what is currently known\*, payment option decision timeframes are below.
  - **January-February 2025:**

If rate increases are to be the payment method (and no additional donations have been received) a decision needs to be made in 1Q2025 so that rate increase can take effect in July 2025
  - **January 2027:**

\$1,500,000 in additional donations need to be received by January 2027 to eliminate the future need to logging or rate increases.
  - **January 2030:**

If logging is to be the payment method (and no additional donations have been received) a decision needs to be made in 1Q2030 to begin to evaluate optimal timing for logging event to maximize price.

\* Reminder: Depending upon costs for TBD management approach – these decision timeframes are subject to change

# Discussion with Q&A

1. What additional information do you need to know in order to make an informed decision about your payment option preferences?
2. Are there any other things that you think need to be considered by the Board / Finance Committee?

# Appendix

# One – Time Projects: Costs & Funding

FUNDING			REMAINING
ARPA - Unspent / Uncontracted			\$ 876,490
Drinking Water Fund			\$ 30,000
Hollis			\$ 15,000
TOTAL			\$ 921,490
COST ESTIMATES			PROJECTED
	SPENT	CONTRACT REMAINING	
Project Mgmt	\$ (47,429)	\$ -	\$ (143,253) *
Roads Contract Management			\$ (75,000) *
Finance Mgmt	\$ (6,000)		\$ (21,000)
Construction - Brushing / Main	\$ (22,663)	\$ (61,316)	\$ (26,535) For 2024 & 2025
Construction - 5 projects			\$ (265,577) *
Decommissioning - Red Roads			\$ (184,117) *
Decommissioning - Yellow Roads			\$ (112,766) *
Rock in DWSA			\$ (30,000)
Legal Fees			\$ (7,500)
Forestry Consultant	\$ (55,019)	\$ (42,981)	\$ (10,000)
Land Acquisition	\$ (940,000)		\$ -
Land Maint + Repair (PCT)	\$ (46,549)	\$ (38,679)	\$ -
Conservation Planning	\$ (5,850)		\$ -
TOTAL	\$ (1,123,510)	\$ (142,976)	\$ (875,748)
NET			\$ 45,742

\$75,000 into endowment fund

Review of contracts and easements prior to any road decommissioning taking place.

- Some padding to cover actual costs if greater than expected
- Any excess cannot be applied to operating costs. If we don't use this money, we lose it.



\* Pending review of one project with Cannon Beach Fire (substantial change possible) & actual bids from contractors



# Ongoing Operations – Forest Management

Cost	Harvest Event Yrs	No Harvest Yrs.	Comment
Property Manager	Harvest – 3 year window (pre, harvest, post) 16 hrs/month @ \$58 / hr	8 hrs / month @ \$58.00 / hr	Assumes District Staff
Consulting Forester	Harvest – 3 year window (pre, harvest, post) 12 hrs / month @ \$125/hr	3 hrs / month @ \$125/ hr	
Replanting Survey	If single harvest, survey 5 years later by Forester: 4 hrs @\$125/hr	N.A.	If multiple harvest, cost included within Forester cost above
Precommercial Thinning	If any harvest anticipated, 112 acres in 2030 – to improve volume growth and windfirmness (resistance to blowing over If ongoing harvest, then 12 years after each harvest. All @ \$240/acre	If no harvest anticipated, 53 acres in 2030 @ \$240/acre - more diverse stands will stratify on their own and would not need PCT (volume growth doesn't matter as much).	There are some acres that are questionable for whether they need PCT- they have high species diversity and will "stratify" on their own eventually.
Inventory / Stands Exam	1 day year/ by included in Consulting Forester cost above.	1 day year/ by included in Consulting Forester cost above.	Walk through stand exam of 50% of the property each year.
FSC Certification	5 years before and 2 yr after. \$2300 yr . (no final decision if will de done)	N.A.	Not required if harvest outside source water protect area
Targeted Invasive Plant Mitigation	\$100 / exposed acre (20% of harvest area)	Tree growth shade will mitigate	no herbicide – manual treatment for slashing.
Brushing and Road Maintenance	\$13,000 yr – (Average cost every 5 years)  If heavy scenario (year 10), decommissioning of roads will be done after the harvest with operating funds. (\$184,000)	\$13,000/yr. – (Average cost every 5 years)  Decommissioning of roads will be done with ARPA funds	Roads brushed on 5 yr cycle with contingency for failed culverts, slumps, etc. on an annual basis.  Years 2023-2025 will be paid with ARPA funds

Costs without inflation




# Ongoing- Operations – Administrative Services

Cost	Average Annual Costs	
Insurance	Included in District Policy	
ODF Fire Assessment	\$ 2,450	
Finance and Management	\$ 9,000 / \$5,400	Harvest Years / Non-Harvest Years
Grant Writer / Manager	TBD	
Legal / Marketing Research for Levy	TBD	
Project Mgmt	Will be considered in phase II of Finance Committee Process	
Legal	\$ 1,500 / \$1,000	Harvest Years / Non-Harvest Years
Audit	\$ \$2,000	
Mgmt Plan Updates (per FLP contract)	\$ 12,000 /every 10 yrs	
Signs/ Miscellaneous	\$ \$1,000 in yrs 1&2 the \$500	
Contingency	TBD	
Inflation Rate on Costs	3% (currently 3.18%)	



- Average Cost is per year (unless otherwise indicated) without inflation.

