

## NOTICE OF DECISION

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**Case File:** T2-2021-15175

**Permit:** Lot of Record Verification

**Applicants:** DOWL  
Representative: Mariah Mitchell

**Owners:** Weyerhaeuser NR Company  
Representative: Jim Bunker

**Location:** **Address:** No Situs Address – located approximately 3,500 feet southwest of Mannthey Rd.  
**Map, Tax Lot:** 1S4E12 -01800  
**Tax Account #**R994120170 **Property ID #**R341761

**Base Zone:** Commercial Forest Use – 4 (CFU – 4)

**Overlays:** Geologic Hazard (GH)

**Proposal Summary:** The applicant is requesting a Lot of Record Verification for the above property. A Lot of Record Verification determines that a property was lawfully established in compliance with zoning and land division laws at the time of its creation or reconfiguration and the County’s aggregation requirements.

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**Determination:** The subject property identified as 1S4E12 -01800 is not a Lot of Record in its current configuration.

**This decision is final at the close of the appeal period, unless appealed. The deadline for filing an appeal is Tuesday, March 29, 2022 at 4:00 pm.**

**Opportunity to Review the Record:** The complete case file, including the Planning Director Decision containing Findings, Conclusions, Conditions of Approval, and all evidence associated with this application is available by contacting the case planner. Copies of all documents are available at the rate of \$0.40/per page. For further information, contact case planner Izze Liu via email at [isabella.liu@multco.us](mailto:isabella.liu@multco.us).

**Opportunity to Appeal:** An appeal requires a \$250.00 fee and must state the specific legal grounds on which it is based. To obtain appeal forms or information on the procedure, contact the Land Use Planning office at 1600 SE 190th Avenue (Phone: 503-988-3043). This decision is not appealable to the Land Use Board of Appeals until all local appeals are exhausted.

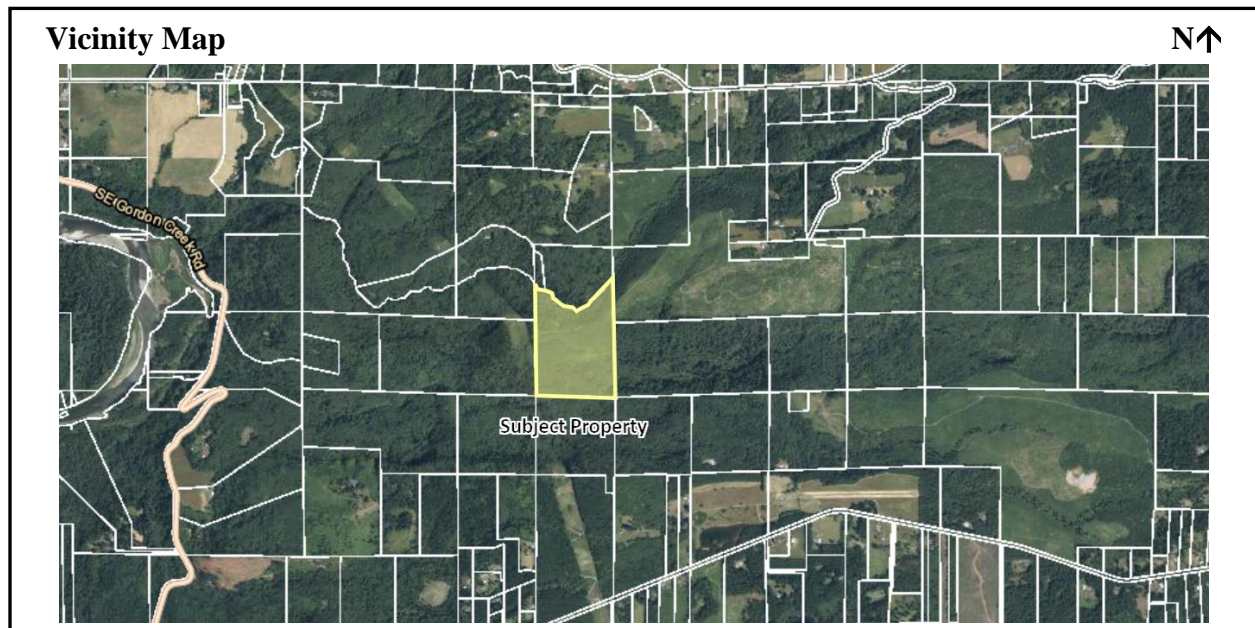
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**Issued by:**

