

Exhibit H

**Public Correspondence received as of
November 20, 2014**



JOHN A. KITZHABER, MD
GOVERNOR

April 17, 2013

Davis Moriuchi, Chair
Oregon Parks and Recreation
Commission
277 SW Kingston Ave.,
Portland, OR 97205

Bobby Levy, Chair
Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission
PO Box 69
Echo, OR 97826

Dan Thorndike, Co-Chair
Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board
Medford Fabrication
PO Box 1588
Medford, OR 97501-0244

Eric Quaempts, Co-Chair
Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board
CTUIR, Dept. of Natural Resources
Nixyaawii Governance Center
46411 Timine Way
Pendleton, OR 97801

Pat Egan, Chair
Oregon Transportation Commission
355 Capitol Street NE, MS 11
Salem, OR 97301-3871

Re: The Gail Achterman Legacy at Hayden Island, Polk County

Dear Commission and Board Chairs:

As most of you know, in the past year we lost a great public servant, a visionary, and champion in conserving Oregon's natural resources for future generations. Gail Achterman worked tirelessly to ensure a bright future for our state by stressing the need for collaborative efforts to solve serious problems and, in her words, "to restore the earth."

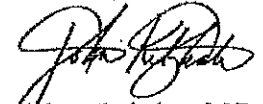
A group of Gail's family and friends are working with The Trust for Public Land (TPL) to help fulfill Gail's vision of conservation and preservation in the Willamette Valley. Together, they have identified a 270-acre island near Salem where Gail grew up, as a potential conservation project. Hayden Island in Polk County is one of the largest, unprotected, flood plain forests left along the main stem of the river and provides a natural complement to the Willamette Greenway and Water Trail.

The volunteer Achterman Legacy Group and TPL are working with staff in the agencies you oversee to develop a plan for acquisition, natural resource enhancement, environmental education, recreation, and development of service opportunities for young people.

Commission and Board Chairs
April 17, 2013
Page 2

Purchase and stewardship of Hayden Island would be a fitting tribute to all that Gail Achterman gave to Oregon, and provides a unique opportunity for state natural resources agencies to collaborate in making a significant contribution to Oregon's conservation values and future generations. I urge each of your Boards and Commissions to encourage and support the collaborative efforts of your agencies in this worthy effort.

Sincerely,



John Kitzhaber, M.D.
Governor

Cc: Ted Wheeler, Oregon State Treasurer, Oregon State Land Board
Kate Brown, Oregon Secretary of State, Oregon State Land Board
Roy Blicher, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, Director
Tim Wood, Oregon Parks and Recreation Department, Director
Matthew L. Garrett, Oregon Department of Transportation, Director
Mary Abrams, Oregon Department of State Lands, Director
Tom Byler, Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board, Director

October 28th, 2014

Ms. Tesler,

Please accept this message as our comments on this proposed action.

My wife, Kirsten, and I lived south of Salem for 3 1/2 years in the mid-1970s. Presently we see this beautiful area more and more growing in human population and town sizes. Much open space is no longer "open."

We know that open spaces, wildlife habitat and wildlife recreation like hunting, bird watching, enjoying wild plants, enjoying scenery are all totally predicated on preserving open space and quality habitat areas.

We very strongly urge Hayden Island to be purchased now while it is available as quality habitat. If we Oregonians don't act now to save it, it may well be gone to clearing and development in the future.

We live in Klamath Falls and are blessed with lots of nearby public lands. People in Salem are not so blessed. Please do step out proactively. Please do buy Hayden Island. Doing so will improve the long term quality of life for so many living in the north valley communities.

Thank you,

Dave & Kirsten Potter
3930 Rio Vista Way
Klamath Falls, OR 97603

October 28th, 2014

Thank you for the map. I fished and hunted that area for 30 years and never realized they considered it an island. I only thought it became an island during high water. Not sure how much value that area will have now that there is no more dredging and the water temps in that area sometimes reach into the 80's.

Lloyd Savage



580 Main Street, Suite A, Dallas, OR 97338 * 503-623-9680 * www.polkswcd.org

October 29, 2014

Bobby Levy
Chair, Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission
4034 Fairview Industrial Drive SE
Salem, OR 97302

Dear Chair Levy and Fellow Commission Members:

The Polk Soil and Water Conservation District wishes to reiterate its support, previously expressed in a letter to the Department of Fish and Wildlife dated March 3, 2011, for The Trust for Public Land's (TPL) proposed acquisition of Hayden Island for habitat protection and restoration. TPL has updated the District regarding its proposed conveyance of the property to the Department of Fish and Wildlife for long term ownership and stewardship. We support this proposal.

