

# 2019 SWOCC ELLIOTT STATE FOREST DRAFT RECREATION PLAN W/RECOMMENDATIONS

## May 28, 2019 Golden and Silver Falls Field Trip

The Golden and Silver Falls field trip focuses on state and county parks on the Millicoma River and Glenn Creek, along the southern boundary of the Elliott State Forest Recreation Area. This field trip bypasses the West Fork Millicoma and Marlow Creek access roads to the Elliott taken on earlier field trips:

[http://www.orww.org/Elliott\\_Forest/Recreation/Field\\_Trips/Golden-Silver\\_Falls.html](http://www.orww.org/Elliott_Forest/Recreation/Field_Trips/Golden-Silver_Falls.html)

**Rooke-Higgins County Park.** Mahaffy family tree farm is adjacent to the park and boat launch has interesting local history: Weyerhaeuser leased boat launch to County, then sold to private owners, then shut down due to potential liability, then opened by County again a few years ago.

**Allegany School/Mahaffy Ranch Pumpkin Patch.** Allegany School has been converted to a Community Center in which the Allegany Recreation District is headquartered. Mahaffey Ranch Pumpkin Patch is on the other side of the road. Short stop near original steamboat landing.

**Millicoma State Park/Nesika County Park.** Rolling, drive-by spots. The 15-acre Millicoma Park was created in 1950 by “Save the Myrtle Woods” movement and was likely a regularly-used camping site by local precontact Indians. Nesika Park was deeded to the county by Weyerhaeuser, who found it too expensive and troublesome to privately manage over time.

**Lockhart Bridge.** The splash dam here had similar impacts on fish habitat and stream access as with the Mill Creek splash dams below Loon Lake. Unusual ownership history; weeds.

**Golden and Silver Falls.** Old road bed and interpretive sign for Silver Falls trail; old-growth near beginning of Golden Falls trail – leave about 3:45 to reach Coos Bay by 4:35.

Allegany Recreation District Community Center Maintenance Manual, Carole Dawson, Pres.  
[http://www.orww.org/Elliott\\_Forest/Recreation/Allegany/Dawson\\_20100504.pdf](http://www.orww.org/Elliott_Forest/Recreation/Allegany/Dawson_20100504.pdf)

Millicoma River Park and Recreation District “Operating Manual” compiled by Lionel Youst:  
[http://www.orww.org/Elliott\\_Forest/Recreation/Allegany/Youst\\_20120702\\_.pdf](http://www.orww.org/Elliott_Forest/Recreation/Allegany/Youst_20120702_.pdf)

Lionel Youst’s book, *Lost in Coos*, chapters 2, 5, 6, 8, 11, and 12 are stories of people lost – and their rescuers -- in present-day Elliott Forest; and “*Above the Falls*” -- good maps and photos.

[http://www.orww.org/Elliott\\_Forest/History/Youst/Youst\\_20110000.pdf](http://www.orww.org/Elliott_Forest/History/Youst/Youst_20110000.pdf)

