

Living Laboratory of Restoration Science Opening in Oregon

Wasson Creek, a 525 acre basin in the South Slough watershed of Coos County, Oregon, is poised to be one of the most important classrooms for wetland restoration science in the world. The site is located within the South Slough Reserve, almost 7,000 acres of natural area co-managed by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the Oregon Department of State Lands.



Restoration Science at Scale

What could be discovered if scientists had a laboratory the size of an entire watershed with decades of baseline data already collected? The answer is so promising that the Wasson Creek Restoration Project recently secured over \$3.5 million to move forward.

National Estuarine Research Reserve System through funds made available by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Coastal Program

Coos Basin Coho Partnership

Coquille Tribal Community Fund

Wasson Creek Restoration Project is within the South Slough Reserve, the nation's first National Estuarine Research Reserve established in 1974. Decades of experience sharing research and creating inclusive educational programs will jumpstart this project's benefits to the country and the world.

Lifting Up Community

The Wasson Creek Restoration Project is a living demonstration of how investment in science can lift up a community. Some of the people benefitting from this project have been intrinsically tied to this land for generations, in the case of local fisheries, or since time immemorial, such as members of the Confederated Tribes of the Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians and Coquille Indian Tribe.

Dr. Alice Yeates, South Slough Reserve Stewardship Coordinator, and her technical advisory team have forged a robust foundation of partnerships to ensure benefits realized through this investment are shared with the broader community.

