

SB 126 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Natural Resources and Wildfire Recovery

Prepared By: Beth Patrino, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 2/8, 2/24

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Identifies the estuarine research reserve management area to include land acquired as the South Slough Estuary Sanctuary and other lands owned or managed by the Department of State Lands (department) that the department determines contribute to the management policy for the management area. Modifies language authorizing the department to acquire lands for management area. Updates references for name change of federal Office of Coastal Management.

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

No subsequent referral

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- History of South Slough
- Eligibility for federal funding dependent on boundary adjustment
- State law doesn't recognize purchased lands as part of administrative boundary of reserve; local process that preceded these purchases

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

According to the Department of State Lands, the South Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve is a 5,900-acre natural area located in the Coos estuary on the south coast of Oregon. The Reserve was designated in 1974 as the first unit of the National Estuarine Research Reserve System, a network of estuary habitats protected and managed for the purposes of long-term research, education, and coastal stewardship. The South Slough Reserve is one of 29 areas in the National Estuarine Research Reserve System.

Senate Bill 126 would identify the estuarine research reserve management area to include land acquired as the South Slough Estuary Sanctuary and other lands owned or managed by the Department of State Lands it determines contribute to the management policy for the management area.