**By:** Izze Liu, Planner

**For:** Carol Johnson, AICP  
Planning Director

**Date:** Tuesday, March 15, 2022



**Applicable Approval Criteria:**

**For this application to be approved, the proposal will need to meet applicable approval criteria below:**

**Multnomah County Code (MCC):** MCC 39.1515 Code Compliance and Applications, MCC 39.2000 Definitions

*Lot of Record:* MCC 39.3005 Lot of Record – Generally, MCC 39.3050 Lot of Record – Commercial Forest Use – 4 (CFU – 4)

Copies of the referenced Multnomah County Code sections are available by contacting our office at (503) 988-3043 or by visiting our website at <https://multco.us/landuse/zoning-codes/> under the link:

**Chapter 39 - Zoning Code**

**Notice to Mortgagee, Lien Holder, Vendor, or Seller:**

ORS Chapter 215 requires that if you receive this notice it must be promptly forwarded to the purchaser.

## **Findings of Fact**

**FINDINGS:** Written findings are contained herein. The Multnomah County Code (MCC) criteria and Comprehensive Plan Policies are in **bold** font. Staff analysis and comments are identified as ‘**Staff:**’ and address the applicable criteria. Staff comments may include a conclusionary statement in *italic*.

### **1.0 Project Description:**

**Staff:** The applicant requests a Lot of Record Verification for the property identified as 1S4E12 -01800 (subject property). The application does not propose any new development at this time.

Through the Lot of Record Verification process, the County reviews the creation or reconfiguration of each parcel, lot, or unit of land involved in the request. The County then verifies that the creation or reconfiguration of the parcel, lot, or unit of land satisfied all applicable zoning laws and all applicable land division laws in effect on the date of its creation or reconfiguration. In the CFU zone, the County also considers adjacent ownership on February 20, 1990 in determining whether a parcel, lot, or unit of land is a Lot of Record on its own. If the parcel, lot, or unit of land met all applicable zoning laws, applicable land division laws and meets the aggregation requirements, it may be determined to be a Lot of Record.

### **2.0 Property Description & History:**

**Staff:** The subject property is located in unincorporated east Multnomah County in the area known as East of Sandy River Rural Plan Area. The property is zoned Commercial Forest Use – 4 and is located outside of Metro’s Urban Growth Boundary (UGB). The subject property is vacant.

### **3.0 Public Comment:**

**Staff:** Staff mailed a notice of application and invitation to comment on the proposed application to the required parties per MCC 39.1105 as Exhibited in C.2. Staff did not receive any public comments during the 14-day comment period.

### **4.0 Code Compliance and Applications Criteria:**

#### **4.1 MCC 39.1515 Code Compliance and Applications**

**Except as provided in subsection (A), the County shall not make a land use decision approving development, including land divisions and property line adjustments, or issue a building permit for any property that is not in full compliance with all applicable provisions of the Multnomah County Zoning Code and/or any permit approvals previously issued by the County.**

**(A) A permit or other approval, including building permit applications, may be authorized if:**

- (1) It results in the property coming into full compliance with all applicable provisions of the Multnomah County Zoning Code. This includes sequencing of permits or other approvals as part of a voluntary compliance agreement; or**
- (2) It is necessary to protect public safety; or**
- (3) It is for work related to and within a valid easement over, on or under an affected property.**

**(B) For the purposes of this section, Public Safety means the actions authorized by the permit would cause abatement of conditions found to exist on the property that endanger the life, health, personal property, or safety of the residents or public. Examples of that situation include but are not limited to issuance of permits to replace faulty electrical**

**wiring; repair or install furnace equipment; roof repairs; replace or repair compromised utility infrastructure for water, sewer, fuel, or power; and actions necessary to stop earth slope failures.**

**Staff:** This standard provides that the County shall not make a land use decision approving development for a property that is not in full compliance with County Code or previously issued County approvals, except in the following instances: approval will result in the property coming into full compliance, approval is necessary to protect public safety, or the approval is for work related to or within a valid easement.

This standard was originally codified in the Zoning Code chapter related to land use application procedures and, by its terms, expressly applies to the application review process. Although now codified in the enforcement Part of the Zoning Code as a result of the more recent code consolidation project, the language and intent was not changed during that project and remains applicable to the application review process and not to the post-permit-approval enforcement process.