# Ongoing Operations - Revenue Options

Revenue Option	Assumption
Current "Endowment" Fund	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$400,000-ish from prior donations with \$200,000 required for working capital until 2026. Interest only calculated on \$200,000 until 2026.</li> <li>Hollis Fund Principle of \$75,000</li> <li>Interest rate of 3%</li> </ul>
	DF - \$428.50. GF - \$301.75. RA - \$245 RC - \$1115. SF - \$314.75. SS - \$100. WH - \$339.25
Stumpage Pricing	Assume use these prices and escalate them at 2.8%
Payment from NCLC for Road Usage per Easement	Nothing factored into the model yet 
Harvest Revenue Future Discount Factor	3%
Local Option Levy	TBD
Grants	TBD
Donations	TBD
Rate increases	Included as one of the payment options to follow
Carbon Sequestration	A future consideration ( <a href="https://landyield.com/">https://landyield.com/</a> )



# Explanation of Forest Management Line items Detail



Line Item	Discussion - Detail
Property Manager	<b>Responsibilities:</b> <i>In non- harvest years:</i> 1) 24/7 response to events that might occur. Get contractors involved if/as necessary and monitor them 2) Be the emergency point of contact for fire response and contractors working in the Forest. 3) Manage the keys to the Watershed gates and track who is on the property, including but not limited to contractors', in accordance with District Policy. 4) Determine, in conjunction with the consulting Forester, when the Watershed property should be closed. <i>In harvest years:</i> Same responsibilities, getting, more intense plus working with Forester on contracting.
Consulting Forester	<b>Responsibilities:</b> <i>During harvest events,</i> deal with all contracting / sale of the timber sales, as well as reforestation, pre-commercial thinning, road work, etc. This estimate is based on what we charge similar scale and type of public watershed landowners in NW Oregon and SW Washington for A) base "on-call" services and B) an estimate of the cost for harvest associated expenses. <i>In non- harvest years:</i> "on-call" for consultation as needed and periodic visit, if no significant active mgmt. Do stands exam / inventory. Part of their cost is also covered in the mgmt plan updates.
Replanting Survey	This is a post harvest event: <i>If on-going harvests:</i> There would be a 1 year and a 5 year survey of harvested area to ensure ODF required tree growth. This cost is included as part of the harvest event costs of Consulting Forester. <i>If single 10 yr harvest event:</i> a separate cost as the Forester has no scheduled activities on site.
Inventory / Stands Exam	<i>If single 10 yr harvest event:</i> High accuracy inventory to establish value to stands to be harvested <i>If ongoing harvests:</i> Moderate accuracy inventory to Monitor / Assess growth for future stands to be harvested <i>If no harvest:</i> low accuracy inventory to monitor forest health issues, invasive plants, potential fire issues, habitat metrics, etc. As well as keeping track of inventory in case it becomes absolutely necessary to harvest for operating expenses.
FSC Certification	<b>Rationale for:</b> Provides an independent audit that forest management and logging is done to an accepted high standard (social license). When multiple foresters are involved over time, provides a common understanding of forest management objectives. May open up certain markets, that may be closed to non-certified logging. Certification would be done 5 years before and 2 years after the logging event <b>Rationale against:</b> Since the District will be selling stumpage and not individual logs, certification is not likely to have any appreciable effect on markets. Legislation, practice standards and our management plan already set a high standard for forestry and logging. With a small area to be logged, the necessary level of control can be achieved internally. The District may not want restrictions on the tree stock that can be planted.
Targeted Invasive Plant Mitigation	Harvest events will leave open area in which invasive species can grow as there is plenty of light. In the current harvest plan, 20% of total area to be harvested would be exposed and require invasive species mitigation. A decision about use of herbicide or manual mitigation would need to be made.
Brushing and Road Maintenance	Level of road work will depend on intensity and breath of harvesting. If ongoing harvesting, more road work is required,. Costs will be paid for via stumpage arrangement. If a heavy harvest is anticipated, then decommissioning of associated roads would be done after the harvest. (\$184,000 is estimated). This cost would need to be paid out of operating funds. Per Section 7 page 3/12 of the easement – ‘Maintenance; Repair’, NCLC is responsible for their share of usage. The District would need to put a process in place to track and record usage.

# Explanation of Cost and Revenue Assumptions

## Costs

Line Item	Discussion
Inflation Rate on Costs	<p>A change in the Fed’s monetary policy over time is generally credited in part for the higher inflation rates earlier in that time span. As the Fed’s target inflation rate was pegged lower, at 2%, average actual inflation has been lower. Looking at that , in combination with the Fed’s 30-year inflation forecast, was the basis for bringing our number closer to 3% rather than the 50-year average of 3.69 which is skewed by early monetary policy.</p> <p>“Two commonly accepted measures of anticipated inflation are (a) the spreads between nominal and real yields on US government deb, and (b) regular surveys conducted by the Federal Reserve Bank on anticipated inflation. As of this writing, the former implies 2.2% inflation, and the later 2.0% inflation. As a result, our forecasts build in some degree on conservatism”.</p>



