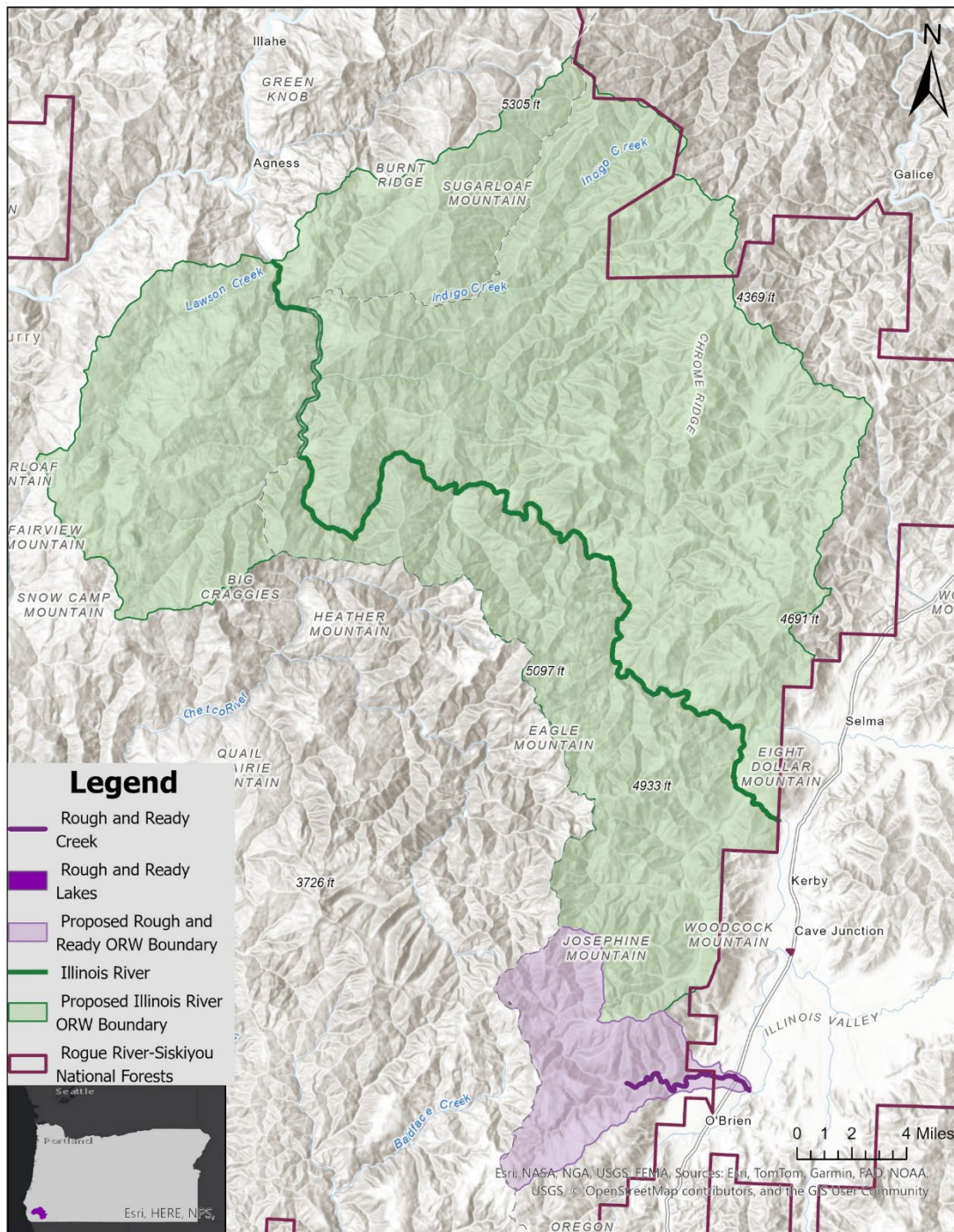




Outstanding Resource Water Rulemaking Advisory Committee

Illinois River/Rough and Ready Creek

Tatyana Isupov
June 10, 2026
Virtual Meeting



Welcome!

Connie Dou,
Water Quality Standards
Program Manager

Zoom Meeting Logistics



Trina Mayberry – DEQ Admin. and Technical Support



“Raise hand” to be recognized for questions or comments



Feel free to post questions into the chat and we will respond



If you are listening on the phone:

Press *9 To raise your hand

Press *6 Unmute/Mute your line



Today's meeting will be recorded

Agenda

9 a.m.	Introductions and Rulemaking Advisory Committee Charter (Tatyana Isupov, facilitator)
9:30 a.m.	Project and Outstanding Resource Water Overview (Aron Borok, rulemaking lead)
9:50 a.m.	Break
10 a.m.	Illinois River and Rough and Ready Creek ORW Scope and Qualifications (Aron Borok, rulemaking lead)
11:30 a.m.	Wrap Up & Next Steps (Tatyana Isupov, facilitator)
12 p.m.	Adjourn

Introductions – DEQ Staff

Staff Name	Role	Contact Information
Tatyana Isupov	Meeting Facilitator	Tatyana.Isupov@deq.oregon.gov
Connie Dou	WQ Program Manager	Connie.Dou@deq.oregon.gov
Aron Borok	Project Manager, Technical Lead	Aron.Borok@deq.oregon.gov
James McConaghie	WQ Standards Program Coordinator	James.McConaghie@deq.oregon.gov
Trina Mayberry	DEQ Admin. and Technical Support	Trina.Mayberry@deq.oregon.gov