Importantly, a finding of satisfaction of this standard does not mean that a property is in full compliance with the Zoning Code and all prior permit approvals (and, accordingly, does not preclude future enforcement actions relating to uses and structures existing at the time the finding is made). Instead, a finding of satisfaction of this standard simply means that there is not substantial evidence in the record affirmatively establishing one or more specific instances of noncompliance. As such, an applicant has no initial burden to establish that all elements of the subject property are in full compliance with the Zoning Code and all previously approved permits; instead, in the event of evidence indicating or establishing one or more specific instances of noncompliance on the subject property, the applicant bears the burden to either rebut that evidence or demonstrate satisfaction of one of the exceptions in MCC 39.1515.

As noted in Section 1.0 above, this application is a request for a Lot of Record Verification, which does not require the County to approve development, a land division, a property line adjustment, or a building permit. *Therefore, this standard is not applicable.*

## **5.0 Lot of Record Criteria:**

### **5.1 MCC 39.3005 – Lot of Record – Generally**

**(A) An area of land is a “Lot of Record” if it meets the standards in Subsection (B) of this Section and meets the standards set forth in this Part for the Zoning District in which the area of land is located.**

**(B) A Lot of Record is a parcel, lot, or a group thereof that, when created or reconfigured, either satisfied all applicable zoning laws and satisfied all applicable land division laws, or complies with the criteria for the creation of new lots or parcels described in MCC 39.9700. Those laws shall include all required zoning and land division review procedures, decisions, and conditions of approval.**

**(a) “Satisfied all applicable zoning laws” shall mean: the parcel, lot, or group thereof was created and, if applicable, reconfigured in full compliance with all zoning minimum lot size, dimensional standards, and access requirements.**

**(b) “Satisfied all applicable land division laws” shall mean the parcel or lot was created:**

**1. By a subdivision plat under the applicable subdivision requirements in effect at the time; or**

**2. By a deed, or a sales contract dated and signed by the parties to the transaction, that was recorded with the Recording Section of the public office responsible for public records prior to October 19, 1978; or**

**3. By a deed, or a sales contract dated and signed by the parties to the transaction, that was in recordable form prior to October 19, 1978; or**

**4. By partitioning land under the applicable land partitioning requirements in effect on or after October 19, 1978; and**

**5. “Satisfied all applicable land division laws” shall also mean that any subsequent boundary reconfiguration completed on or after December 28, 1993 was approved under the property line adjustment provisions of the land division code. (See Date of Creation and Existence for the effect of property line adjustments on qualifying a Lot of Record for the siting of a dwelling in the EFU and CFU districts.)**

**(c) Separate Lots of Record shall be recognized and may be partitioned congruent with an “acknowledged unincorporated community” boundary which intersects a Lot of Record.**

**1. Partitioning of the Lot of Record along the boundary shall require review and approval under the provisions of the land division part of this Chapter, but not be subject to the minimum area and access requirements of this district.**

**2. An “acknowledged unincorporated community boundary” is one that has been established pursuant to OAR Chapter 660, Division 22.**

**Staff:** To qualify as a Lot of Record, the subject property, when created or reconfigured, must meet MCC 39.3005(B) of this section and meet the Lot of Record standards set forth in the Commercial Forest Use zoning district. More specifically, section (B) above requires demonstration that the subject property (a) satisfied all applicable zoning laws and (b) satisfied all applicable land division laws. The Lot of Record standards set forth in the CFU district establish additional requirements unique to the district, which are evaluated in Section 5.2 of this decision. The findings below analyze whether the Lot of Record provisions in section (B) have been met.

The applicant provided several deeds that were recorded between the years of 1961 and 1987 (Exhibits A.6 – A.12). Each of these deeds contain a legal description that describes the subject property as the East Half of the Southeast Quarter of Section Twelve of Township One South of Range Four East of the Willamette Meridian. This legal description includes tax lots 1600 and 1700 as shown in Figure 1 below. The legal description of this property did not change until 1992 (Exhibit A.13). In 1992, the portion of land lying south of the centerline of Buck Creek was conveyed to Longview Fibre Company, A Delaware Corporation, but there are no records of a County approved partition. In 1992, the subject property was zoned Multiple Use Forest-38 per historical County zoning maps (Exhibit B.2), and the County required a formal land use process to divide or create a parcel. The MUF-38 zone had a minimum lot size of 38 acres. It also had a Minimum Front Lot Line Length of 50 feet. The subject property is 53.19 acres but tax lot 1600 is 2.24 acres and tax lot 1700 is 24.57. All three tax lots do not have frontage on a public road.