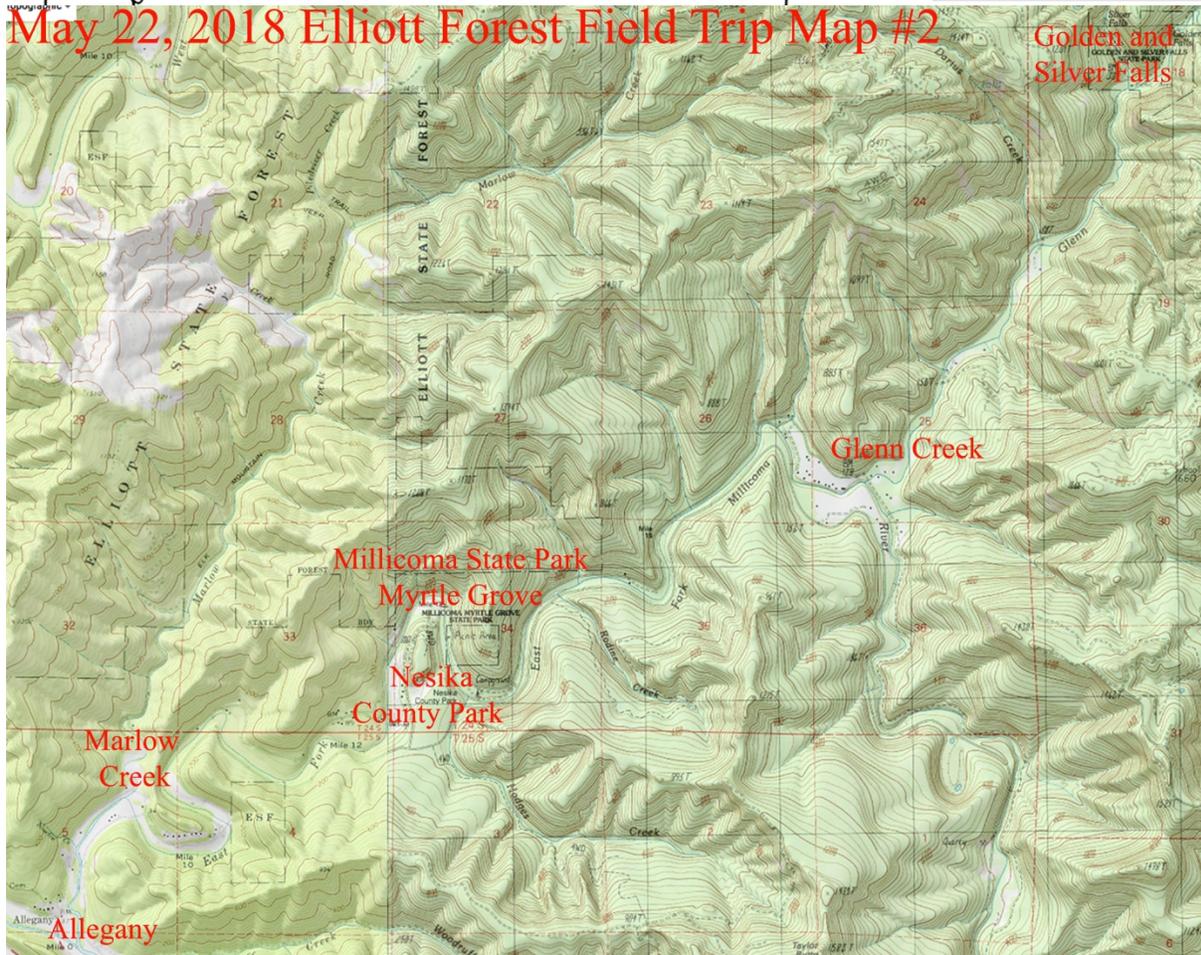
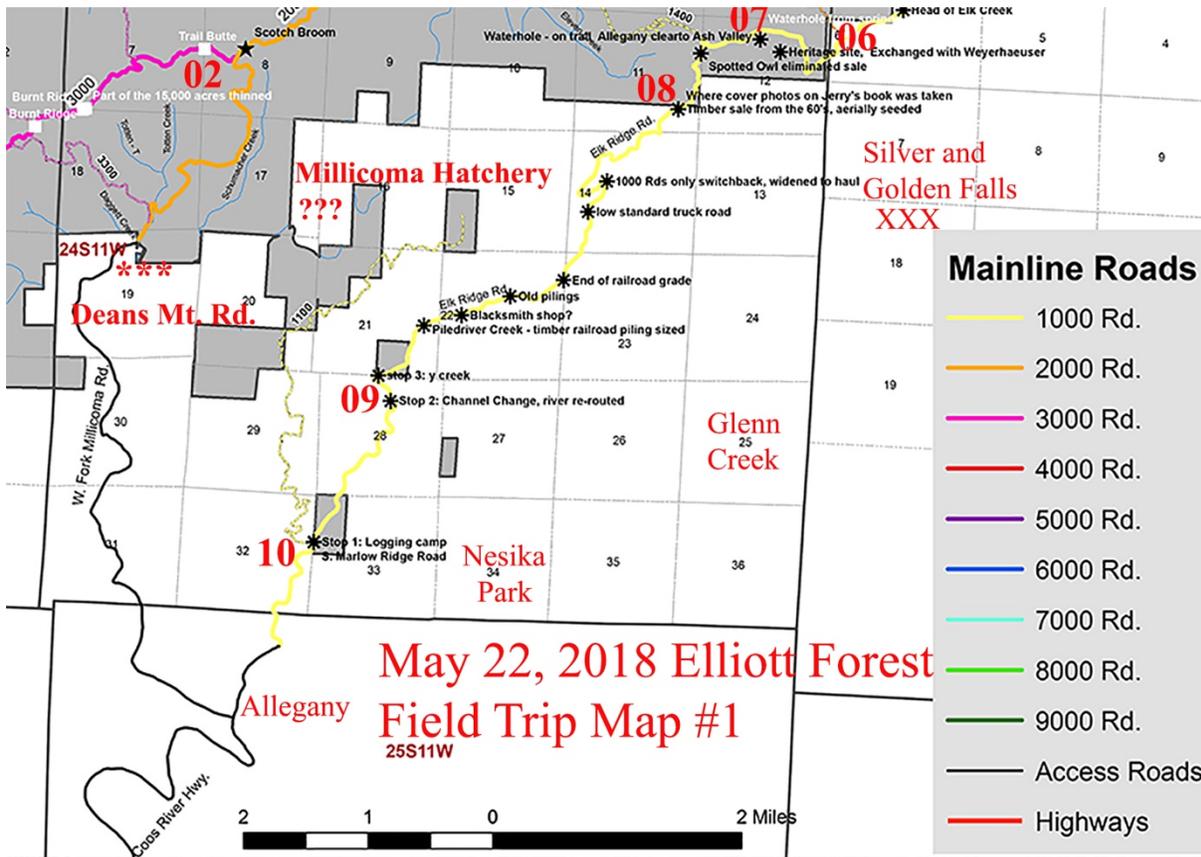
[http://www.orww.org/Elliott\\_Forest/History/Youst/Youst\\_20030000.pdf](http://www.orww.org/Elliott_Forest/History/Youst/Youst_20030000.pdf)