## Revenue

Line Item	Discussion
“Endowment” Fund	<p>The account has \$475,00 ish in working capital, including \$75,000 in Hollis Grant funding. Cash from the account is used to pay for One-Time Projects expenses and Operating expenses until ARPA reimburses for One Time Project expenses. Until 2026, \$200,000 should always be available to pay One-Time Expenses. Hollis Funds (the principle) can only be spent on Roads. Those funds are likely to be spent by 2029.. If NCLC pays their share of usage, those funds will last longer.</p>
Stumpage Pricing	<p>Prices:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Are net revenue. Contractor will pay for all costs.</li> <li>• Includes some level of non-intensive slash abatement by contractor. (Need to confirm the level of work to be done and that it is appropriate)</li> <li>• Include \$15/thousand board feet for separate replanting contract where District can select stock</li> </ul>
Harvest Revenue Future Discount Factor	<p>This discount factor is to account for risks to future revenues. Risks include, but are not limited to, fire / wind damage, extensive disease, more restricting legislation that impact harvest volumes, growth does not align with model</p>
Local Option Levy	<p><u>Revenue:</u> Duration is 5 years. Cap is whatever tax payers will tolerate within the allowed \$10 / \$1000 property valuation</p> <p><u>Costs:</u> Legal work to research and prepare, market research to best determine amount, and work of political action committee to organize and mount a campaign. (Costs associated with campaign cannot be paid by the District)</p>



## **Proposed Public Access and Recreation Policy Topic Description October 19, 2023**

*NOTE: There is insufficient time at the October meeting for the Board to hear all public comments on this topic and to deliberate on the Proposed Policy in its entirety in a meaningful way. As such, this topic will be discussed in segments over multiple meetings*

### Background

The Board requested public comments on the Proposed Public Access & Recreation Policy during the period of September 21<sup>st</sup> – October 10<sup>th</sup>. The attached documents present the comments that were received.

Bill and Tevis, in their role per Board Motion in the July 2023 Board Meeting, have categorized the comments into 7 Subject Areas and have drafted background / considerations and recommendations for the first 4 in preparation for the October meeting. All 4 of these Subject Areas may or may not be addressed at the October meeting, depending upon time.

### Attachments:

- Evaluation of Public Comments Received & Recommendations \*\*\* THIS WILL BE THE PRIMARY DOCUMENT THAT WILL GUIDE BOARD DISCUSSION \*\*\*  
This document includes the public comments for Subject Areas #1,2,3,4,6,7
- Public Comment emails and letters regarding Subject Area #5 - Access to Drinking Water Source Area (DWSA)

### Board Objective - Information

The Board's objective at the October 19<sup>th</sup> meeting are to:

- Hear Public Comments on the Proposed Policy in its entirety (all 7 Subject Areas)
- Deliberate on Subject Areas #1-4, in turn, as time allows. The intent of this deliberation is to decide if any refinements should be made to the Subject Area of the Proposed Policy. There will be no motions to adopt any of the refinements. That will come at a later meeting after all 7 Subject Areas have been deliberated.

**Proposed Public Access & Recreation Policy  
Public Comments Received: Evaluation and Recommendations  
October 19, 2023**

Per Board Motion at the July Water District Board Meeting, Bill Campbell and Tevis Dooley were tasked with formalizing a community engagement process and communicating with the Arch Cape Water District rate payers and property owners. In this capacity, Bill & Tevis have reviewed the public access and recreations policies that were proposed by the National Parks Service Committee, developed a survey for Arch Cape rate payers and lot owners about their perspectives on these proposed policies, drafted a Proposed Policy for Board consideration at the September meeting and posted that Policy for public comments.

Comments were received from 8 Arch Cape rate payers, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) and 3 non-rate payers. The comments focused on 7 Subject Areas of the Proposed Policy. Predator Hunting and Restricted Access to the Drinking Water Source Area were of greatest concern.

The table below lists the public comments that were received. Each comment asks for a change to the Proposed Public Access & Recreation Policy. So far, Bill & Tevis have evaluated the submitted public comments for Subject Areas 1- 4 in terms of whether or not there is a compelling reason to change the policy and make recommendations about whether or not to do so and if so, what change should be made. They will continue to do so until all 7 Subject Areas are completed.

The full Water District Board will consider the comments and recommendations in determining if/how to change the Proposed Policy.

SUBJECT AREA with Current Wording from Proposed Policy	PUBLIC COMMENT	CONSIDERATIONS & RECOMMENDATION
<p><b>1. Predator Hunting</b></p> <p><i>“Hunting is allowed for Deer, Elk, Bear and Cougar in the Arch Cape</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Person A</li> </ul> <p>From what I gather from historical signage at entryways to the forest, we have had a NO predator hunting policy. That has been for a very long period of time, and from my humble layperson's perspective, the bear and cougar population in this area has not been an out of control issue. Could we possibly have a no predator hunting policy in place and allow changing that, if in the future it becomes evident that some balance needs to be maintained/established?</p>	<p><u>Background / Considerations:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In response to a specific question on the survey about this topic – only a minority of respondents wanted bear and cougar hunting.</li> <li>• The recognized “industry subject matter expert” - Oregon</li> </ul>

