

April 18, 2022

GOAL

Eliminate “Equal Area” requirement in lot line adjustment criteria for Multnomah County Exclusive Farm Use zone.

PUBLIC PURPOSE

In the late 1950s through 1970, lots were created by simply recording a deed. In 1978, this was stopped, and lots could only be modified and/or created through a subdivision process. All existing recorded lots were legalized if they meet certain criteria such as the zoning would have allowed the lot at the time of creation.

In Multnomah County (and only Multnomah County), an “equal area” criteria was included in the lot line adjustment criteria in EFU that **freezes** the county’s farm zoning to the lot configuration created by the strongest uncontrolled urban market forces the rural county will ever see. These lots were created with no consideration of farming practices or habitat.

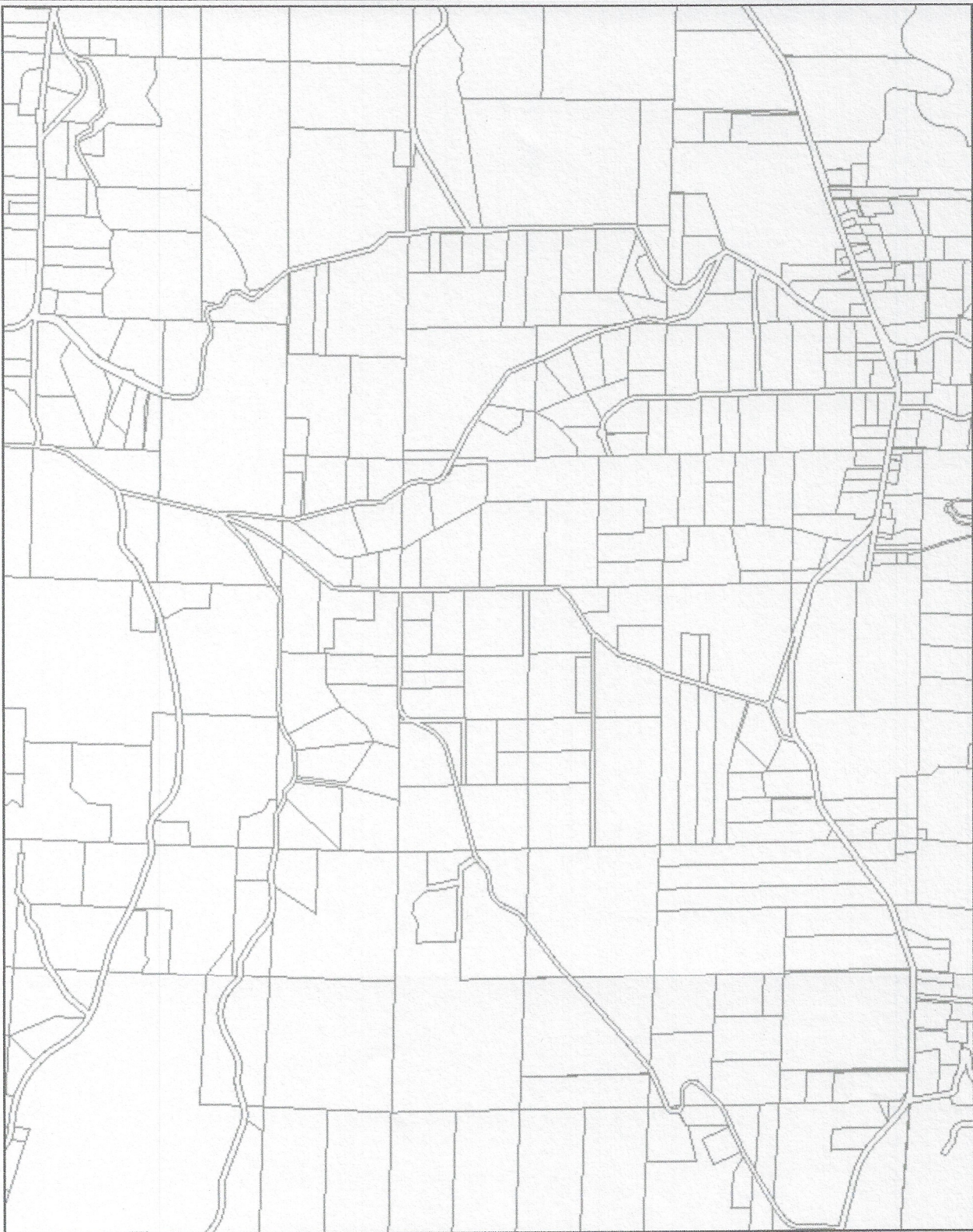
Now, an active farmer cannot buy a portion of their neighbor’s unused land to expand farm uses. Vibrant habitats and stream corridors can not be connected or protected by a property owner.