*Oregon State Parks History, 1917 – 1963*, compiled by Chester Armstrong

[http://www.orww.org/Elliott\\_Forest/History/Armstrong\\_19650701.pdf](http://www.orww.org/Elliott_Forest/History/Armstrong_19650701.pdf)

Beckham, Dow 1990. *Swift Flows the River: Log Driving in Oregon*. Arago Books, Coos Bay, Oregon: 207 pp.

Mahaffey, Charlotte 1965. *Coos River Echoes: A Story of the Coos River Valley*. Interstate Press, Portland, Oregon: 253 pp.



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**Oregon State Marine Board**  
September 3, 2014 · 🌐

Rooke-Higgins is now open! The Coos County Parks Department made upgrades and repairs, including replacing the bumper rails, clearing accumulated mud from the lower ramp, and installing new signs. The county also will manage the facility and hopes to replace the restrooms and floats in the future.



DFW.STATE.OR.US  
**Popular boat ramp re-opens for fall salmon angling**  
CHARLESTON, Ore. – There is good news for Millicoma River anglers: th...

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- 57 check-ins

**COME PICK AT THE PATCH**

**HAY RIDES - CORN MAZE**  
**CORN CANNONS - HAY MAZE**  
**WEEKEND FOOD VENDORS**

Mon.-Fri. 12pm-5pm  