<b>SUBJECT AREA with Current Wording from Proposed Policy</b>	<b>PUBLIC COMMENT</b>	<b>CONSIDERATIONS &amp; RECOMMENDATION</b>
<p><i>Forest consistent with Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) regulations”</i></p>	<p>I would also be curious what NCLC allows for hunting? Just deer and elk? Predator? That might make it simple or complicated depending on their policy. [<b>Response</b> – From NPS document - <i>Hunting in the Rainforest Reserve is limited to elk and deer - draft NCLC policy pending finalizing of the Rainforest Reserve public access plan</i>].</p> <p>If it is just too complicated with ODFW policy recommendations, then we will have to abide by their recommendations, I gather.</p> <p>BUT if less disturbance to the wildlife is a possibility and our community has shown to be in favor(chart of targeted animals in latest survey results) of no predator, then that would be MY vote. "SAVE THE BEARS AND COUGARS."</p> <p>One last thought, Fishing is not included as a category, and may become an issue once the bridge to allow salmon upstream happens, but I guess we will cross that bridge, when we come to it...)</p> <p>P.S. Good job on ALL of this work, and YES, I am in favor of the Proposed Public access and recreation Policy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Person B Would want to exclude cougar and bear hunting.</li> <li>• Person C I don't think predator hunting should be allowed, especially for cougar, which really qualifies as a "trophy kill". Removing predators from that ecosystem will have an effect on that system eventually. Bears and cougars don't appear to be problem animals in the community, so preventive hunting for them seems unnecessary. ODFW can regulate a predator hunting ban, while still enforcing regs for deer and elk hunting.</li> </ul>	<p>Department of Fish &amp; Wildlife (ODFW)'s - position is to allow Bear and Cougar hunting. (See email below and ODFW will be at the Board meeting to discuss).</p> <p><u>Options:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Allow Cougar and Bear Hunting</li> <li>2) Restrict Cougar and Bear Hunting</li> </ol> <p><u>Recommendation:</u></p> <p>Decide on the option based upon Board Members' assessment of ODFW position.</p>
<p><b>2. Dog Waste</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Person B</li> </ul>	<p><u>Background / Considerations:</u></p>



<p><b>SUBJECT AREA with Current Wording from Proposed Policy</b></p>	<p><b>PUBLIC COMMENT</b></p>	<p><b>CONSIDERATIONS &amp; RECOMMENDATION</b></p>
<p><i>“Removal of Dog waste is encouraged.”</i></p> <p><i>“Pack it in, pack it out”. All trash/waste (including human solid waste) must be removed by user. People are encouraged to use “Leave No Trace” principles.</i></p>	<p>want the wording regarding dog waste to be changed to MUST remove dog waste rather than encouraged.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Person D</li> </ul> <p>I see a total contradiction in the fact that human waste must be removed, but "Dogs are allowed in the Arch Cape Forest on-leash or under direct owner control. Removal of Dog waste is encouraged."</p> <p>100 percent of dog poop should be packed out. This will likely become the daily dog park, so better do this right. I am not excited having to add extra chemicals to the water because of all the dog poop.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There was no specific question on the survey about this topic – so the majority’s perspective is not known.</li> <li>• Domestic dog waste does not introduce any contamination into the water source that isn’t introduced by other wildlife in the area.</li> <li>• Dog waste left on the trail can be an inconvenience to other hikers</li> </ul> <p><u>Options:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Leave policy as is</li> <li>2) Change <i>“All trash/waste (including human solid waste) must be removed by user.”</i> To <i>“All trash/waste (including human and dog solid waste) must be removed by user”</i> and Delete <i>“Removal of Dog waste is encouraged.”</i></li> <li>3) Since the community’s perspective is unknown, be silent on dog waste (as is the historical policy) until the community can be surveyed.</li> </ol>

<b>SUBJECT AREA with Current Wording from Proposed Policy</b>	<b>PUBLIC COMMENT</b>	<b>CONSIDERATIONS &amp; RECOMMENDATION</b>
		<u>Recommendation:</u> Option #3
<b>3. Dogs off Leash</b>  <i>“Dogs are allowed in the Arch Cape Forest on-leash or under direct owner control.”</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Person D            My experience on the beach at Arch Cape is that dogs off leash are almost never in control of the owner. I get chased by dogs all the time, and somehow the dog owners all think that it is somehow my fault. Many regular dog owners who let their dogs run are not watching their dogs at all so they are pooping where ever they want. Dog poop is a reason why beaches close due to the e coli etc. So, it doesn't really make sense to allow any dogs off leash. Dogs off leash in a forest will be chasing deer and other wildlife. I see the unleashed dogs chasing all of the birds on the beaches. So, I do not understand how this would be different in the forest. On the beach, when there is a dog off leash that is not under control of the owner, there is not anyone to report it to. I am wondering who I will call if there are dogs loose and running every where, possibly on my property. I really don't want dogs off leash anywhere because they terrorize me on a daily basis.</li> </ul>	<u>Background / Considerations:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There was no specific question on the survey about this topic – so the majority’s perspective is not known.</li> </ul> <u>Options:</u> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Leave policy as is</li> <li>2) Since the community’s perspective is unknown, be silent on Dogs Off Leash (as is the historical policy) until the community can be surveyed.</li> </ol> <u>Recommendation:</u> Option #2
<b>4. Road Access</b>  <i>“Motorized vehicles, to include but not limited to trucks, cars, motorcycles and E-bikes, are not allowed except for</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Person E            It is necessary to permit access through Arch Cape Forest road(s) to the Onion Peak Repeater radio site when no other road(s) is/are available for routine and emergency maintenance. That radio site is critical to Clatsop County emergency preparedness.             Probably both but it’s only practical for vehicular traffic. I believe the total road distance from the Hug Point Rd gate to the repeater site on NCLC land is 6 miles. The requested permission would be to travel on the roads across water district lands and to unlock and lock any gates enroute.</li> </ul>	<u>Considerations:</u> Maintenance of the Repeater seems to fall into the District’s role in Emergency Preparedness  <u>Recommendation:</u> Add to Policy ...