Committee Members

Name	Affiliation
Stuart Blanco	Tidewater Contractors
Steve Burns	Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest
Zachery Collier	Kalmiopsis Guides Association
Michael Dotson	Klamath-Siskiyou Wildlands Center
Tyler Ernst	Oregon Forest Industries Council
Keri Handaly	Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde
Eric Larsen	City of Grant's Pass on behalf of Oregon Association of Clean Water Agencies
David Moryc	American Rivers
Brian Paul	Cave Junction
Shawn Simpson	Bureau of Land Management
Barbara Ullian	Friends of the Kalmiopsis
Ann Vileisis	Kalmiopsis Audubon Society

Agency Advisors

Name	Affiliation
Vaughn Balzer	Oregon Department of Geology and Mineral Industries
Michelle Maier	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Kelly Mainz	Oregon Water Resources Department
Becky Anthony	Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife

Advisory Committee Charter

Illinois River and Rough and Ready Creek Outstanding Resource Waters Advisory Committee Charter

Rulemaking Contact: Aron Borok

April 16, 2026



Advisory Committee Purpose

- Provide policy input to DEQ on the proposed rulemaking.
- Focus on social, fiscal, and economic impacts of proposed changes ([ORS 183.333](#)).
- Be informed about DEQ's technical development process.

Advisory Committee Purpose

- Provide input to DEQ as individuals or representatives of communities of interest.
- Not requested to agree on policy recommendations as a group.
- Not expected to reach consensus on views or input.
- DEQ retains discretion over final content of proposed rules.

Advisory Committee Ground Rules

Committee Member Responsibilities

- Prepare for and set aside time for the meetings;
- Provide DEQ staff with copies of relevant research and documentation cited during the meeting;
- Stay focused on the specific agenda topics for each meeting;
- Consult regularly with constituencies to inform them on the process and gather their input;
- Be courteous by not engaging in sidebar discussions; and
- Avoids representing the views of any other committee member or the entire committee to the public or media.

Advisory Committee Ground Rules

Non-committee government advisors:

- DEQ has invited government advisors from state and federal agencies to attend the committee meetings and, if needed, serve as resources;
- They are available to help DEQ answer questions regarding the impacts of the rulemaking related to their specific area of expertise.

Non-members:

- Non-members may attend the committee meetings to observe, but not to actively participate in committee discussions.
- As time allows, DEQ may provide an opportunity during the meeting for comments and questions.

Meeting Ground Rules

- Please mute your line when you are not speaking.
- Be respectful of each other.
- Raise your virtual hand to speak.
- Speak for yourself when recognized.
- Limit background noise.
- Let others speak without interrupting.

Meeting Materials



Meeting Announcements:

GovDelivery: two weeks prior
DEQ Events Calendar
Direct email to committee membership



Meeting Materials:

Agenda, other background materials posted to website two weeks prior to each meeting
Presentation slides posted following each meeting



Meeting Summary:

Committee will have at least 1 week to review, provide corrections
Posted to webpage

Questions about the charter or today's meeting?



Photo courtesy of Zachery Collier



Outstanding Resource Water Rulemaking Advisory Committee

Illinois River/Rough and Ready Creek

Project Objectives, Schedule and ORW Overview

Aron Borok
June 10, 2026
Virtual Meeting

Today's Plan

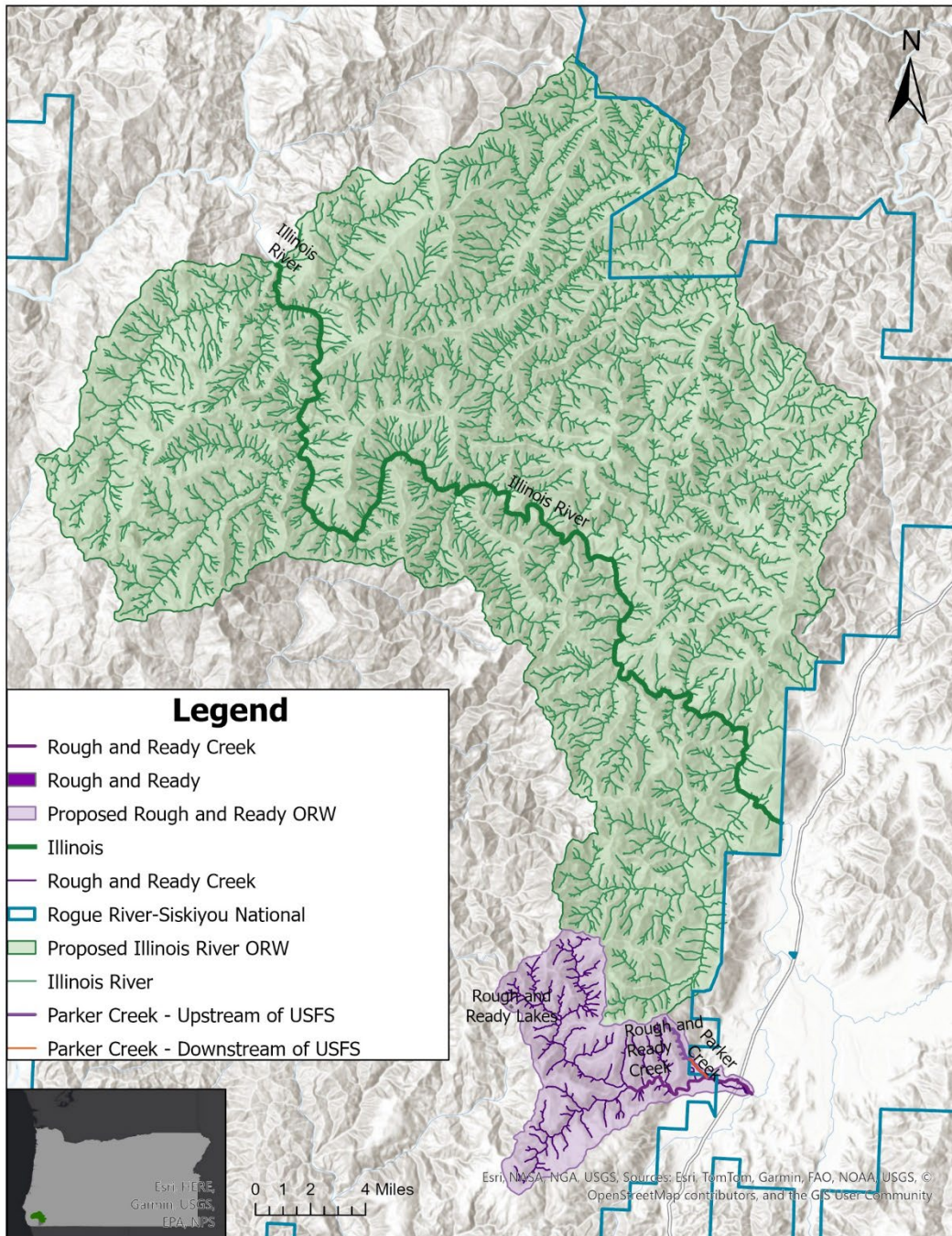
- Project Objectives and Schedule
- Outstanding Resource Waters (ORW) regulatory background
- Qualifications and scope of proposed ORWs
- Next steps