Sat. & Sun. 10am-6pm

**PAPA'S DOGGS** **ELKHORN BBQ**  
"DODGERS DRIVE ALL THE PUMPKIN"

**Sept. 29th - Oct. 29th, 2017**

**10362 Hwy 241**  
**Coos Bay, OR**

**Follow the PUMPKIN Signs to Allegany**

**SCHEDULE YOUR FIELD TRIP!**



**Mahaffy Ranch**  
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Alice Freeman Friends just went Sunday...LOVED IT !!  
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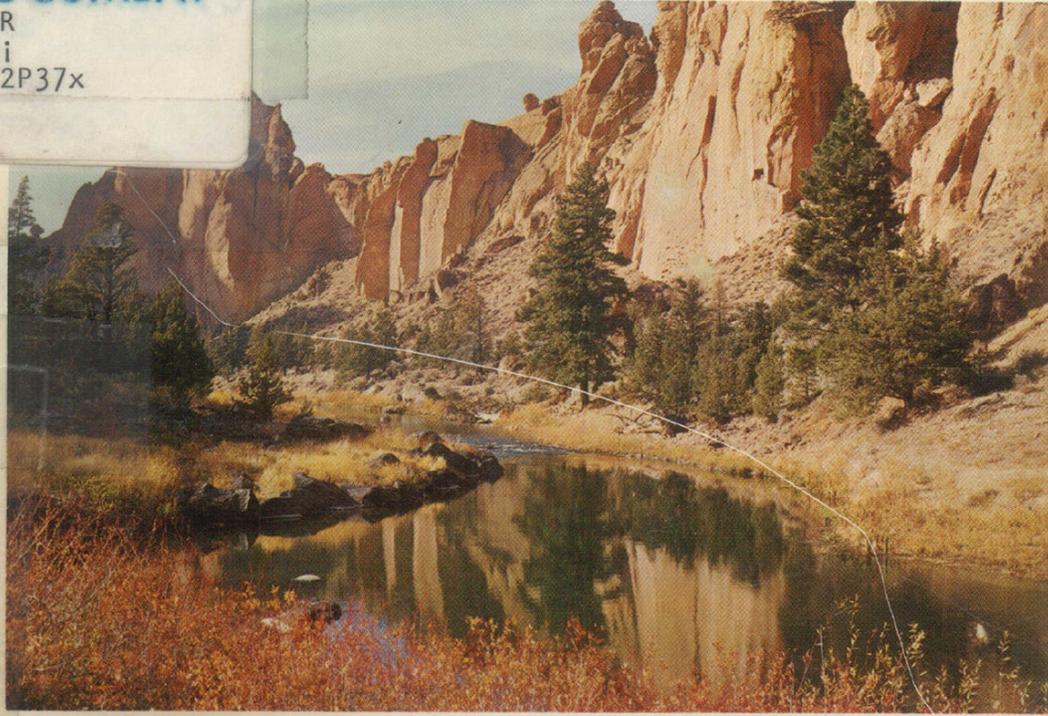
**MILLICOMA RIVER PARK and RECREATION  
DISTRICT**  
P.O. Box 155  
Allegany, OR 97407



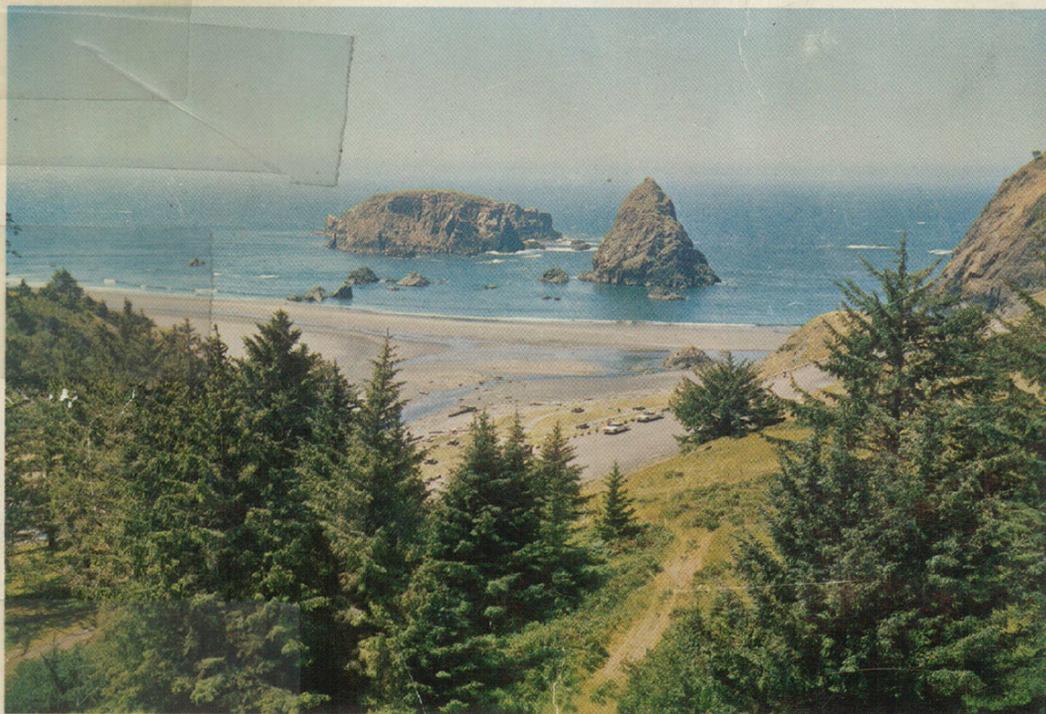
**Maintenance Handbook**  
for the  
**Community Center Building and its Grounds**

DOCUMENT

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# HISTORY OF THE DRAGON'S TAIL PARKS



The land was offered to the state as a park in 1947 and again in 1951. However, it does serve the idea of preservation of the Columbia Gorge and was accepted in 1957.

Construction of tables, benches and fireplaces was done by the Civilian Conservation Corps. These facilities have long since succumbed to the elements.