<b>SUBJECT AREA with Current Wording from Proposed Policy</b>	<b>PUBLIC COMMENT</b>	<b>CONSIDERATIONS &amp; RECOMMENDATION</b>
<i>emergencies or for Arch Cape Water District business with permission from the Arch Cape Water District Manager.”</i>		“Access to the Onion Peak Repeater radio site is considered to be Arch Cape Water District business.”
<b>5. Access to Source Water Protection</b>  <i>Restricted Access:            “Within the Arch Cape Forest, the Drinking Water Source Area (DWSA), and other areas with sensitive natural resources, will be marked as no access.”</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rate Payers: Phillip Simmonds, John Mersereau, Dale Mosby, Reed Morrison (see attached emails, letters)</li> <li>• Non-Rate Payers: ODFW, J Caldwell, Levi Cole, Eric Shoemaker (see attached letters)</li> </ul> Allow: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Hiking and bicycle access to maintained rock roads throughout the Forest, inside and outside of the Drinking Water Source Area</li> <li>○ Hunting throughout the Forest, inside and outside of the Drinking Water Source Area</li> </ul>	To Be Discussed at the November Board Meeting
<b>6. Access to Rainforest Reserve</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Person C</li> </ul> There should not be any wording restricting the easement and access to the Rainforest Reserve through the Arch Cape Forest.	To Be Discussed at the November Board Meeting
<b>7. Other</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Person C</li> </ul>	To Be Discussed at the November Board Meeting

<b>SUBJECT AREA with Current Wording from Proposed Policy</b>	<b>PUBLIC COMMENT</b>	<b>CONSIDERATIONS &amp; RECOMMENDATION</b>
	Monitoring any regulations in the Forest is problematic. I think there should be clear signage at any access point which explains the policy. Cameras will still require the manpower to monitor, and are susceptible to vandalism in this setting.	

### Email exchange with Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW)

**From:** tevis dooley  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 26, 2023 12:52 PM  
**To:** ATWOOD Paul M \* ODFW  
**Subject:** PREDATOR HUNTING IN ARCH CAPE

Paul,

Three questions in my effort to have answers for the community;

- Q: Can we exempt cougar and bear hunting on our property and still have deer and elk hunting?

**A: This would be extremely difficult to enforce, but I suppose the board could enact whatever policy they wanted. We would certainly advocate against this as it's not in the best interest of the local wildlife populations and hampers our ability to manage wildlife.**

- Q: When odfw issues tags for bear and cougar, are they for specific areas?

**A: Only for spring bear hunts which are controlled. Cougar and fall bear are general seasons. Do hunters make requests? No**

- Q: Are there any records of bear and cougar harvests in what is now considered the Arch Cape Forest? If so, how many over the past twenty years?

A: Over the past 15 years, 4 bears and 0 cougars have been hunter harvested, indicating that continuing to provide the hunting opportunity will not result in a negative impact to bear or cougar populations. This result is also what we would expect when we take such a focused look at an area of this size since bear and cougar home ranges

## Email comments received regarding DWSA Access

### Rate Payers

- Person F

Consider incorporating the provision:

Hikers and bicycles must stay on maintained, rockered roads. No off-road use. No creating new trails.

Into your restricted access portion as well.

Specifically, making it clear that for any logging roads that cross through the portions of the map that are restricted, patrons **MUST** remain on the logging road.

This will allow transit of the current logging roads but prohibit patrons from leaving the roads (and therefore potentially impacting water quality).

Folks are going to walk / ride bikes on the logging roads. Creating a policy that makes it crystal clear that they can not leave the roads, particularly in the protected area, can help ensure the rules are followed.

- Person C

I don't think the Forest should be closed in the source water part of the watershed. I see no science that would claim that staying on hard scape roads through the watershed does any harm to source water. Part of the overall regulations is to stay on roads, discouraging any "bushwhacking".

The obvious conflict with hunters not allowed in that area; one might as well not allow any hunting in the whole Forest.

- Reed Morrison

Reed Morrison  
79852 Gelinsky Rd.  
Arch Cape, Or 97102

January 2, 2023  
October 10, 2023

Enclosed is my personal public comment in response to the Arch Cape Management Proposal.

This public comment is dated within the window allotted for public comment and is entitled to be read aloud at all meeting minutes including zoom and or in person meetings.

Thank you for the opportunity to address this Proposal.

Personal back story:

Born and raised in Arch Cape since 1974.

Property purchased in 1945.  
My son's are the 5th generation to enjoy Arch Cape.

Our family has enjoyed gatherings on New Year's, 4th of July and everything in between.

I have fond memories of post New Year's swim get togethers at Betty Snows home since the 70's.