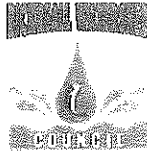
Polk SWCD's mission is "To promote the wise use of natural resources," and as such, we are always involved with restoration and educational projects throughout the County. Polk SWCD is interested in Hayden Island because it provides an opportunity to protect and conserve significant wildlife habitat in close proximity to several of the county's larger communities. The District supports restoration and habitat management at the site and encourages the Department, to the greatest extent possible, to make the property available to the public for appropriate recreational and educational uses including fishing, boating, wildlife viewing, hunting, and water quality protection.

Acquisition, protection, and stewardship of the property will benefit priority species and habitats identified in the Oregon Conservation Strategy, averting the loss of habitat and allowing for enhancements to an already high-quality floodplain riparian forest. Such habitats are relatively rare in this reach of the Willamette River. This property in particular is at great risk of habitat loss from gravel mining.

The Polk SWCD appreciates your consideration. We look forward to an opportunity to comment on future management planning and participate, if capacity allows, in the enhancement and restoration of Hayden Island. If you have any questions or need any further information please feel free to contact me.

Thank you,

Karin Nembach, District Manager



RICKREALL WATERSHED COUNCIL

580 Main Street, Suite A
Dallas, Oregon 97338
Phone: 503-623-9680 ext. 104
Email: rickreallwc@hotmail.com



GLENN-GIBSON WATERSHED COUNCIL

PO Box 881
Salem, OR 97304
Phone: 503-362-6860

November 1, 2014

Bobby Levy, Chair
Oregon Fish & Wildlife Commission
4034 Fairview Industrial Drive SE
Salem, OR 97302

Subject: Support for Gail Achterman Natural Area at Hayden Island (Polk Co)

Dear Ms. Levy:

The Glenn-Gibson and Rickreall Watershed Councils have previously supported the proposal to purchase and conserve Hayden Island as the Gail Achterman Natural Area. We understand that the current proposal is for the property to be owned and managed by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife. We also are aware of the long-term conflicts between use of floodplain lands in the Willamette Valley for agriculture and for aggregate removal.

The proposed acquisition is a 270-acre island located at the confluence of Rickreall Creek and the Willamette River. The island is predominantly overflow land with a substantial forest cover of native tree species. The island's back channel and the gravel bars associated with the parcel are an important area for juvenile salmon and other native aquatic species. While active management may be necessary, the parcel is one of the few remaining active floodplain sites in the Mid-Willamette reach. We support conservation of the island as an appropriate public investment.

The Glenn-Gibson and Rickreall Watershed Councils appreciate the opportunity to comment on this project and would be willing to assist in appropriate habitat enhancement measures including work on the back channel and invasive species management.

Sincerely,

Ken Bierly, Chair
Glenn Gibson Creeks Watershed Council

Kenn Carter, Chair
Rickreall Watershed Council



Eugene Public Works
Parks & Open Space

November 4, 2014

Laura Tesler
Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
4034 Fairview Industrial Drive SE
Salem, OR 97302

Subject: Support for ODFW's acquisition of 225 acre Coyote Creek NE property

Dear Laura,

I would like to express the City of Eugene's strong support for ODFW's acquisition and subsequent management of the Coyote Creek NE property off of Cantrell Road. This acquisition supports larger regional conservation goals articulated in the adopted *West Eugene Wetlands Plan* as well as the *Rivers to Ridges Vision*. The project complements other conservation work in the region, including acquisition, restoration, and management by the Rivers to Ridges Partnership, of which ODFW is a partner. Once acquired, this property will help forward our regional vision of an interconnected landscape of protected natural areas that provide compatible outdoor recreation opportunities for the public.

The City of Eugene owns and manages a 240-acre parcel immediately adjacent to the Coyote Creek NE property that is managed for natural resource values. The City looks forward to collaborating and cooperating with ODFW so that both properties, in addition to other ODFW property on the south side of Cantrell and nearby U.S. Army Corps of Engineer lands, are managed and restored to benefit regional wetland and natural resource goals.

Please feel free to contact me if you need further information about the City's property or opportunities to work together toward mutual benefits.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Craig Carnagey".