In my opinion, Multnomah County code is in violation of both the intent and letter of state law that restricts the EFU protection zone to agriculture and habitat. The current code preserves lot configurations that precludes farm and forest activities and prohibits any readjustment that would allow farming and restoration to thrive.

PRIVATE PURPOSE

We have owned 10.75 acres in Corbett, Oregon for almost fifty years. The property has been significantly restored with vibrant habitat and agricultural activities. The land lies on a ridge. Our abutting neighbor has agreed to sell us five acres that include the end of the ridge and a small portion of a creek that runs into the Sandy River. Our intention is to adjust the lots to expand our lot to include the entire forested ridge and restore the five acres and creek area.

Multnomah County, Oregon



Taxlots

Legend

Notes

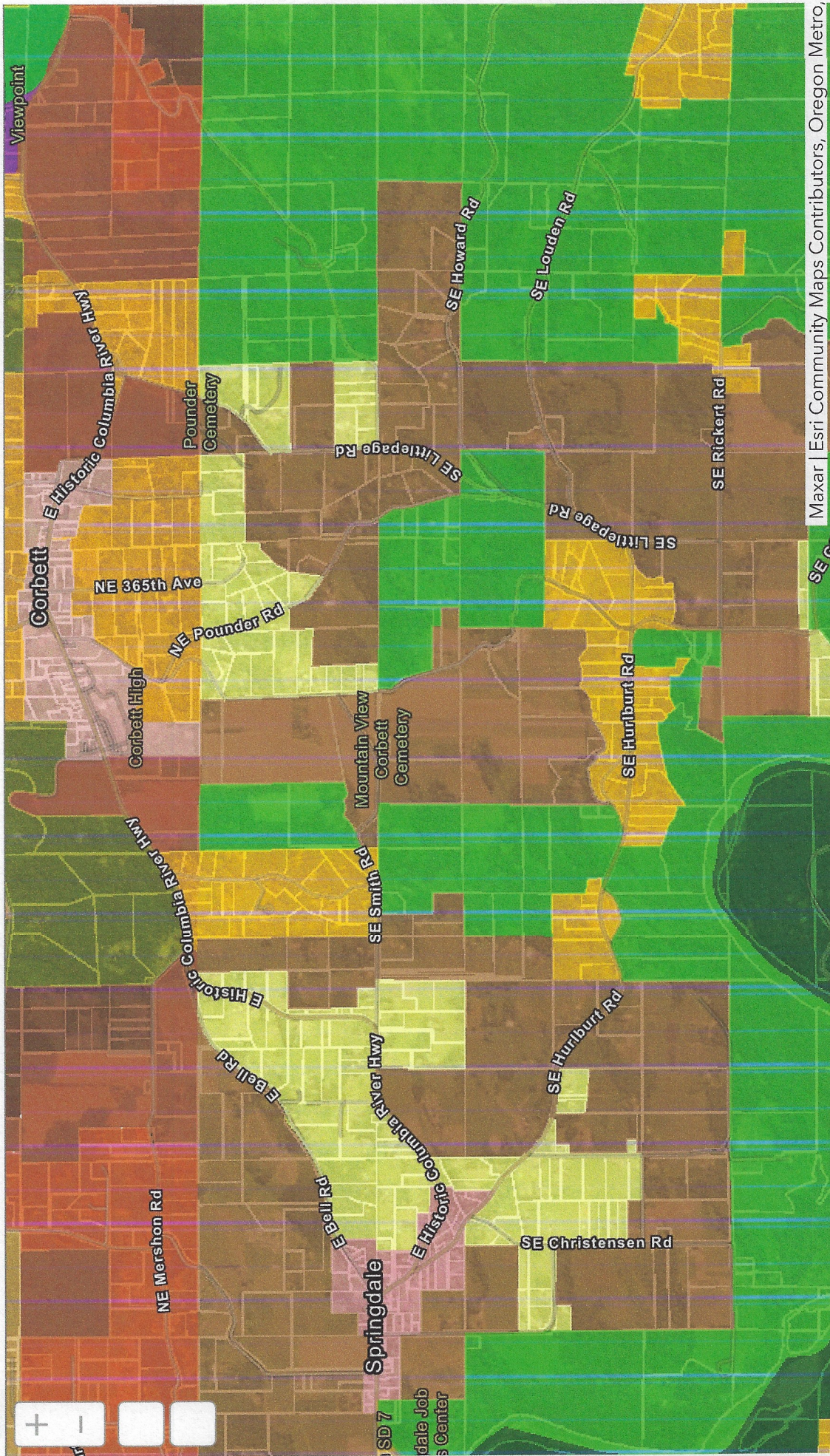


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Scale: 1 : 18,056
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Land Use Planning - Reference Map



Maxar | Esri Community Maps Contributors, Oregon Metro.