Photo courtesy of Zach Collier/Northwest Rafting Company

Rulemaking Objectives

- Designate Wild and Scenic Illinois River and Rough and Ready Creek and tributaries, lakes and wetlands as ORWs.
- Adopt rules to implement ORW policy.



Project Schedule

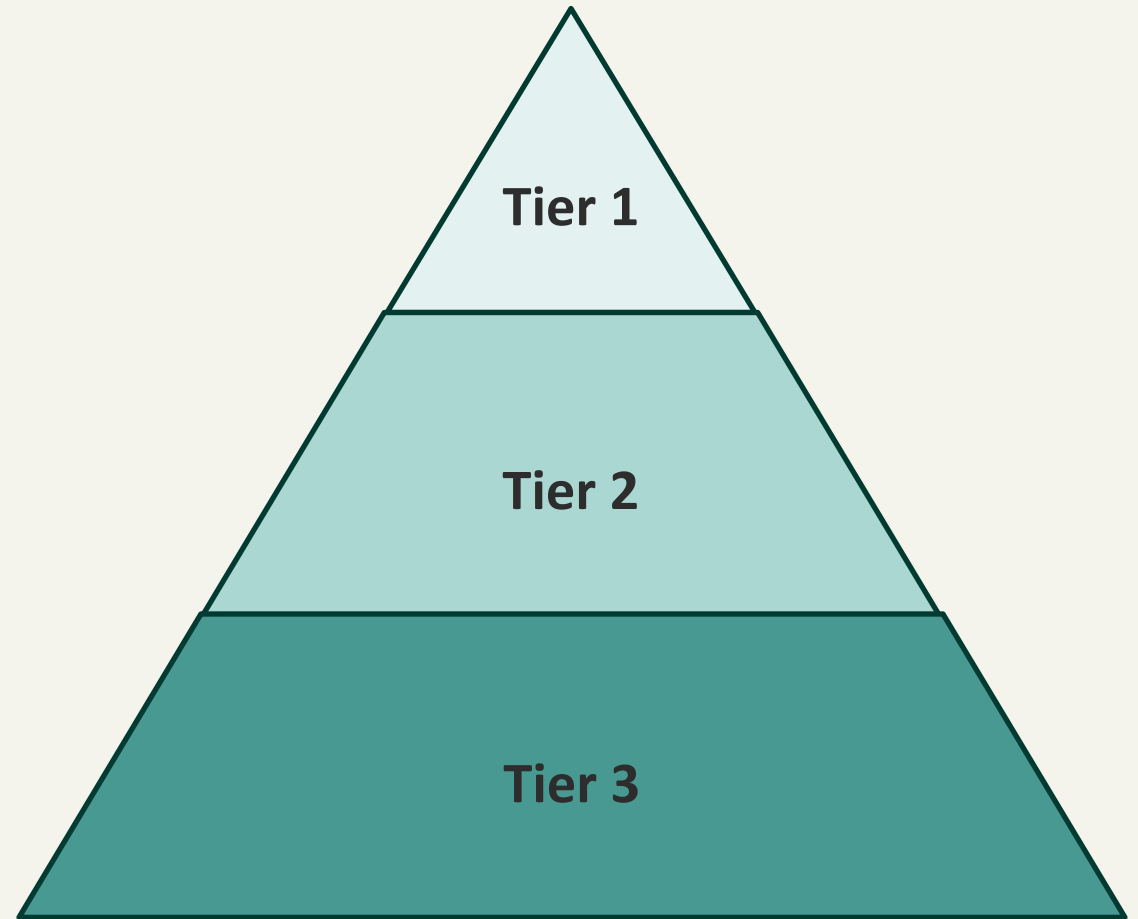


Outstanding Resource Water Overview



Clean Water Act Tiers of Protection

- Tier 1 – Protection of Existing Water Quality
- Tier 2 – Protection of “High Quality Waters”
- Tier 3 – Outstanding Resource Waters of Oregon



Outstanding Resource Waters of Oregon

- Priority waterbodies to be considered:
 - State and National Parks
 - National Wild and Scenic Rivers
 - State Scenic Waterways
 - State and National Wildlife Refuges
 - Federal wilderness areas