Craig Carnagey
Parks and Open Space Director, City of Eugene

**HAYDEN ISLAND
PUBLIC HEARING
November 5, 2014**

- November 5, 2014 – Public Meeting regarding Hayden Island acquisition – property is approximately 270 acres on the mainstem Willamette River near Salem. Meeting is at ODFW Headquarters at 7pm.

In Attendance:

Dick Duncan	ODFW	541-908-2811
Karen Tofte	ODFW	503-947-6260
Ann Kreager	ODFW	541-957-5246
Steve Marx	ODFW	541-757-4186
Bernadette Graham-Hudson	ODFW	971-673-1134
Laura Tesler	ODFW	503-947-6086
Mark Wigg	Salem	
Stephanie Hallock	Achterman Legacy Project	503-305-7360
Ray Temple	Salem Audubon Society	503-413-0652
Ken Bierly	Glenn Gibson Creek Watershed Council	
Owen Wozniak	TPL	

**Testimony
ODFW Public Hearing
Concerning
Acquisition of Hayden Island
November 5, 2014**

Good Evening I am Ken Bierly, chair of the Glenn Gibson Creek Watershed Council. I am speaking on behalf of the council and also providing my personal observations about the proposed conservation acquisition.

The watershed council has submitted a letter to the commission supporting your favorable consideration of the acquisition. Both the Glenn Gibson Creeks Watershed Council and the Rickreall Watershed Council support the proposed acquisition. There remains little mature native habitat along the Willamette River in the Mid-Willamette reach. This parcel is in our opinion an essential conservation link in the efforts to provide habitat for Chinook salmon. There are always competing demands for properties along the Willamette River, however there are few opportunities to conserve land that frequently floods, is little disturbed and has the opportunity for side channel connections to the river.

I strongly urge you to support the conservation acquisition of Hayden Island for this and the next generation of Oregonians.

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF ODFW HAYDEN ISLAND ACQUISITION

Stephanie Hallock on behalf of friends and family of Gail Achterman

Wednesday, November 5, 2014

Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife

Gail Achterman was one of Oregon's foremost experts in natural resource conservation and management, environmental law and policy, and transportation policy and planning. She was a friend and teacher to many, a visionary leader committed to preservation and conservation of natural areas throughout the state and particularly along the Willamette River.

Before Gail's untimely death in 2012, she asked family and friends to continue her work protecting and enhancing natural areas in the Willamette Valley. Gail believed that the way to "save what we treasure" is to connect people with the water and land and teach the importance of conservation and preservation in the face of continued growth.

To honor Gail's dying request, her family and friends have been working with the Trust for Public Land to acquire Hayden Island from a willing seller. We have raised over \$3 million dollars in public and private funds to purchase and preserve this unique 270-acre parcel of flood plain forest near Salem where Gail grew up. Our hope is that the island will be owned and maintained in Gail's name by the Department of Fish and Wildlife as part of the Willamette Greenway.

The current owner has a permit to mine gravel on the island, so transfer of ownership to the Department of Fish and Wildlife is essential to restore and enhance this unique habitat for fish and wildlife and for boaters and paddlers to enjoy as Gail envisioned.

Gail's family and friends would like to thank Laura Tesler and others at ODFW for their support and assistance throughout the project. After almost three years of work to fulfill Gail's dying request, we are thrilled to be so close to protecting and enhancing this special place on the Willamette. We submit our testimony today in support of the state's acquisition of Hayden Island and look forward to speaking directly with the Fish and Wildlife Commission at their December 5 meeting.

Thank you for your time. I would be happy to answer any questions.



SALEM AUDUBON SOCIETY
Stewardship Birding Education

2110 State St. Suite 110 Salem, OR 97308 503-588-7340 salemaudubon.org

5 November, 2014

Laura Tesler
Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
4034 Fairview Industrial Drive SE
Salem, OR 97302

Dear Laura:

The Salem Audubon Society would like to express enthusiastic support for the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife's intended acquisition of Hayden Island for protection as a natural area. We previously expressed support for The Trust for Public Land's efforts to acquire the property and put in public conservation ownership. We wish now to emphasize our support for the Department of Fish and Wildlife's proposed ownership and management of the site, which we believe fits well with the Department's mission.

The Island is well known to our members and has long been recognized locally and within the Mid-Willamette region as one of the most important, last remaining, large, unprotected natural areas. While there exist many smaller and fragmented natural areas near or adjacent to the Willamette River, the size and existing habitat quality of Hayden Island make it an exceptional candidate for wildlife habitat conservation.

