



Oregon

Tina Kotek, Governor

Department of State Lands

951 SW Simpson Ave., Suite #104

Bend, OR 97702

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www.oregon.gov/dsl

State Land Board

March 13, 2025

Comment Opportunity: Potential Surface and Subsurface Mineral Land Exchange

Tina Kotek
Governor

Dear Interested Party,

Tobias Read
Secretary of State

The Oregon Department of State Lands (DSL) has received an application to exchange a parcel of surface and subsurface land owned by the Lee Family for a parcel of South Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve (Reserve)-managed surface and subsurface land in Coos County. *The Reserve is a protected estuary and natural area located on state-owned land in the Coos estuary on Oregon's southern coast. It is managed in partnership by DSL and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.*

Elizabeth Steiner
State Treasurer

About the Land(s)

- The Lee Family parcel's legal location is listed as: Township 26S, Range 14W, Section 26, Tax Lot 700.
- The Reserve parcels' legal locations are listed as: Township 26S, Range 14W, Section 27, Tax Lot 100, and in Township 26S, Range 14W, Section 26, Tax Lot 600.
- The agency transaction number for this exchange is: **64572-LE**

This exchange is related to entrance and parking improvements planned at the Reserve visitor center, which are expected to be completed by the first half of 2026. The Lee Family property is located adjacent to the Reserve's visitor center on Seven Devils Road in Coos Bay. During initial research into ownership boundaries, it was determined that encroachments existed on both Reserve land and the Lee Family property, and that a land trade would be mutually beneficial to resolve these encroachments.

The land the Reserve would trade to the Lee family is the current visitor center entrance road from Seven Devils Road to the entrance gate. A newer entrance road will be constructed as part of the upcoming project. The exchange acreages are expected to be about 0.29 acres, depending on valuation and survey outcomes. The Reserve would receive forested land of equal value from the northeast portion of the Lee family property.

How to Provide Public Comment

The comment deadline is: April 12, 2025

- Online: <https://www.oregon.gov/dsl/Land/Pages/Sales.aspx>.
- Email: realproperty@dsl.oregon.gov
- Mail: Department of State Lands at 951 SW Simpson Ave., Suite #104, Bend, OR 97702

Evaluating the Exchange

On December 12, 2023, the State Land Board directed DSL to evaluate the potential exchange through a due diligence process. During due diligence DSL collects information about the land, including market value, mineral and energy resources, wildlife, and cultural resources. DSL also asks for public comment. The Land Board uses this information to inform their decision at a future Land Board meeting.