ORW Protections

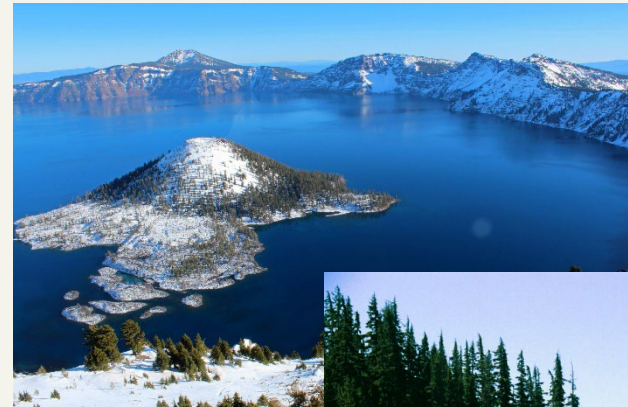
- Adopt rules to:
 - Establish water quality values for protection
 - Identify activities that do not affect water quality values
 - Prohibit activities that lower water quality, except for emergency response or restoration



Current ORWs



North Fork Smith River (2017)



Waldo and Crater Lakes (2021)

ORW Nomination and Triennial Review

- Streamlined ORW nomination process
 - Accept nominations for qualified waterbodies
 - Evaluate with other projects during Triennial Review
 - Prioritize projects in Workplan including public comments



Questions?

Courtesy of Sundance Kayak School



Photo courtesy of Zach
Collier/Northwest Rafting Company

Illinois River/Rough and Ready Creek Outstanding Resource Water Rulemaking Advisory Committee ORW Scope and Qualifications

Water Quality Standards

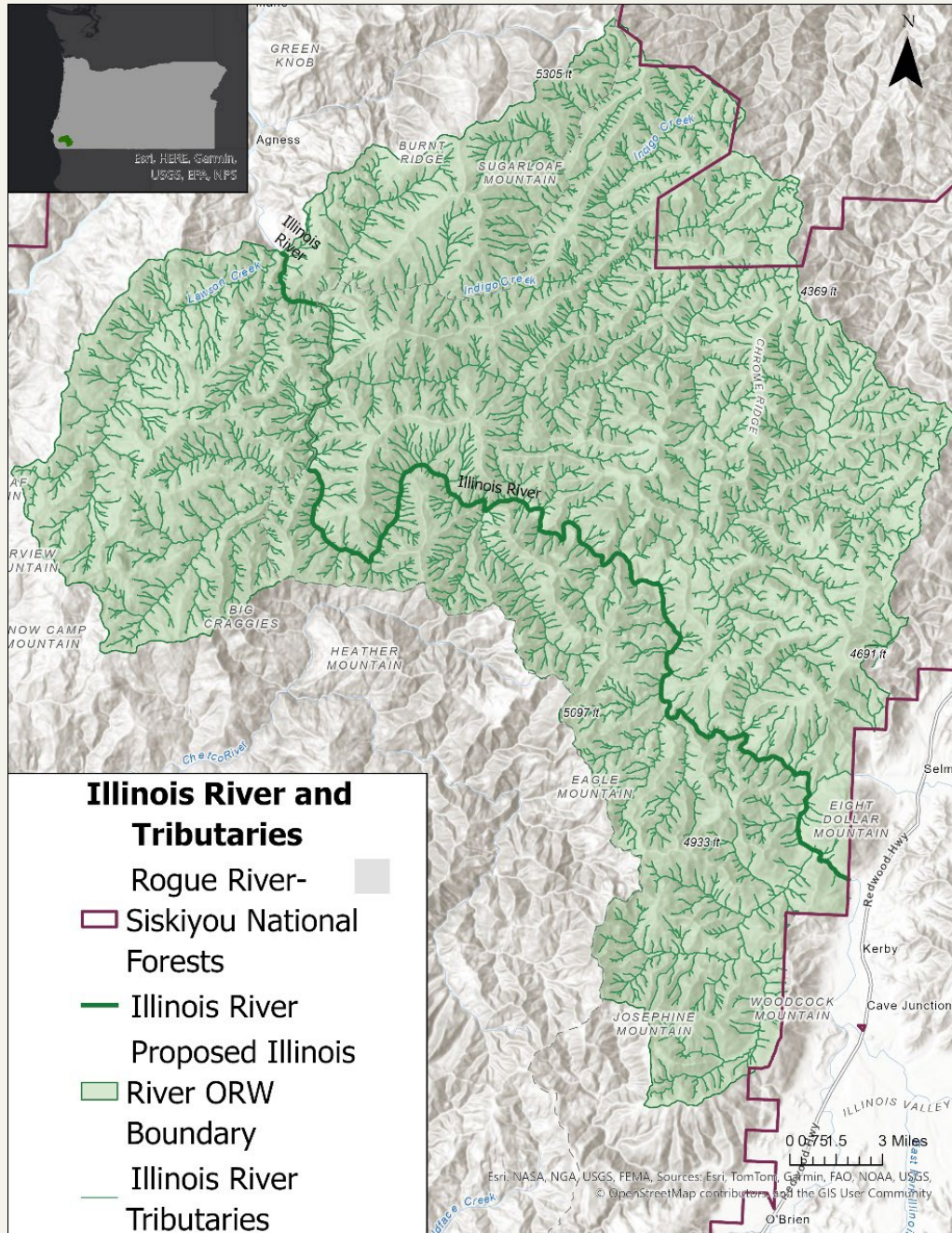
Aron Borok
May 21, 2026
Virtual Meeting

Presentation Objectives

- Discuss qualifications of proposed waterbodies as ORWs
- Obtain feedback on qualifications and geographic scope.