With an extensive and relatively intact riparian floodplain forest, large and actively forming gravel bars, a strong hydrologic connection to the Willamette, and a backwater channel offering important salmon rearing habitat, the property is a priority for conservation on this reach of the river. As a permitted gravel mine, the property is also at great risk, making this acquisition especially timely.

We believe the entire Willamette basin will benefit from the Department's acquisition and protection of this property. We also look forward to the establishment of another outstanding natural area so close to our community.

Sincerely,

Ray Temple
Vice President

Roxann B Borisch

Subject: FW: Coyote Creek Northeast

From: David Berg [mailto:david_berg@comcast.net]

Sent: Thursday, November 06, 2014 1:16 PM

To: laura.tesler@state.or.us

Subject: Coyote Creek Northeast

Laura,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed acquisition of the property known as *Coyote Creek Northeast*. We fully support the proposed acquisition.

We are great fans of the West Eugene Wetlands and take advantage to canoe Fern Ridge and its tributaries during spring, summer, and early fall. The opportunity to add a parcel of wet prairie to the Wetlands is one that shouldn't be passed over. The only thing that matters to the world is preservation and protection of its natural systems, the habitats that comprise them, and the wildlife that inhabit them. Acquiring this parcel serves that mission.

You may be interested in Judy's last book, *Conversation with a Beaver and Other Journeys Into Nature*. While the main "journey" is about beavers she researched in the Colorado Rockies (whose science transcends geographical boundaries throughout North America), the other journeys take place in the West Eugene Wetlands.

- *David & Judy*

David & Judy Berg | Eugene, OR | Phone: 541.683.0904 | Mobile: 541.915.6823

David: Volunteer Consulting Data Management Specialist | Conservation Operations |

The Nature Conservancy | Conserving the lands and waters on which all life depends.

Bush Heritage Australia | Protecting Australia's unique animals, plants, and their habitats.

Sitka Technology Group | Software to raise the effectiveness of conservation programs.

Judy: Wildlife Researcher and Author |

Award-winning *The Otter Spirit: A Natural History Story* and *Conversation with a Beaver and Other Journeys into Nature*, and *Weathered Wood and Other Short Stories*, are available wherever fine books are sold

The River Otter Alliance | Promoting the survival of otters through education, research, and habitat protection.

Roxann B Borisch

Subject: FW: Coyote Creek Northeast

From: Hopsbran [<mailto:hopsbran@aol.com>]
Sent: Thursday, November 06, 2014 8:11 AM
To: laura.tesler@state.or.us
Subject: Coyote Creek Northeast

Ms. Tesler,

We wholeheartedly support the Department of Fish and Wildlife proposal to acquire and protect the 225-acre Jackson-Campbell property near Fern Ridge Lake as part of a regional wet prairie habitat restoration project. Benefitting wildlife and native vegetation, including streaked horned larks, Western meadowlarks, other grassland waterfowl, and the endangered perennial Bradshaw's lomatium are honorable undertakings.

Thank you for working to protect Coyote Creek Northeast.

Best wishes,
Nena Lovinger and Robert Emmons
40093 Little Fall Creek Road
Fall Creek, OR 97438

Roxann B Borisch

Subject: FW: Coyote Creek Northeast

From: Linda Gilbert [<mailto:oregonjunco@msn.com>]
Sent: Thursday, November 06, 2014 7:44 AM
To: laura.tesler@state.or.us
Subject: Coyote Creek Northeast

Laura,

I am in favor of acquiring the piece of property called Coyote Creek Northeast near Fern Ridge Reservoir. Habitat for streaked horned larks and western meadowlarks continues to disappear due to development and this would provide at least a small amount of replacement. The land would also be valuable for public education since it is easily accessible. In addition, it would be well-used by birders and nature enthusiasts as well as hunters. The system of public lands managed for wildlife around Fern Ridge Reservoir and in the west Eugene wetlands is a very good use of tax dollars in my view.

Sincerely,
Linda Gilbert
Eugene, OR

Roxann B Borisch

Subject: Proposed Fern Ridge Acquisitions

----- Original message -----

From: Steven Gordon
Date: 11/11/2014 3:41 PM (GMT-08:00)
To: laura.tesler@state.or.us
Subject: Proposed Fern Ridge Acquisitions

Dear Ms. Tesler,

I was unable to attend the November 6th hearing on the proposed 225-acre acquisition east of Fern Ridge Reservoir. Please consider my attached comments supporting those acquisitions as part of the hearing testimony.

