

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

FOR MARION COUNTY, OREGON

In the matter of closing North Fork Park, )  
Salmon Falls Park, and Bear Creek Park and )  
Campground. )

**ORDER No.** 21-026

This matter came before the Marion County Board of Commissioners at its regularly scheduled public meeting on Wednesday, March 10, 2021.

WHEREAS, Marion County owns North Fork Park, Salmon Falls Park, and Bear Creek Park and Campground located along North Fork Road; and

WHEREAS, the Beachie Creek Fire swept through the areas surrounding North Fork Park, Salmon Falls Park, and Bear Creek Park and Campground during the month of September 2020, destroying much of the infrastructure and leaving a great deal of fire debris to be cleaned up; and

WHEREAS, the board desires to close North Fork Park, Salmon Falls Park, and Bear Creek Park and Campground temporarily in order to facilitate the cleanup of North Fork Park, Salmon Falls Park, and Bear Creek Park and Campground, to allow for the reconstruction of needed infrastructure within North Fork Park, Salmon Falls Park, and Bear Creek Park and Campground, and to reduce congestion on North Fork Road and Gates Hill

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Road; now, therefore,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that North Fork Park, Salmon Falls Park, and Bear Creek Park and Campground are closed until further order of the board.

DATED at Salem, Oregon, this 10<sup>th</sup> day of March 2021.

MARION COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



Chair



Commissioner



Commissioner



MARION COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Board Session Agenda Review Form

Meeting date: March 10, 2021

Department: Public Works Agenda Planning Date: 03/04/2021 Time required: 10 min

Audio/Visual aids

Contact: Brian Nicholas Phone: 503.588.7943

Department Head Signature: Brian Stahl

TITLE Consider approval of an order for the temporary closure of North Fork Park, Salmon Falls Park, and Bear Creek Park and Campground

Issue, Description & Background North Fork Park, Salmon Falls Park and Bear Creek Park and Campground were heavily damaged during the September 2020 Beachie Creek / Lionshead wildfires resulting in nearly total destruction of mature vegetation and park amenities. Marion County Public Works is working with FEMA to obtain Public Assistance to support recovery plans for all three parks. Currently, it is not safe to enter the parks due to a large number of dead and standing trees that can fall with little or no warning. Furthermore, it is not safe for the public to enter the Little North Fork Santiam River due to a large volume of woody debris, both floating and submerged, moving down the watershed on a daily basis. It is clear that these conditions will not be remedied in the near future. Staff recommend formal closure of these parks to prevent public exposure to in-water and landside hazards until park recovery has been completed such that these hazards are eliminated.

Financial Impacts: This order results in no financial impact to the county and serves to mitigate risks to the public.

Impacts to Department & External Agencies This order will assist Marion County Sheriff and Parks staff in enforcing no-trespassing measures at these parks and prevent the public exposure of in-water hazards from county-owned properties.

Options for Consideration: 1. Approve the proposed order; 2. Deny the proposed order; or 3. Direct staff to alter the proposed order and return for approval.

Recommendation: Staff recommend the board approve the order as written.

List of attachments: Board Order

Presenter: Brian Nicholas

Copies of completed paperwork sent to the following: (Include names and e-mail addresses.)

Copies to: