



COQUILLE INDIAN TRIBE

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Bree Yednock, Reserve Manager
South Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve
P.O. Box 5417
Charleston, OR 97420

It is my pleasure to write a letter in support of the South Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve's (the Reserve) proposed legislation to expand the reserve boundaries to encompass four parcels currently owned by the Department of State Lands (DSL) and managed by the Reserve.

The Reserve was established with the support of Coquille Tribal Members, who have lived on that landscape since time immemorial. The Tribe endeavors to see the lands of its ancestors managed meaningfully and with care. While the Reserve currently manages these four parcels under DSL's ownership, formally expanding the reserve boundary to encompass these parcels will enable SSNERR to manage all these lands consistently under its established management policy and to access federal funding strictly dedicated to NERRs.

The South Slough Watershed is a significant part of our traditional cultural landscape and plays an important role for our ecosystem. We look forward to our continued relationship with DSL and the SSNERR as stewards for this invaluable place that we call part of our home.

Shuenhalni,

Brenda Meade
Chairperson