I agree with most of the Proposal except the language regarding hunting specifically.

Hunting in the east hills behind Arch Cape has been a long time tradition for families providing healthy meals for their families while managing the Elk population going back to the Native American early years. Which my family ancestry includes the Clatsop Nehalem and Chinook tribes.

This is a tradition I have grown to enjoy and appreciate. Hiking early up into the hills while watching the sun come up. Passing on traditions of hunting and knowledge to my sons Ashton and Jordan on the meaning of hunting /hiking.

Hunting in the Onion Peak unit is extremely challenging, yielding a below average success rate. ODFW rates this unit at approximately 8 to 10% harvest rate due to the steep, dense difficult terrain. I myself have harvested 1 bull elk in 10 years which falls within this range.

Arch Cape Forest is what it is today as a result of the last 100 years of management including wildlife management. In the last 10 years we have experienced a dramatic increase of wildlife population and predators due to changes from ODFW harvesting limits and urban sprawl. In turn allowing less harvesting ,less Elk habitation and in town non-native vegetation contributing to Elk inhabiting the edge of inner city areas.

Surf Pines, Gearhart, Cannon Beach , Tolovana are experiencing the full effects on wildlife mismanagement currently. On my way to the cabin last weekend there was an Elk harem behind the Coaster Theater in downtown Cannon Beach. Creating a dangerous situation as tourists get closer to captures a picture.

Living in Surf Pines north of Gearhart from 1987 to 1997 I was able to experience the danger that Elk pose as they move into the neighborhoods. This includes dogs being killed by sharp antlers, children being chase in their yards and automobiles being charged and damaged specifically during the months of the Rut.

Currently Elk herds are habitating the properties on the East side of Arch Cape and causing damage to lawns. This can escalate rapidly with the removal of human hunting pressure and excessive harem and herd growth.

Allong with rapid Elk growth comes predator growth including Cougar/ Mountain Lion and Coyote population. Many Game Cameras have documented this over the years. We are currently seeing the highest level of Cougars ever.

ODFW offers a map of Elk Damage areas during the purchase process of a license and tag. Elk cause extreme drainage and erosion damage. This is how the State manages and creates balance for the wildlife and territory.

If hunting is banned as proposed in the Arch Cape Forest Management Proposal this will unequivocally have a negative impact of the balance that has been fostered by the State and

community hunters. Resulting in more damage, erosion, aggression, and predator animals encroaching the watershed/ homes. And if urination and carcasses truly are the reason stated for the concern of water quality. Well, this certainly raises question.

Added , the relatively small group of local hunters apprx 20 that enjoy hunting in the surrounding area share the same feeling and are stewards of the land. Cleaning garbage, reporting illegal poaching, sharing game with neighbors loving and taking care of the land. Ensuring the balance continues for many generalizations to follow.

Visit with a local hunter.

Listen to a local hunter with an open mind.

Explore sustainable options and balance.

Be humble and comprising.

These guys are some of the best people you will meet.

We will be the first to help protect the land and you.

We know the whole area with knicknames for all locations.

Local hunters have formed excellent communication with water treatment employees and neighbors looking out for everyone's best interest.

Before a vote or a decision is made .. please please reach out to some hunters and inquire about areas of mismanagement and heavy Elk populations such as Surf Pines, Gearhart and Cannon Beach.

Elk and Predator animals inhabiting inner cities is extremely challenging to reverse and balance. And poses great risks and liability. Arch Cape is in the cusp of joining them. Let's not disrupt the balance.

In conclusion:

A solution that I would offer is this..

Specially train and permit a handful of locals to keep the Elk at manageable numbers. This will reduce human traffic and assure there will be the lightest footprint. Speaking for myself personally i would also donate the harvest to families in need or a reputable non profit for distribution.

If the watershed is closed to hunting the Elk will recognize this and consider this their safe sanctuary reserve and will overpopulate/ bed / rake trees/ erode the land in a very concentrated way. You think carcasses, urine and skat is an issue now? Wait until there are hundreds of Elk in there daily. Think I'm wasting my time writing this for fun?? Remember.. I was raised here I've seen it happen. Few years from now you will be trying to figure out how to reverse your decision.

We have discussed this issue in detail with Paul Atwood from ODFW and he agrees. Remember the zoom meetings and town halls that you weren't present at to learn this?

Remember this watershed is a highly unhospitable area for wanna be mountain men and tourists. They will not flood this area like Oswald.



We spend many hours and days in the hills behind Arch Cape and know it very well. Not working closely with Local Hunters is not working toward a solution.

Thank you for your time

I am available 24/7 for concerns or questions.

I specifically request again that this public comment be read at all minutes of all meetings pertaining to this response.

Reed Morrison

9712852222

### Non-Rate Payers

- Jeff Caldwell

Dear Board Members,

I hope this letter finds you well. I would like to express my deep concern regarding the currently proposed Public Access & Recreation Policy for the Arch Cape Community Forest, dated September 21, 2023. I previously submitted formal comments on this matter via public comment in meetings along with surveys, and I believe it is essential to reiterate my concerns.

The process of developing this policy, facilitated by federal authorities, was certainly challenging for most of us and didn't holistically align with the values and needs of our community. While it is important to respect our neighbors and maintain the unique character of this place, the recommendation to exclude historic users from over half of the forest is deeply troubling for several reasons.

