

SOUTH SLOUGH RESERVE MANAGEMENT COMMISSION

AGENDA

South Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve
South Slough Interpretive Center
61907 Seven Devils Road - Charleston, Oregon

March 15, 2018

150th REGULAR MEETING 1:00-4:00 P.M.

I. Call-to-Order

II. Introductions

III. Review of the 149th regular meeting minutes

IV. Public Input*

V. Old Business

1. Coal Bank Slough Donation Update – Bree
2. Younker Point Easement Application Update – Bree

VI. New Business

1. Management Commission Background – Bree

VII. Presentations

1. Winchester Creek Coho Spawning Reach – Jenni, Pat Burns (ODFW)

VIII. Information Reports

1. Administration/Facilities
2. Education
3. Science

IX. Adjourn

*Limited to 5 minutes each unless arranged in advance of the meeting.

** This meeting is being held in a facility that is accessible for persons with disabilities. If you need some form of assistance to participate in this meeting due to a disability, please notify Rebecca Muse at 541-888-5558 ext. 134 at least two working days prior to the meeting.

**SOUTH SLOUGH NATIONAL ESTUARINE RESEARCH RESERVE
MANAGEMENT COMMISSION**

South Slough Reserve Interpretive Center Auditorium
Charleston, Oregon

Minutes of the 149th Regular Meeting
November 30, 2017

Commission members present:

Jim Paul, Chair

Lonne Mays

Trent Hatfield

Kris Wall

Chief Warren Brainard

David Kronsteiner

South Slough NERR staff and others present:

Bree Yednock

Rebecca Muse

Eric Dean

Mrs. Brainard

Deborah Rudd

Hannah Schrager

Jonathan Forth

John Bragg

Kathy Andreasen

Jenni Schmitt

Jaime Belanger

Angie Doroff

Ali Helms

The meeting was called to order at 1:06 p.m. by Jim Paul Director of the Department of State Lands and Chair of the Commission.

INTRODUCTIONS

Everyone present at the meeting introduced themselves.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Chair Paul asked if there was a motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Commissioner Kronsteiner moved to approve and Commissioner Mays seconded. The motion carried with all in favor.

PUBLIC INPUT

There was no public input.

OLD BUSINESS

New Staff Introductions

Jaime Belanger, Education Coordinator and Angie Doroff, Research Lead introduced themselves to the Commission. They offered some background information on their previous employment and they both agreed working at South Slough Reserve is a positive experience.

Coal Bank Slough

Local landowners are currently working with the Confederated Tribes of the Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw Indians on the donation of this property.

Younker Point Easement

The owner of Younker Point has expressed his intent to move forward with the easement request which proposes to cross Reserve managed land parcels that were acquired in 2011 with funds from NOAA's Coastal and Estuarine Lands Conservation Program (CELCP). The applicant will be moving forward with some survey work on the property. Staff anticipate the landowner will submit a full application, possibly by the next Management Commission meeting in March 2018. At that time, it is likely that staff will request the Commission to weigh in on the matter in an action item on the agenda.

Chair Paul said that once a full application is submitted, the Department of Justice will review the issue of a possible land locked parcel and they will also look at the governing statute to determine the possible role of the Management Commission in a decision.

Commissioner Wall mentioned the NOAA review requirements and indicated she would be willing to speak for NOAA if the situation is warranted.

NEW BUSINESS

Indian Point

Hannah Schrager reported that the Indian Point Restoration Plan is complete. All ecological assessments, contamination assessments and reports, National Environmental Policy Act compliance, and Endangered Species Act compliance have been completed and submitted to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service contacted staff earlier in the week and gave notice that the plan can move forward. Ms. Schrager presented the restoration plan in its entirety to the Management Commission and approval was requested to proceed with restoration implementation this winter. All project work must be completed and project funds spent by March 2018.

The Commission discussed Indian Point and Ms. Schrager answered questions about the restoration, in particular the strategy for the recovery of *L. occidentale* (Western lily) populations that are present on the site. Staff have installed ground water wells on Indian Point to establish base line data for hydrology.

Chair Jim Paul asked if there was a motion to approve the Indian Point Restoration Plan as it was presented. Commissioner Kronsteiner moved to approve the plan and Commissioner Mays seconded. The plan was approved with all in favor.

Baiting animals on Reserve managed lands

Facilities and stewardship staff worked with Oregon State Police to investigate a report of baiting on Reserve managed lands. The activity was not found to be illegal by existing Oregon laws, but is in violation of some Reserve rules and baiting may be something in need of Reserve Management Commission review. There are no existing

Reserve OARs that restrict baiting, although the following OARs may apply to a Commission review: 142-010-0020 (2) Overnight use of the Reserve is allowed only with written permission of the Manager. (7) Hunting and Observation Blinds are allowed within the boundaries of the Reserve, but a blind must be taken down and removed from the Reserve at the end of each day. (25) Trapping within the Reserve's administrative boundaries is prohibited, except for research or management purposes, and then only with the approval of the Manager. For context, deer baiting is not illegal in Oregon, but ORS 498.164 prohibits the use of bait to hunt black bears or cougars.

Chair Paul advised adding language to the Reserve's Hunting Map prohibiting all baiting and trapping on Reserve managed lands. Commissioner Mays moved and Commissioner Brainard seconded the motion to add the language. The motion was approved with all in favor.

Presentations

Wasson Creek Watershed Restoration

The Wasson Creek Watershed Restoration plan is in its final stages. The Wasson Technical Advisory Team held its last meeting on October 31, 2017 and the creek remeander, vegetation conversion, and upland restoration plans were presented. Hannah Schrager gave a presentation to introduce the plan to the Reserve Management Commission. Staff will likely add the Wasson Creek Restoration to the agenda as an action item at the next Commission meeting, as proposals to seek implementation funding are slated to begin in early 2018. All cultural sites will be documented in the plan.

Information Reports

Staff shared highlights and progress within their program areas.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Paul adjourned the meeting at 3:05 p.m.