The current configuration of the subject property is not recognized as a separate legal parcel because the applicable land division laws were not satisfied. *These criteria are not met.*



*Figure 1*



**5.2 MCC 39.3050 Lot of Record – Commercial Forest Use – 4 (CFU – 4)**

**(A) In addition to the standards in MCC 39.3005, for the purposes of the CFU-4 district a Lot of Record is either:**

**(1) A parcel or lot which was not contiguous to any other parcel or lot under the same ownership on February 20, 1990, or**

**(2) A group of contiguous parcels or lots:**

**(a) Which were held under the same ownership on February 20, 1990; and**

**(b) Which, individually or when considered in combination, shall be aggregated to comply with a minimum lot size of 19 acres, without creating any new lot line.**

**1. Each Lot of Record proposed to be segregated from the contiguous group of parcels or lots shall be a minimum of 19 acres in area using existing legally created lot lines and shall not result in any remainder individual parcel or lot, or remainder of contiguous combination of parcels or lots, with less than 19 acres in area. See Examples 1 and 2 in this subsection.**

**2. There shall be an exception to the 19 acre minimum lot size requirement when the entire same ownership grouping of parcels or lots was less than 19 acres in area on February 20, 1990, and then the entire grouping shall be one Lot of Record. See Example 3 in this subsection.**

**3. Three examples of how parcels and lots shall be aggregated are shown in MCC 39.3070 Figure 1 with the solid thick line outlining individual Lots of Record:**

**4. The requirement to aggregate contiguous parcels or lots shall not apply to lots or parcels within exception, urban, or Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area zones (e.g. MUA20, RR, SRC, R-10, GGA-40), but shall apply to contiguous parcels and lots within all farm and forest resource zones (i.e. EFU and CFU), or**

**(3) A parcel or lot lawfully created by a partition or a subdivision plat after February 20, 1990.**

**(4) Exceptions to the standards of (A)(2) above:**

**(a) Where two contiguous parcels or lots are each developed with a lawfully established habitable dwelling, the parcels or lots shall be Lots of Record that remain separately transferable, even if they were held in the same ownership on February 20, 1990.**

**(b) Where approval for a “Lot of Exception” or a parcel smaller than 19 acres under the “Lot Size for Conditional Uses” provisions has been given by the Hearing Authority and the parcel was subsequently lawfully created, then the parcel shall be a Lot of Record that remains separately transferable, even if the parcel was contiguous to another parcel held in the same ownership on February 20, 1990.**

**(c) Disaggregation of a Lot of Record for consideration of a new template or heritage tract dwelling may be allowed subject to the standards in (E) below.**

**Staff:** The subject property, in its current configuration, is not a separate Lot of Record. According to the deed history, the subject property was sold in 1992 and conveyed without the required land use approvals to create or divide land. The aggregation requirements are standards in addition to MCC 39.3005 but the applicant has not demonstrated that the subject property is a separate Lot of Record. *These criteria are not applicable.*

**(B) In this district, significant dates and ordinances applicable for verifying zoning compliance may include, but are not limited to, the following:**

- (1) July 10, 1958, F-2 zone applied;**
- (2) December 9, 1975, F-2 minimum lot size increased, Ord. 115 & 116;**
- (3) October 6, 1977, MUF-20 and CFU38 zones applied, Ord. 148 & 149;**
- (4) August 14, 1980, MUF-19 & 38 and CFU-80 zones applied, Ord. 236 & 238;**
- (5) February 20, 1990, Lot of Record definition amended, Ord. 643;**
- (6) January 7, 1993, MUF-19 & 38 zones changed to CFU-80, Ord. 743 & 745;**
- (7) August 8, 1998, CFU-4 zone applied, Ord. 916 (reenacted by Ord. 997);**
- (8) May 16, 2002, Lot of Record section amended, Ord. 982, reenacted by Ord. 997.**

**Staff:** Section (B) is for information purposes.

**(C) A Lot of Record which has less than the minimum lot size for new parcels, less than the front lot line minimums required, or which does not meet the access requirements of MCC 39.4135, may be occupied by any allowed use, review use or conditional use when in compliance with the other requirements of this district.**

**Staff:** The subject property is not a separate Lot of Record. *This criterion is not applicable.*

**(D) The following shall not be deemed a Lot of Record:**

- (1) An area of land described as a tax lot solely for assessment and taxation purposes.**
- (2) An area of land created by the foreclosure of a security interest.**
- (3) A Mortgage Lot.**
- (4) An area of land created by court decree.**