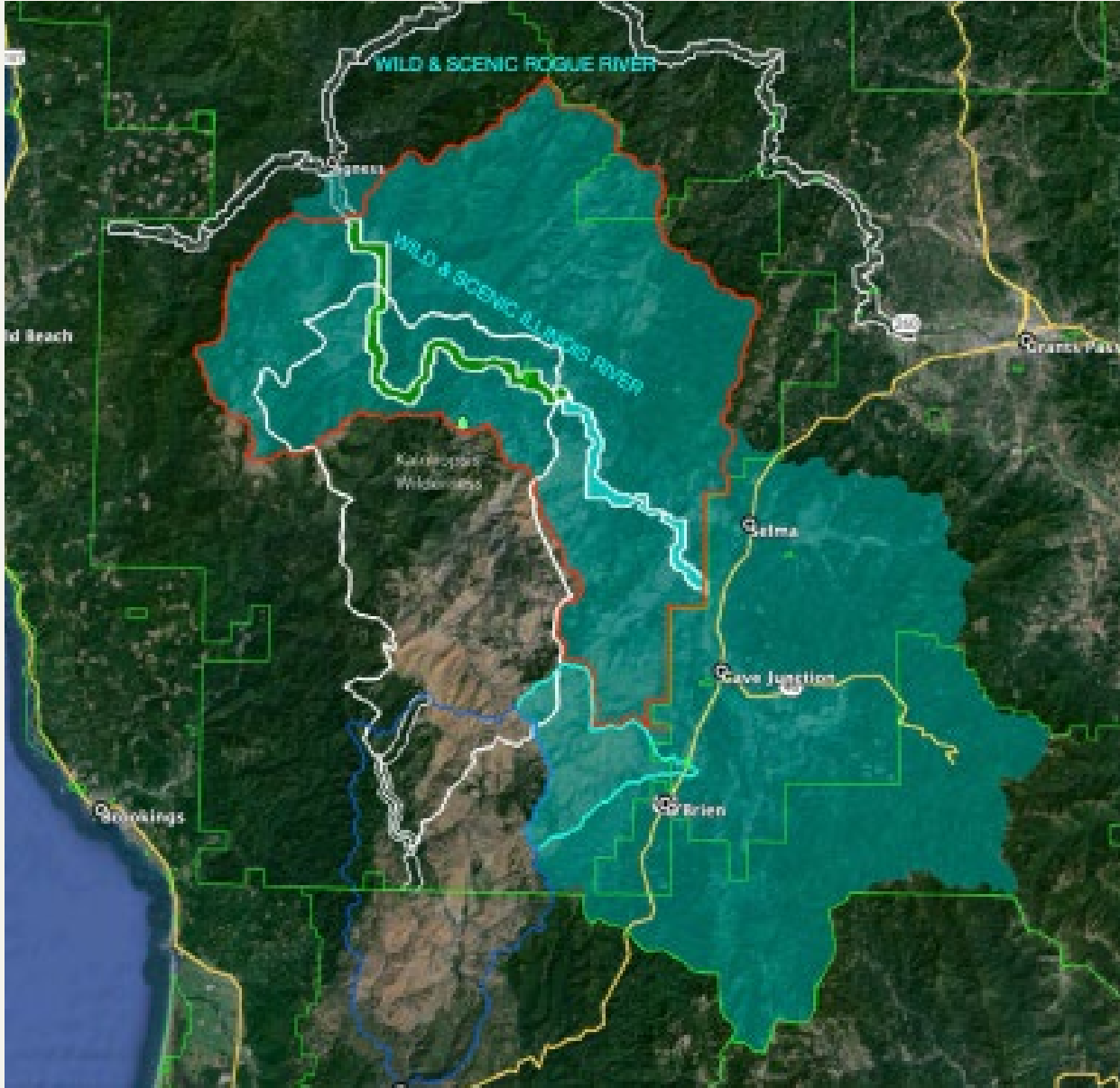


Photo courtesy of Michael Dotson



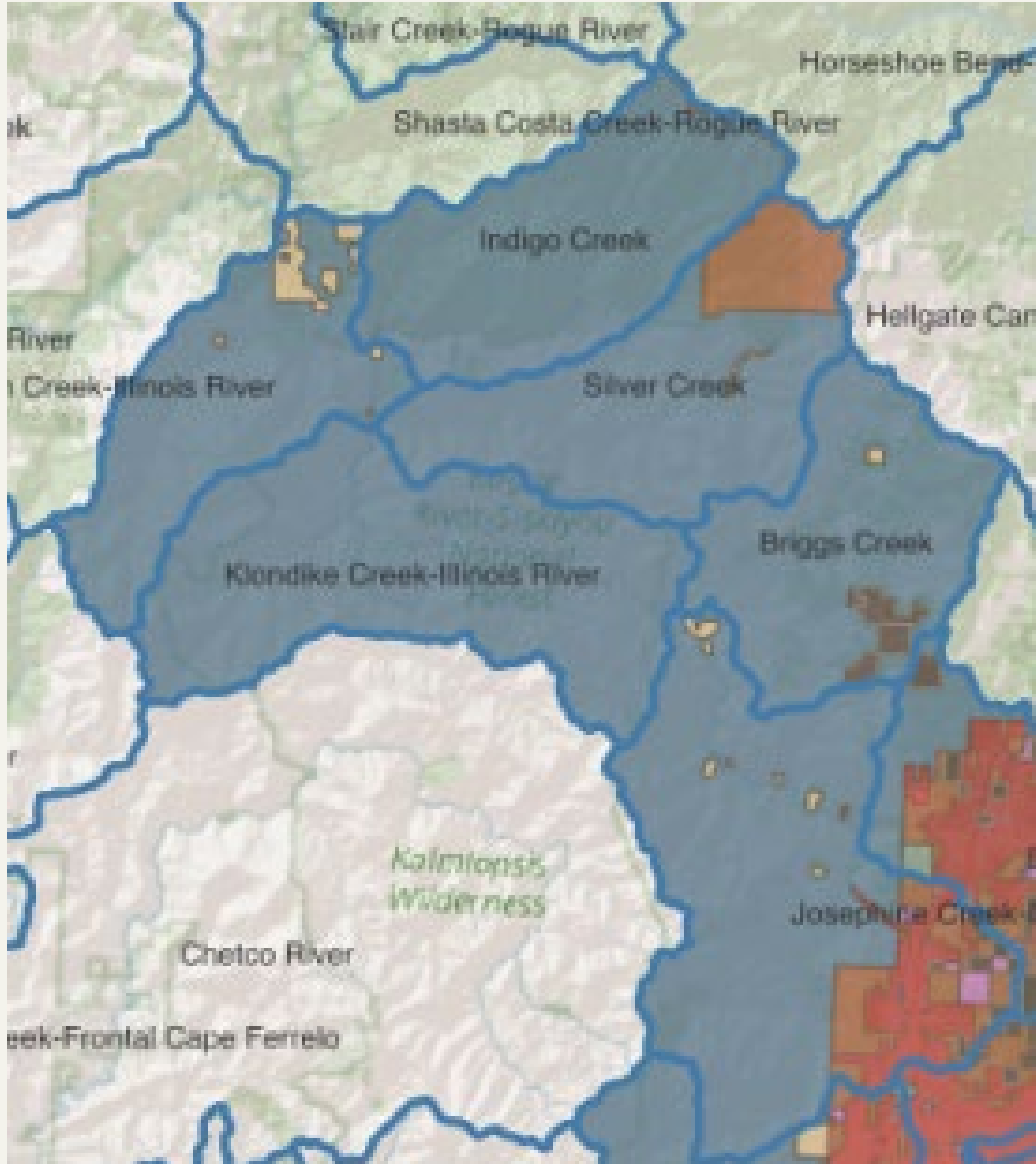
Illinois River

- Nominated by Friends of the Kalmiopsis, K-S Wildlands Center & Kalmiopsis Audubon Society
 - From boundary of National Forest to Nancy Creek;
 - Direct tributaries to Lawson Creek;
 - Associated wetlands incl. *Darlingtonia* wetlands
 - Small lakes and ponds



Illinois River

- Headwaters in California
- Runs through Illinois Valley before entering National Forest
- Wild and Scenic River
- Oregon Scenic Waterway
- Kalmiopsis Wilderness



Illinois River - management

- Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest (306,000 a.)
- BLM (8,000 a.) (NF Silver Creek)
- Industrial forestland (2,300 a.) in Upper Briggs Cr. Watershed
