

News



NEWS RELEASE – for immediate release

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State Land Board to meet August 13 in Charleston

Agenda items include a land sale on the Astoria waterfront, rulemaking to protect rocky habitats on the coast, and agencywide strategic planning

SALEM, Ore. – The State Land Board will meet on Tuesday, August 13 at 11 a.m. at the South Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve in Charleston, Oregon.

Agenda items the Land Board will consider include:

- Initiate rulemaking to formally incorporate new rocky habitat designations identified in Part III of Oregon's Territorial Sea Plan.
 After a three-year public review process, this updated plan was adopted in 2023.
 Administrative rules governing marine reserves and marine protected areas need to be updated to include these new rocky habitat areas.
- The sale of 0.57 acres of filled land along the Astoria waterfront to Fortuna Cannery, LLC.

A local business operating the Cannery Pier Hotel and Spa owns improvements located on the state-owned filled lands and adjacent Oregon-owned waterway. Filled in 1971 to add storage and access to the docks, the state retains ownership of the lands which are currently being used by the lessee as a parking area, access point, and open space.

• Authorize the South Slough Reserve to apply to become a Ramsar site. The Ramsar designation brands an area as a "wetland of international importance." The Reserve manages nearly 7,000 acres of natural habitat in Coos County, including open water channels, tidal and freshwater wetlands, riparian areas, and forested lands.

The Land Board will also hear other updates regarding the current strategic plan for the Department of State Lands, as well as the annual report for the South Slough Reserve.

Meeting Details and Agenda

Tuesday, August 13, 2024, at 11 a.m. South Slough Reserve Visitor Center 61907 Seven Devils Rd., Charleston, OR 97420 The full meeting agenda and materials are available on the <u>DSL website</u>. The meeting will be livestreamed to the <u>DSL YouTube channel</u>.

The public may <u>submit written testimony or sign up to provide spoken testimony</u> (in person, by video, or phone) during the meeting. Advanced sign-up is required, and the deadline is 10 a.m. on Monday, August 12.

If you need assistance to participate in this meeting due to a disability, please contact Arin Smith at 503-986-5224 or <u>arin.n.smith@dsl.oregon.gov</u> at least two working days prior to the meeting.

Visitors are not permitted to bring backpacks, bags, or large purses into the South Slough Visitor Center building prior to, during, or following Land Board meetings. Purses, medical bags, and diaper bags are permitted, but may be subject to inspection by the Oregon State Police.

About the State Land Board and the Department of State Lands: The State Land Board consists of Governor Tina Kotek, Secretary of State LaVonne Griffin-Valade, and State Treasurer Tobias Read. Established by the Oregon Constitution in 1859, the Land Board oversees the state's Common School Fund. The Department of State Lands is the Land Board's administrative agency, managing the lands and resources that help fund Oregon's public schools and protecting the state's waterways and wetlands for the many benefits they provide.

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