1) Christine Moffitt, Friends of South Slough

DSL received written testimony from Christine Moffitt, President of Friends of South Slough (FOSS), which is attached on page 2.

2) Peggy Joyce & Rebecca Gladstone, League of Women Voters of Oregon (LWVOR)

DSL received written testimony submitted on behalf of Peggy Joyce, LWVOR Coastal Portfolio, and Rebecca Gladstone, LWVOR President, which is attached on page 4.

3) The OOST received three comments regarding the OOST rule change, from Cyndi Karp of Mid-Coast Water Planning Partnership, Brett Kenney of Plank House LLC, and Linda Palmer.

Comment: “I strongly support Oregon Ocean Science Trust rules changes to be able to partner with private nonprofits for fundraising purposes. Under the new rules proposed by the state, will provide an excellent future progress for Ocean Research. Work together is a good thing. Public & Private Partnerships are an Oregon way of helping collaboration, coordination & accomplish grants funding for ocean research. Oregon Legislators understand the importance of Oregon working together with numerous partners to accomplish Oregon research goals.”

Comment: “At 141-141-0170 please consider including all of Oregon’s nine tribal governments as eligible grant recipients.”

Comment: “Yes, I agree for Oregon Ocean Science Trust to partner with private nonprofit organizations in order to make financing happened.”

In a response to Brett Kenney’s comment, the Oregon Ocean Science Trust decided to extend grant eligibility to federally-recognized tribes in Oregon at their July 10, 2020 meeting.
June 30, 2020

Oregon Department of State Lands
Rules Coordinator
775 Summer St. NE
Suite 100
Salem, Oregon 97301
rules@dsl.state.or.us

Subject: Public comment on rule change allowing the Oregon Ocean Science Trust to partner for fundraising purposes.

The Friends of South Slough (FOSS) stands in strong support of the proposed rule change for Oregon Ocean Science Trust to continue to allow funding support from nonprofit partners to further their mission in ocean science research.

The Oregon Ocean Science Trust provides critical science based information, that leads to informed decision making for Oregon’s policy makers. This is especially critical as ocean conditions are changing rapidly due to climate change.

FOSS is an independent all-volunteer, board-run not for profit corporation based in Charleston, Oregon. Since its inception, our primary mission and activities have been to support the operations and activities of the South Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve, southernmost arm of the Coos Estuary on the southern Oregon Coast.

The rule change for Oregon Legislature’s 2019 Senate Bill 753 will make it easier for the Oregon Ocean Science Trust to partner with nonprofit partners such as FOSS. This change is even more important today than in 2019. As State revenue shortfalls continue as a result of the world-wide pandemic, non-government funding contributions can help offset those shortfalls.

Sincerely,

Christine M. Moffitt
President
Todd Buchholz
Vice President

Cc: Senator Arnie Roblan
June 29, 2020

To: DSL Rules Coordinator
775 Summer St. NE, Suite 100
Salem, OR 97301
Email: rules@dsl.state.or.us

Re: Rules Governing the Oregon Ocean Science Trust (OOST)

Since the League’s testimony on behalf of the creation of OOST in 2013, nothing has changed as dramatically as the accelerated impact of rising ocean temperatures and the devastation of ocean acidification and hypoxia on Oregon’s fishing industry. Our coastal areas bear the brunt of this change, exacerbated this year by the economic devastation wrought by COVID-19 on small businesses and tourism dependent cities and towns along the entire coast of Oregon.

Without understanding the science behind coastal and nearshore management efforts - towns, small cities and the marine industries that depend on thriving ocean ecosystems for survival, are at risk of failure not only in the short term but long term development of new industries whose ultimate successes depend on scientific data to support their economic and ecological risk.

Without a sustained and ongoing funding source OOST cannot fulfill the mandate that created it in 2013.

The League of Women Voters of Oregon supports rules allowing OOST to enhance the state’s capacity for peer-reviewed scientific ocean and coastal research by establishing and executing a competitive grant program to conduct research and monitoring related to Oregon’s ocean and coastal resources.

We urge the support of administrative rules that will allow OOST to fulfill its intended mission established in 2013 and thank you for the opportunity to publicly speak on this rule change.

Rebecca Gladstone
LWVOR President

Peggy Joyce
LWVOR Coastal Portfolio