

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

In the Matter of Multnomah)
County's Resolution to Protect) RESOLUTION
the Larch Mountain Old Growth) #88-63
Forest as a Special Interest)
Parcel with a A4 Designation)

WHEREAS, the Larch Mountain area has a long history of protection and public concern, viz.,

(a) in 1920, the Larch Mountain area was included by Congress in the Oregon National Forest in order to protect it from further private logging and permit its eventual inclusion in the Columbia Gorge Park Division;

(b) in 1935, Multnomah County deeded parcels of land in the Larch Mountain area to the U.S.F.S. with a deed restriction limiting use of the land to "...public park or recreation area".

(c) in 1937, the Larch Mountain area was included in the Columbia Gorge Park Division by order of the Secretary of Agriculture, in order to protect its scenic beauty and public recreation values;

(d) in 1986, the Larch Mountain area was included by Congress in the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area to further assure protection of its scenic, recreational, and natural values.

WHEREAS, Multnomah County was chiefly responsible for construction of the Larch Mountain Highway and the Larch Mountain Viewpoint in 1939, and acquisition of the four mile Larch Mountain Forest Corridor in 1945, and has been responsible for protection of the Larch Mountain Corridor since its acquisition, all of these with the express purpose of providing citizens of Multnomah County and others with a scenic forest drive to an outstanding viewpoint overlooking a beautiful and natural forest landscape and

WHEREAS, The Larch Mountain, Multnomah Basin, and Nesmith Point areas contain an extensive trail network which is close to the metropolitan area and which has been important for forest recreation since construction of the Larch Mountain Trail by local citizens in 1915, serving 97,000 visitors annually, and

WHEREAS, it is in the interest of the people of Multnomah County that the representative stand of old growth forest in the Multnomah Basin, which is easily accessible for enjoyment by the local citizens and an increasing number of tourists, be protected in its natural condition and

WHEREAS, the Mt. Hood National Forest, United States Department of Agriculture is in the process of developing a land and resource management plan,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Multnomah County Board of Commissioners remains committed to protection of the Larch Mountain area and recommends designation of that portion of the Larch Mountain area lying within the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area as Special Interest (A4) in the Mt. Hood National Forest Plan.



ADOPTED May 5, 1988
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

BY

Gladys Mc Coy, Chair

0703/cam