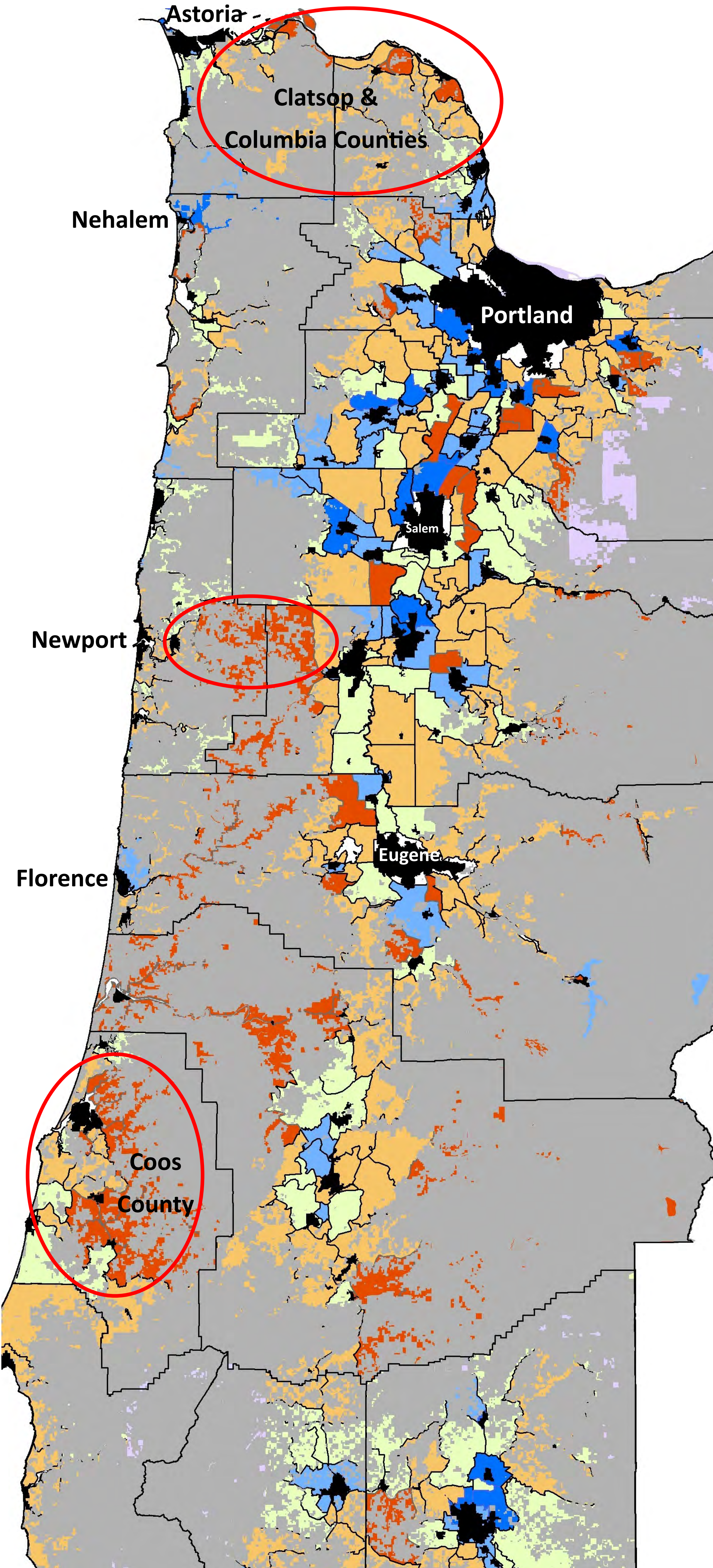


Population Growth Analysis  
Three takeaways:

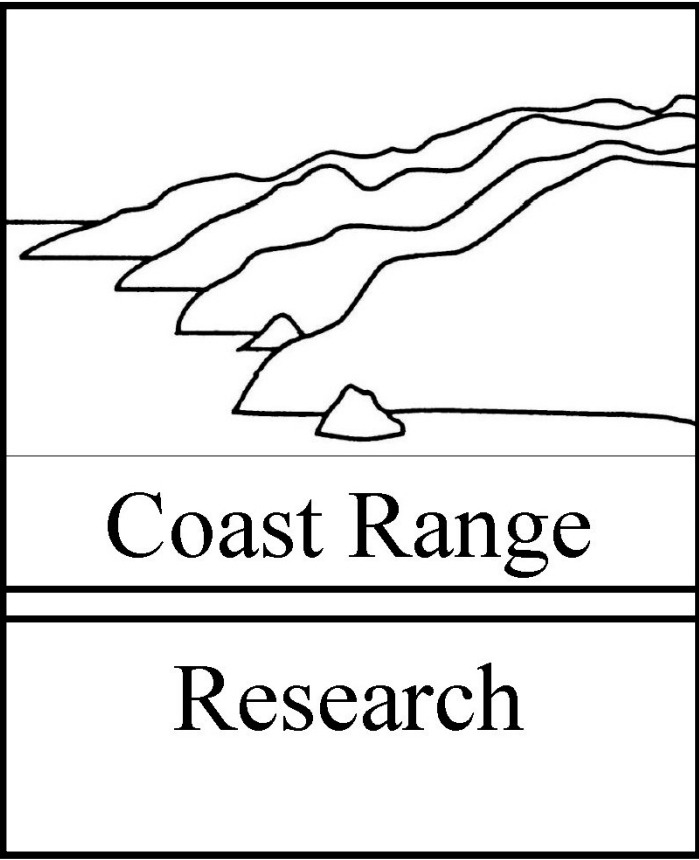
- 1.The overall change in rural population mirrors the divergence in rural and urban economies seen across the U.S. Population loss or weak growth occurred across all Oregon rural areas.
- 2. Almost all average or strong rural population growth between 1990 and 2020 occurred near urban areas or in the Willamette Valley.
- 3. Three areas (circled red) with high percentages of private corporate forests saw population loss or weak population growth. Those areas are Clatsop-Columbia counties, the Philomath to Newport corridor, and Coos County.

Coos County forests are 62% privately owned. If any county should benefit from unrestricted logging it's Coos County. Yet, Coos County had the worst performance for population growth of all western Oregon counties. The county actually lost population between 1990 and 2020.

One thing is clear from the CRA's 1990 to 2020 population research: Corporate companies that dominate rural timber do little for local economies. The land's wealth is colonized and sent to distant investors or local timber and milling elites. This is the economy built since 1980 and the rise to dominance in the U.S. of the neoliberal economic agenda.



Oregon's population grew 49% between 1990 and 2020. Areas colored light orange saw population increase by half (24.5%) or less. Areas with population growth between 24.6% to 49% (light green) and 49% to 73.5% (light blue) are termed average. Over 74% is shaded dark blue and termed strong population growth. Areas in light red saw actual population decline over the 20 year period. We believe population growth or decline reflects the broader economic condition of a rural area.



Population Loss

Weak Pop. Growth

Average Pop. Growth

Strong Pop. Growth

Population analysis by Spencer Zinke using 1990, 2000, 2010 and 2020 Census data. GIS community polygons of all rural space created by research social scientist Ellen Donoghue and GIS specialist Lynnae Sutton of the USDA Forest Service for the *Community Socioeconomic Information System*. General Technical Report PNW-GTR-672. May 2006. All grey areas in the map are an overlay in GIS of public lands and industrial forest properties.