First, this recommendation is inconsistent with the majority of prior stakeholder input (and acceptance of recommendations). It is clear that the community's collective voice is not being adequately represented in this proposal. The policy should reflect the desires and needs of the people who have long been a part of this forest's history.

Second, the current proposal lacks a rational basis supported by the best available scientific evidence. A policy that restricts access should be firmly grounded in scientific research, particularly when considering the potential impact on the forest and its ecosystems.

Lastly, this policy appears to violate the spirit, if not the outright conditions, of the various public funding sources that were used to acquire this land. Over 95% of the funding for this purchase came from county, state, and federal sources, and it was expected that the forest would remain open for historic public uses, provided that access is consistent with scientifically defensible restrictions related to drinking water source integrity. However, the new Board has not provided any evidence-based analyses to support the proposed updates to the access plan.

It is important to remember that public funds played a significant role in acquiring this land, and we have a responsibility to ensure that the forest remains accessible to the public as originally intended, while also safeguarding its natural resources. The entire process is a behind the scenes play by a small group of NIMBY – Not in my backyard self-serving locals with a myopic view on what they perceive to be their land.

As a long-time user of the Arch Cape Forest with deep roots in this community, albeit not an Arch Cape lot owner or rate payer. However, I am a local, state, and federal taxpayer, and I believe that my voice, along with others who have a similar stake in this issue, should be considered in the decision-making process.

Our shared goal should continue to be the preservation and protection of this unique forest, without drawing unnecessary attention to it. We must nurture a culture of stewardship among all users and ensure the integrity of the watershed through habitat restoration and monitoring. Simultaneously, we should uphold our commitment to historic public access as originally intended when these public funds were allocated.

Let us strive to find a balanced solution that respects our history, our community, and the natural beauty of the Arch Cape Community Forest. It would be a major disappointment if this is allowed to become policy then potentially get negative attention that plays out in a very public way. I am hopeful a meaningful conversation will happen very soon.

I was told personally access would not be inhibited in any way. In very simple terms. Do the right thing.

Sincerely,

Jeff Caldwell

- Levi Cole

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing this email to voice my concerns with the proposed change in use and rights for the Arch Cape Water shed Forest area. I have attended the public meetings. And I have heard the voices of many different stakeholders. I believe that excluding the use of these lands to historic uses/users such as hunting, hiking, biking, birding, mushrooming, and what have you is, and would be exceptionally shortsighted.

I understand the concern for this, not becoming an overly used public resource to people that are not from the immediate area. However, there is already, as previously discussed a limited amount of parking and no plans to add any. Which, by its very nature creates a situation that is self limiting in scope and practice.

I have been archery hunting for elk in these woods, most of my adult life and I consider these woods to be a sacred place and treat them as such.

I believe that the way this new proposal has come about is foolish at best, and disingenuous at worst. Please reconsider the previous information and input that has come from all stakeholders in the meetings that were held publicly.

This land was purchased with my tax dollars as well as yours. And I am confident that nothing that I do in those woods will have any deleterious effect on the watershed or drinking water of people who own Arch Cape lots.

I must say that I am shocked and disappointed by the behavior of the board trying to back door this proposal.

Please consider that there are many people with a concerted interest, and long term use history with this land and these woods. I dare say that I spend more time in them than most people who own homes in Arch Cape. As a hunter and a naturalist, please consider the lives and rights of those of us who have historically used these lands.

Thank You for your consideration.

**Levi Cole**

Real Estate Broker, Licensed in Oregon

Premiere Property Group, LLC

Call or Text: (503) 703-8856

[leviticuscole@mac.com](mailto:leviticuscole@mac.com)

- Brandon Dyches (ODFW)

Arch Cape Community,

This letter continues my comment and involvement in the planning process around the Arch Cape Community Forest and surrounding lands. I have attended several meetings from before the planning process began and most recently at the Arch Cap Fire District building.

The latest access proposal dated 9/1/2023 veers strongly off course from the public conversation around balancing historic access, community interests, and public goods.

I completely understand and support protecting the Arch Cape community water source. But what evidence or science shows that limited recreational access in the watershed will contaminate the drinking supply?

More important, what defense is there for raising and spending \$6 million in public funds to purchase public-access land and then block the taxpaying public from accessing that land?

I am a friend of this forest and want to repeat my request that public access continue to honor historic, limited, clean use of this landscape.

Brandon Dyches

**Brandon Dyches**

**Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife**

**Phone** 971-707-0098

October 10, 2023

Dear Arch Cape Community:

This letter is further public comment on the Arch Cape Community Forest access planning process. I last submitted formal comments on Dec. 15, 2022.

The currently proposed Public Access & Recreation Policy (dated Sept. 21, 2023) is deeply flawed – both in process and result. Yes, the federally facilitated process felt clunky and inappropriate to most of us. Yes, we must respect our neighbors and avoid publicizing this place. However, excluding historic users from over half the forest as now recommended is: i) inconsistent with the preponderance of prior stakeholder input, ii) does not rationally support a policy goal according to the best available science, and iii) violates the spirit, if not outright conditions, of the various public funding sources used to accomplish this land purchase.

