

**FULL COMMITTEE PONY**

**Department of Fish and Wildlife  
Columbia County Land Acquisition**

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The Natural Resources Subcommittee recommends approval, retroactively, of the submission of a \$1,376,786 federal grant application to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to acquire 980 acres near Clatskanie.

The Department of Fish and Wildlife is applying on behalf of the Columbia Land Trust, which would hold title to the property after the acquisition is complete. The property, referred to as the Westport Slough, contains both freshwater wetlands and riparian areas, two key habitats that would provide benefits to more than 25 species. The property would also be made available for limited entry public waterfowl hunting. The grant match requirement would be met using a \$900,000 grant from the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board. The department reports that the project would require two grants totaling \$2,700,000. If this first application is successful, the Department would submit a second application next year for the remaining \$1,323,214.

Your Natural Resources Subcommittee recommends approval of the request.