- ~12 small private inholdings along Illinois River

Illinois River - Outstanding Values

- Exceptional water quality
 - Clarity (typically 0-1 NTU)
 - Meets all assessed standards but temperature
 - Water quality status is stable or improving



Photo courtesy of Michael Dotson

Illinois River - Outstanding Values

- Ecology
 - Critical habitat for Southern Oregon/Northern California coho
 - Steelhead refugia
 - *Darlingtonia* (California pitcher plant) and other endemic plant species



California pitcher plant. Photo courtesy of Barbara Ullian

Illinois River - Outstanding Values

- Recreation/Aesthetics
 - Rafting/kayaking
 - Swimming
 - Fishing
 - Hiking
 - Camping



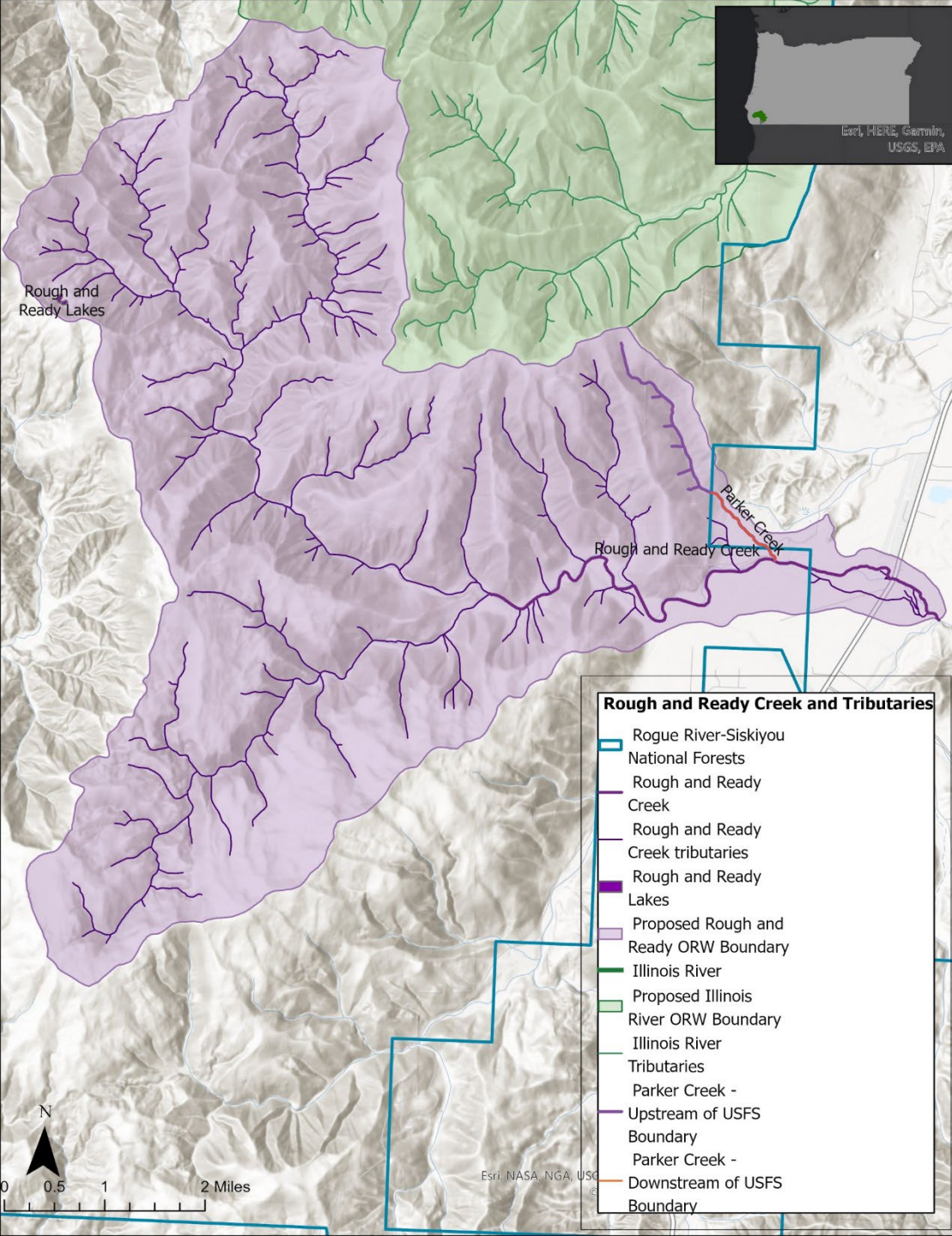
Josephine Creek. Photo courtesy of Zach Collier/Northwest Rafting Company