I am not an Arch Cape lot owner or rate payer as defined by the most recent “more statistically representative” survey and therefore did not participate. Our primary residence is Cannon Beach. Our family has been here since the 1930s and we have used this forest consistently since the 1960s. My own time in the Arch Cape Forest is limited to roughly 1,000 trips over the last 20 years and I have actively participated in this process since before it was a formal process.

Perhaps I shouldn't have a vote. However, I am also a local, state, and federal taxpayer and I know this forest was purchased with public dollars (more than 95% of the ~\$6MM was county, state, and federal funds). These funds were made available with the expectation (among others) that the forest remain open for historic public uses so long as such access is consistent with scientifically defensible restrictions related to drinking water source integrity.

No such defensible or evidence-based analyses have been offered by the new Board in support of the proposed updates to the access plan. Absent such support, we appear to have a public land grab dressed up in the strategic redefinition of what it means to be a stakeholder. Given our primary shared goal of not publicizing this forest, it would be unfortunate if such chicanery were to be widely reported within the regional or state press.

Again, let's not publicize this place or our disagreements, let's continue to nurture a culture of stewardship among all users, let's ensure watershed integrity through ongoing habitat restoration and monitoring, and let's please respect historic public access as we originally intended.

Thank You,



Eric R. Shoemaker

Dale Mosby  
31897 Oceanview Ln  
Arch Cape, OR 97102

October 7, 2023  
dale@archcape.com  
(503) 332-5201

Re: Comments on proposed public access and recreation plan

I disagree with the proposed public access plan, specifically prohibiting access to the source drinking water area. The plan states that the “purpose is protecting the quality and quantity of the Community’s drinking water” and to do so “the District would like to keep to a minimum the vehicular, bicycle and foot traffic that may threaten the environment and its water”.

This plan starts with the conclusion that hiking on the rocked roads has a negative impact on water quality. I served on the Water and Sanitary Districts for 9 years during which time there was never any discussion of hiking impacting water quality. The only impact to our water was from logging near stream buffers or blow down resulting from logging introducing sediment.

I sent email (February 5 of this year) to our plant manager, Matt Gardner, asking:

“Do you have any information that suggests that people hiking in the Arch Cape watershed is something contributing to water quality problems? How about hunting?”.

The reply from Matt was:

“To date no issues have been reported that I know of regarding water quality issues stemming from hiking or hunting in the watershed.”.

The proposed plan would allow people to hike east on Hug Point Road and then be forced to stop shortly after turning to the south. There are several miles of rocked logging roads continuing to the North Coast Land Conservancy property that would be removed from recreation by this plan. There is no evidence that the low number of hikers in the forest would impact water quality by using these rocked roads for recreation. If this was a problem, the District should have requested that the private landowners restrict public access many years ago.

The Forest Management Plan that has been adopted states:

“As a result of common practice over the past century, the Arch Cape Forest property has remained open to public access. A significant risk exists that without public purchase, the Arch Cape Forest could be closed to public access and some areas of the property planned for development.”

It is disappointing to think that a century of public access, when the land was in private ownership, would come to an end once the property transfers to public ownership. Simply restricting hiking to existing roads and prohibiting entry during time of fire danger is adequate to protect our water quality while continuing a century of public enjoyment of this forest.

Regards,  
Dale Mosby



# Oregon

Tina Kotek, Governor

## Department of Fish and Wildlife

North Coast Watershed District

4907 3<sup>rd</sup> Street

Tillamook, OR 97141

(503) 842-2741

Fax (503) 842-8385

[www.myodfw.com](http://www.myodfw.com)



October 10, 2023

Dear Arch Cape Water Districts Board of Directors:

Thank you for the opportunity to participate in the public access planning process and provide comments. The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) agency mission is to protect and enhance Oregon's fish and wildlife and their habitats for use and enjoyment by present and future generations. In 2018, ODFW completed a strategic plan where one of the five identified focal issues was public access. Additionally, public access is critical to ODFW's ability to effectively manage wildlife at optimum levels.

ODFW has reviewed the draft public access policy and offers one recommendation: to allow hunting throughout the entire Arch Cape Community Forest. ODFW has been supportive of this project since the first land acquisition grant applications and written many letters of support while also requesting that unrestricted public recreational access continue. Allowing hunting access in this manner serves several important purposes: it retains recreational access that has been historically allowed, allows for management of wildlife populations at optimum levels, and provides avenues for landowners to elect for enhanced enforcement by the Oregon State Police Fish and Wildlife Division (OSP) through ODFW's Access and Habitat Program. Hunting is a useful tool to keep wildlife populations at levels that help maintain forest health and keep conflicts with people in residential areas at a minimum. With access to only a small portion of the property, populations will increase to levels detrimental to both the forest and start causing safety issues within the community. Continuing public recreational access throughout the property including in the drinking water watershed would allow an opportunity to join the North Coast Travel Management Area which will provide the added OSP presence and enforcement referenced above. Most importantly, continuing to allow hunting throughout the forest will not impact drinking water for the community, just as it has not in the past.

ODFW appreciates that the draft policy allows for hunting of all species in accordance with current state regulations. Thank you for the opportunity to review and provide recommendations to the draft policy. Please contact the North Coast Watershed District if there are any questions.

Sincerely,

Paul Atwood  
District Wildlife Biologist  
Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife  
4907 Third Street  
Tillamook, OR 97141