No active use is being made of the park.

#### *Millicoma Myrtle Grove State Park*

Millicoma Myrtle Grove State Park is located on the East Fork of Millicoma River, approximately 18 miles east of Coos Bay and about one mile from the east end of State Secondary Highway 241 in Coos County. The area is bisected by the Coos River Secondary Highway 1.

The 15-acre tract of myrtle trees was a gift to the state in 1950 from Save the Myrtle Woods, Inc. Donating this land to the state was part of a plan of that organization to obtain and place in protective custody several good stands of old myrtle trees growing in the southwest corner of Oregon. Myrtle is a hard wood highly prized for use in manufacturing novelties.

The name Millicoma Myrtle Grove State Park was selected for this area because of its location and the beautiful myrtle trees thereon. Millicoma is an Indian name and, according to McArthur's *Oregon Geographic Names*, the meaning is not known.

The terrain is quite steep, except for a small area near the river where a small day use facility has been provided.

The cover is principally myrtle with some maple, alder and other trees indigenous to southwestern Oregon.

A plaque was erected at this park indicating that the land was purchased by Save the Myrtle Woods, Inc., with money donated by the Oregon Federation of Garden Clubs, and given to the State of Oregon in 1949. (Deed is dated May 17, 1950.)

Day use in 1962 totaled 6,927 visitors. No count was made in 1963. Overnight camping facilities have not been provided. However, this area is often used in conjunction with an adjoining campground known as Nesika Park provided by Weyerhaeuser Company.

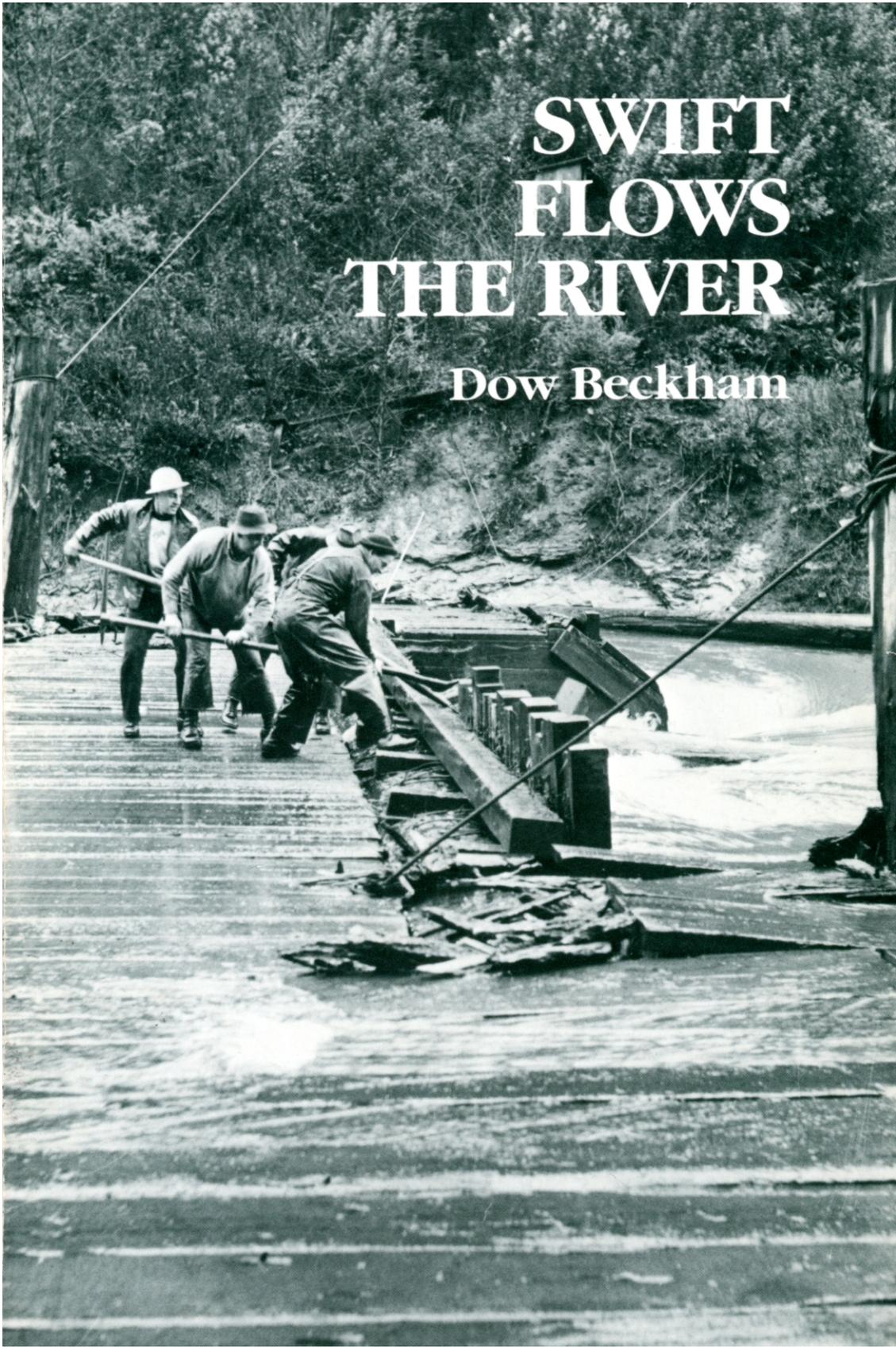
#### *Muriel O. Ponsler Memorial Wayside*