I have been an active birder for 40 years. I was a charter member of Oregon Field Ornithologists (OFO) and am a past editor of the OFO journal, "Oregon Birds". I belong to Lane County Audubon Society and have contributed to the following: "Birds of Oregon: Status and Distribution", Cinclus Publications, by Jeff Gilligan et. al., 1994; "Birds of Lane County, Oregon", OSU Press, by Alan Contreras, 2006; "Willamette Valley Birding Trail" by Joel Geier, et. al.; and the "Birding Eugene" website by Art Farley.

I am co-author with Cary Kerst of two Oregon dragonfly and damselfly field guides (Willamette Valley by Crane Dance Publications (2005) and Oregon by OSU Press [2011]).

Before retiring I was project manager for the West Eugene Wetlands Plan (1992) and coordinator for the West Eugene Wetland Partnership (which has evolved and grown into the Rivers to Ridges Partnership) until retiring in 2007. I assisted the City of Eugene in obtaining over \$12.5 million in Land & Water Conservation Funds to BLM to purchase wetlands in the Amazon Creek/Long Tom River region.

I currently serve on the McKenzie River Trust's Lands Committee.

The attached comments are my individual comments and do not represent any position that the above organizations may have on this topic.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Steve Gordon
Eugene, Oregon

Roxann B Borisch

Subject: FW: Coyote Creek Acreage

-----Original Message-----

From: Diana Huntington [mailto:fitten@earthlink.net]

Sent: Friday, November 14, 2014 7:56 AM

To: laura.tesler@state.or.us

Subject: Coyote Creek Acreage

>

> Ms. Tesler:

>

> My home and acreage is very close to Coyote Creek and the wildlife area along Cantrell Road. I was unable to attend the recent meeting at the Fern Ridge Library and would like to add my full support to the planned proposed purchase of additional acreage. It is a great idea.

>

> I would ask that as you plan for the use of this land you consider not opening it up for hunting and also consider banning hunting on the existing acreage. Many of us enjoy walking, boating and watching the birds and other animals as they also enjoy this area and we would like to be able to do this without putting ourselves in danger of getting shot. It is also very upsetting for us neighbors to hear all the gunshots and know that the birds we love are dying. It would be wonderful if all of this could be a sanctuary for wildlife, rather than a killing field.

>

> Diana Huntington

> 87426 Halderson Road

> Eugene 97402

Roxann B Borisch

Subject: FW: Comments from Max Smith

From: Ann Kreager
Sent: Monday, November 17, 2014 2:43 PM
To: Laura Tesler
Cc: David J Stroppel; Kyle W Martin
Subject: Comments from Max Smith

Mr. Smith sent these comments to me on Friday and I am forwarding them to you for the record.

From: Max Smith [mailto:max_s_97448@yahoo.com]
Sent: Thursday, November 13, 2014 7:14 PM
To: ann.kreager@state.or.us
Subject: Comments Coyote Creek NE Acquisition Meeting, Veneta

Ann:

Since these required public meetings frequently turn out to be bellyaching sessions it is understandable that there is a tacit tendency to downplay the meeting notification process. However, recognize that every affected minor politician with an inflated view of his/her importance will be offended if not personally notified well in advance.

Whomever presents these meetings needs a detailed understanding of how the "in lieu of" taxes system works, and how the in lieu payments to the local governments will compare to the current tax income from the properties being acquired.

Since an arm of ODFW is recommending purchase and administering these proposed habitat manipulations, sportsmen feel there should be some direct benefit to hunters and anglers. I am pleased that the current plans for the NE Coyote Creek acquisition clearly state an open access component. Hopefully, future purchases of properties will share this stipulated purpose, and acquisition of properties with this stipulation should be given priority.

Together, acquisition of the South Coyote and NE Coyote properties, stated to be managed "in coordination with the Fern Ridge Wildlife Area", constitute an approximately 10% increase in the land area that FRWLA personnel will be responsible for on a daily basis. This without additional budgetary supplementation to the paltry annual 2.0 FTE and 6 Mo. seasonal time that FRWMA currently exists under. It seems reasonable that a total 10% increase in FRWMA personal services should appear as line items in any budgets to be drawn up for these combined projects.

Thank you for your attention to these comments.

Max Smith
90701 Georgetown Road
Junction City OR 97448