Findings

- Qualifies as ORWs based on:
 - Exceptional water quality, ecological, and recreational values
 - Wild & Scenic River
 - State Scenic Waterway
 - Critical habitat
 - Wilderness area



Photo courtesy of Barbara Ullian



Rough and Ready Creek

- Nominated by Friends of the Kalmiopsis and Kalmiopsis Guides Association
 - Entire watershed including all tributaries, springs, wetlands and Rough and Ready Lake.
 - Except Parker Creek after it enters private land.

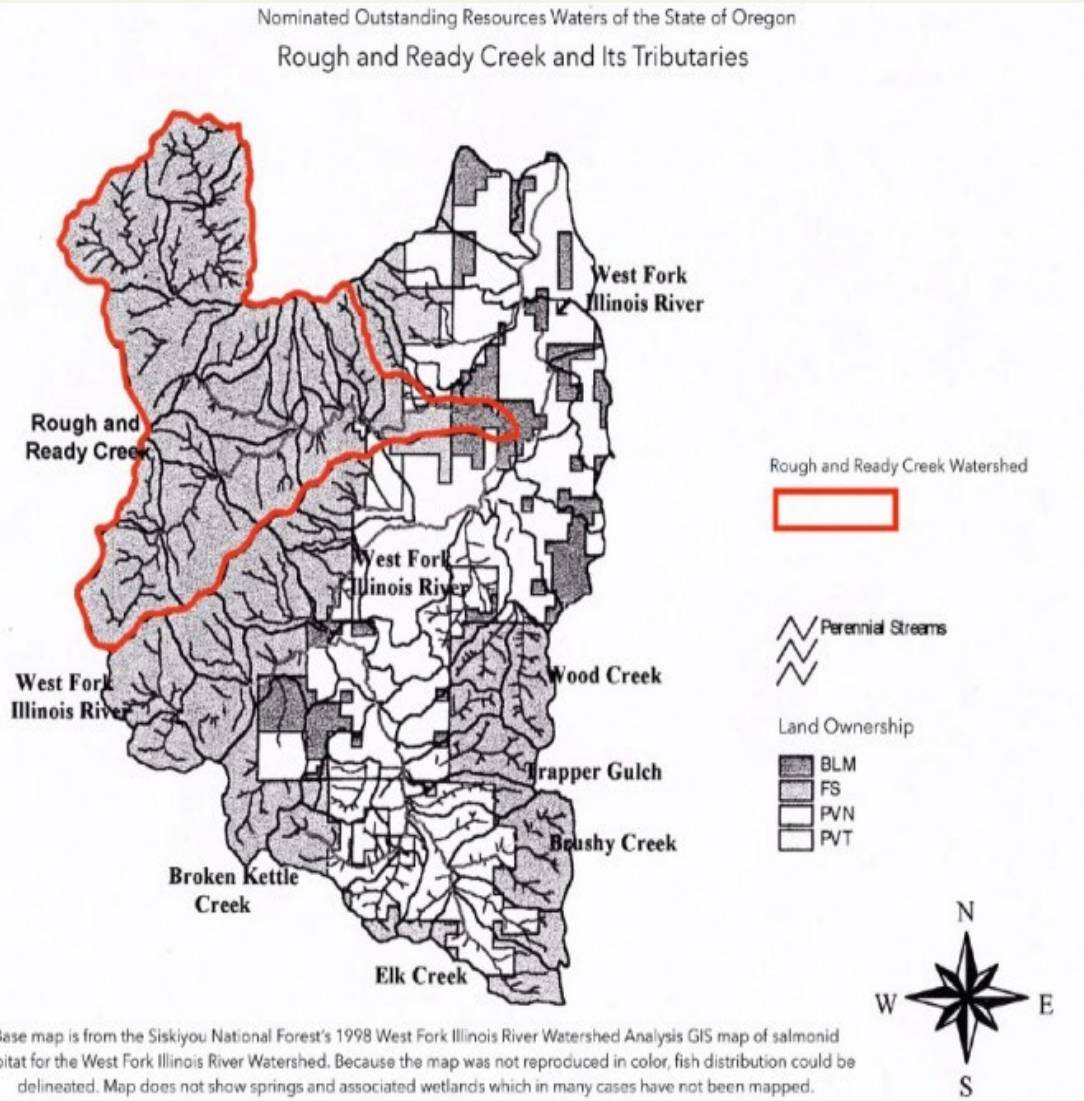
Rough and Ready Creek

- Headwaters in Kalmiopsis Wilderness.
- 81% in South Kalmiopsis Roadless Area
- Broad alluvial fan
- Wild and Scenic eligible



Photo courtesy of Zach Collier/Northwest Rafting Company

Rough and Ready Creek - management



- Total 23,000 ac.
- Primarily Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest
 - Private inholdings (255 ac.)
- BLM – State Botanical Wayside (1164 ac.)
- State Natural Area (11 ac.)
- Private (40 ac.)