**Staff:** The subject property is an area of land described as a tax lot solely for assessment and taxation purposes. *Based on the findings in 5.1 above, the subject property is not a Lot of Record.*

**(E) Disaggregation of Lots of Record existing on or before August 8, 1998, being the effective date of Ordinance 916.**

**(1) A Lot of Record may be disaggregated for consideration of a new dwelling under MCC 39.4090 and 39.4095 if:**

**(a) It consists of two legally created, aggregated lots or parcels and:**

- 1. The disaggregation occurs along existing lot or parcel lines without creating any new lots or parcels;**
- 2. One of the lots or parcels is currently developed with a legally established dwelling;**
- 3. The lot or parcel on which application will be made for the new dwelling is less than 19 acres; and**
- 4. The lots or parcels constituting the disaggregated Lot of Record were in the same ownership prior to January 1, 1985.**

**(b) It consists of three or more lots or parcels and:**

- 1. Only one lot of less than 19 acres shall be disaggregated;**
- 2. The remaining lots or parcels shall be combined into a single lot; and**
- 3. The disaggregation occurs along existing lot or parcel lines without creating any new lots or parcels;**
- 4. One of the lots or parcels is currently developed with a legally established dwelling;**
- 5. The lot or parcel on which application will be made for the new dwelling is less than 19 acres; and**
- 6. The lots or parcels constituting the disaggregated Lot of Record were in the same ownership prior to January 1, 1985.**

**(2) A property that was originally a portion of a Lot of Record that would otherwise satisfy the standards of MCC 39.3050(E)(1) above, but has subsequently been legally transferred to another owner, may be developed with a single family dwelling if found to satisfy the standards of MCC 39.4090 or 39.4095.**

**Staff:** The disaggregation standards are not applicable because the subject property is not a legal Lot of Record. *These criteria are not applicable.*

## **6.0 Exhibits**

‘A’ Applicant’s Exhibits

‘B’ Staff Exhibits

‘C’ Procedural Exhibits

Exhibits with a “\*” after the exhibit # have been included as part of the mailed decision. Those exhibits have been reduced to a size of 8.5” x 11” for mailing purposes. All other exhibits are available for review in Case File T2-2021-15175 at the Land Use Planning office.



| Exhibit # | # of Pages | Description of Exhibit  | Date Received / Submitted |
|-----------|------------|---|---------------------------|
| A.1       | 1          | Application Form  | 10.22.2021                |
| A.2       | 1          | Cover Page  | 10.22.2021                |
| A.3       | 1          | Certificate of Incumbency   | 10.22.2021                |
| A.4       | 1          | Legal Lots Map  | 10.22.2021                |
| A.5       | 9          | Preliminary Title Report  | 10.22.2021                |
| A.6       | 2          | 1947 Quitclaim Deed (Book 1160 Page 220)  | 10.22.2021                |
| A.7       | 3          | 1961 Warranty Deed (Book 2065 Page 506)   | 10.22.2021                |
| A.8       | 4          | 1961 Warranty Deed (Book 2066 Page 192)   | 10.22.2021                |
| A.9       | 1          | 11965 Warranty Deed (Book 280 Page 247)   | 10.22.2021                |
| A.10      | 2          | 1985 Deed (Book 1829 Page 1583)   | 10.22.2021                |
| A.11      | 3          | 1987 Contract (Book 2011 Page 678)  | 10.22.2021                |
| A.12      | 2          | 1987 Assignment of Contract (Book 2132 Page 9)  | 10.22.2021                |
| A.13      | 2          | 1992 Warranty Deed (Book 2590 Page 988)   | 10.22.2021                |
| 'B'       | #          | Staff Exhibits  | Date                      |
| B.1       | 2          | Division of Assessment, Recording, and Taxation (DART): Property Information for 1S4E12 -01800 (Alt Acct# R994120170) | 10.22.2021                |
| B.2       | 1          | Historic County Zoning Map (October 13, 1983)   | 10.22.2021                |
| B.3       | 7          | Historic Multiple Use Forest-38 Zoning Code (1990-2-20)   | 10.22.2021                |
| 'C'       | #          | Administration & Procedures   | Date                      |
| C.1       | 1          | Complete Letter   | 11.19.2021                |
| C.2       | 4          | Opportunity to Comment and mailing list   | 01.27.2022                |
| C.3       | 9          | Administrative Decision and mailing list  | 03.15.2022                |