Muriel O. Ponsler Memorial Wayside is located on U. S. Highway 101, about 16 miles north of Florence in Lane County. It lies at the mouth of China Creek between Heceta Head and Cape Perpetua.

The entire area was a gift in 1939 from J. C. Ponsler of Florence as a memorial to his late wife, Muriel. It was given with the understanding

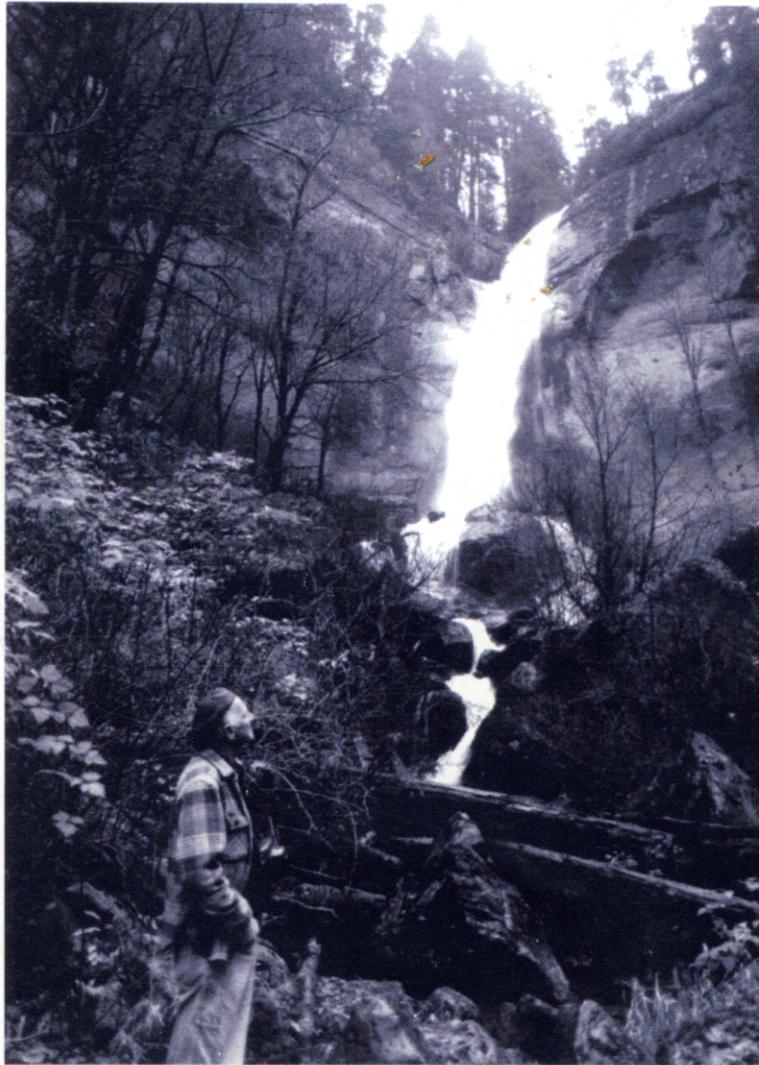
# SWIFT FLOWS THE RIVER

Dow Beckham





# *ABOVE THE FALLS*



*An Oral and Folk History of Upper Glenn Creek  
Coos County, Oregon*

*By Lionel Youst*

**Revised, Second Edition**