Rough and Ready Creek - Outstanding Values

- Exceptional water quality and hydrology
 - Clarity (typically 0-1 NTU)
 - Complex hydrology due to serpentine geology and alluvial system.
 - Hyporheic zone supports unique ecology.



Photo courtesy of Zach
Collier/Northwest Rafting Company

Rough and Ready Creek - Outstanding Values



Photo courtesy of Ann Vileisis



Photo courtesy of Barbara Ullian

- Ecology/Botany
 - Fractured bedrock/seeps support *Darlingtonia*
 - Port Orford cedar
 - Other plants supported by unusual hydrogeology
 - Yellow-legged frog

Rough and Ready Creek - Outstanding Values

- Recreation/Aesthetics
 - Rafting/kayaking
 - Swimming
 - Hiking
 - Wildflower viewing



Photo courtesy of Zach Collier/Northwest Rafting Company

Findings

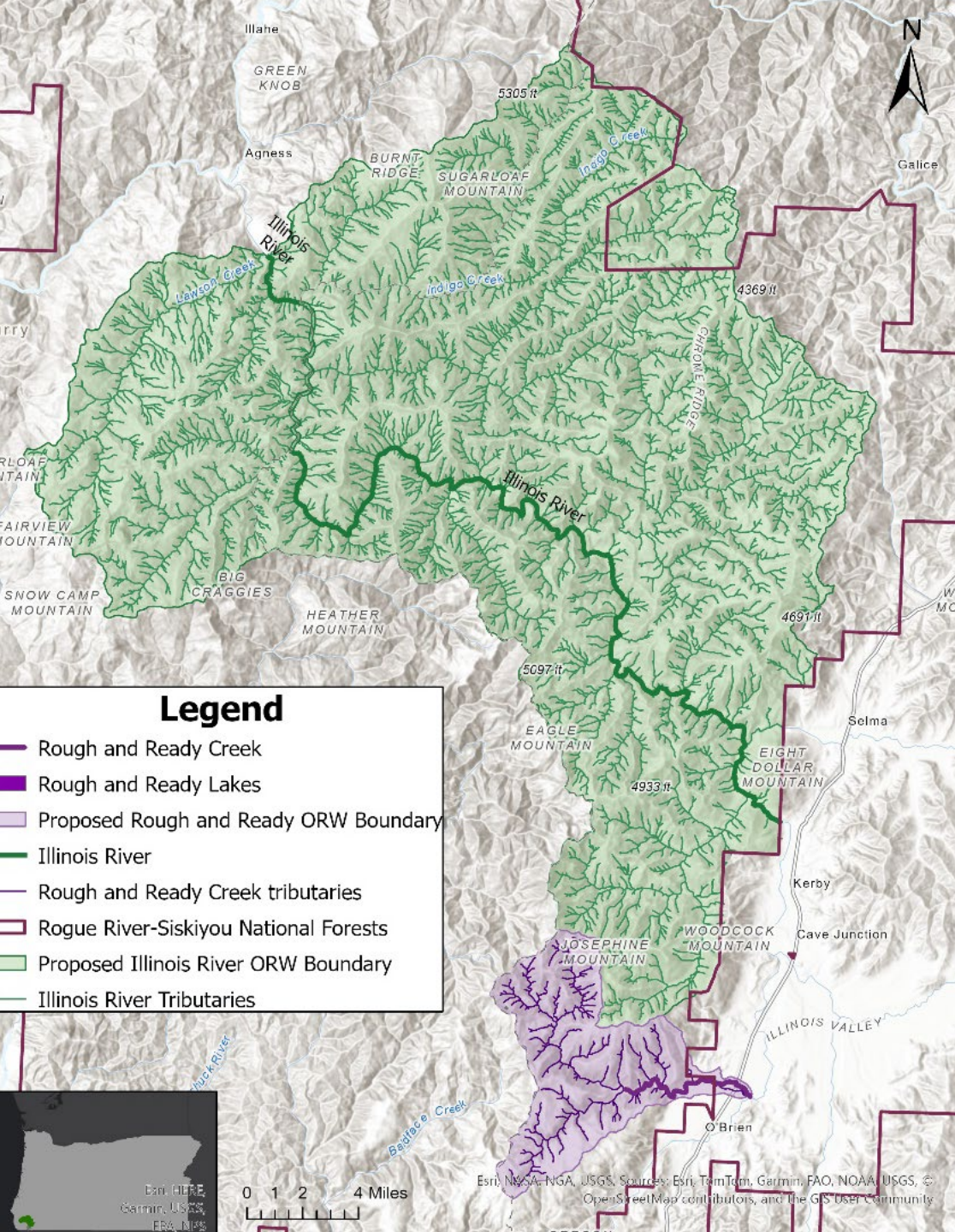
- Qualifies as Outstanding Resource Waters based on:
 - Exceptional water quality, botanical, and recreational/aesthetics values.
 - Wilderness area.



Photo courtesy of Zach Collier/Northwest Rafting Company

Questions and Discussion

- Qualifications for these waters
- Geographic scope of the proposed designations



Next Steps

- Meeting summary
- Rule language and fiscal impact statement
- Obtain RAC input during August 12 meeting
- RAC Homework: read ORW rule language

Title VI and alternate formats

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