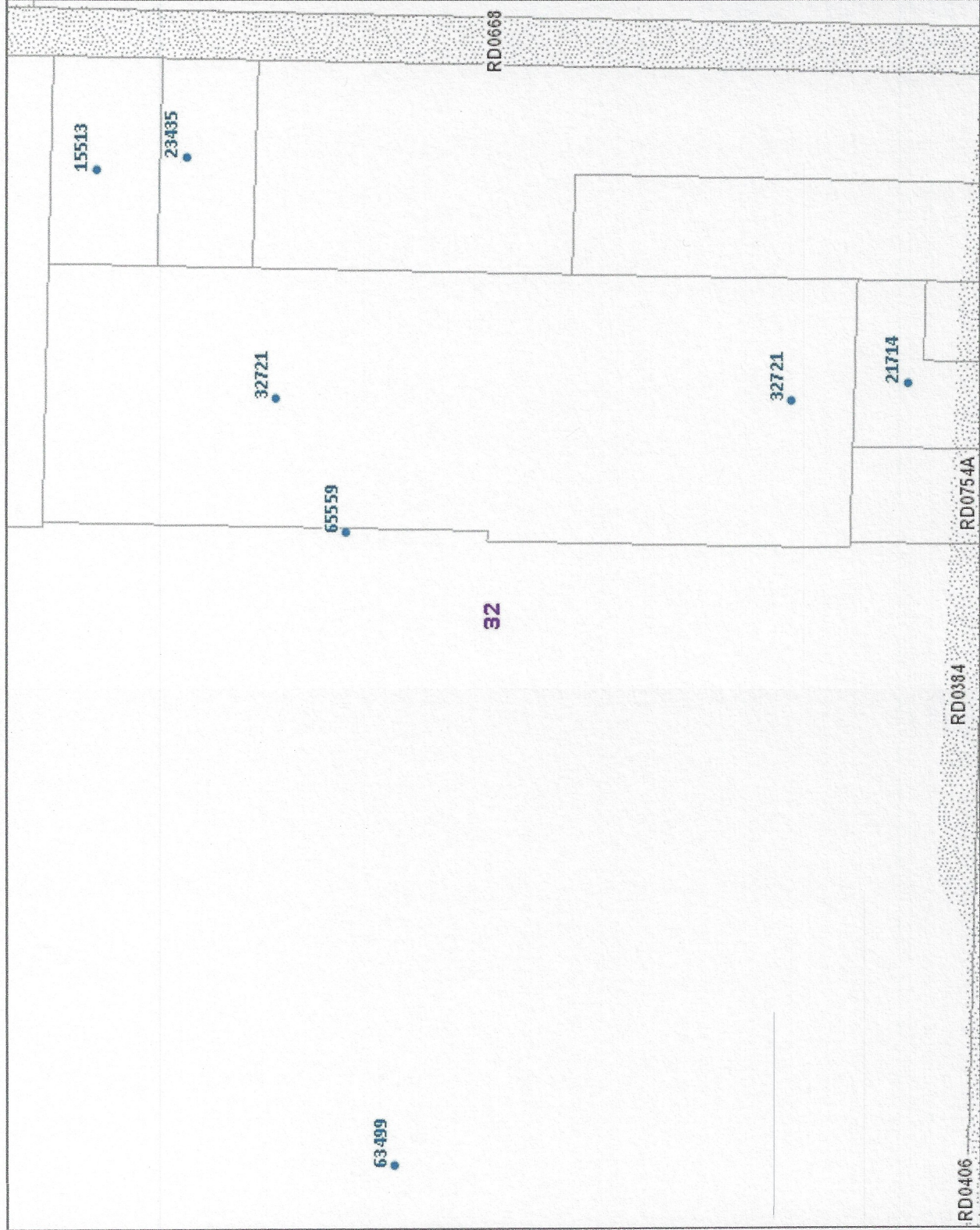
0.4mi

Multnomah County, Oregon

Legend

- Survey Record
- ▭ Subdivision Plat
- ▭ Condo Plat
- ▭ Partition Plat
- ▭ Road Survey
- ▭ HB3067
- ▭ Township
- ▭ Section
- ▭ Taxlots

Notes



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Multnomah County, Oregon



- Legend**
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