

## Coquille Valley Wildlife Area Draft Management Plan Public Comments

Issue or Comment	Count	Response (at the time, in management plan, or in restoration plan)
Attendee asked about the key water months for Coho Salmon	1	Noted that the key water months vary, depending on flow.
Attendees had some discussion of who was responsible for tidegate, ditch, and berms	1	Both the Beaver Slough Drainage district and individual landowners have been involved with maintenance of tidegates, major berms, and major ditches with in the district. However, based on conversation in the meeting, ultimate responsibility for this maintenance is an unresolved issue.
Attendee asked if Beaver Slough and China Camp Creek are connected hydrologically in the summer	1	Staff member answered no, the two are not connected in the summer.
An attendee asked who owns the Hunt Club	1	There are 11 owners of the hunt club.
Attendee asked about the location of the proposed tidegates	1	The answer was that the tidegates will remain in an area similar to the current location. (Stuart Love noted that various restoration options will be presented to the engineering firm that wins the bid for restoration design. Options range from the one proposed by The Nature Conservancy and ODFW, to one that primarily deals with vegetation only. The engineering firm that wins the bid has multiple options. The Drainage district president also noted that the public will have options for input at the 30, 60, and 90% design phases)
Attendee asked about the budgets for OWEB	1	The answer was slightly less than \$1.3 million, and a proposed operating budget of approximately \$360,000 to \$390,000 every two years.
Attendee asked what the difference was between the lowest part of the CVWA to the tidegate invert	1	The answer was about 2 feet.
Attendee asked that they be provided a better lidar map of the area	1	Stakeholder Team member said he had lidar disks, and could provide them.
Attendee asked that we clarify where public access will occur (see OWEB Grant), and that we put up more definitive signage to prevent trespass. In particular, signage for individuals to stay off the Waterman Road.	1	noted that one proposed option would be to put the parking lot not simply at the corner of the property. This would encourage members of the public to stay within the property boundary. Since then, we have put highly visible signs on the property boundaries.

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Attendee asked what we were doing with the material from the ditches. He suggested that we need to use it for elevation changes to encourage vegetation diversity. It would also be good for duck hunters and beavers. This would not necessarily represent historic conditions, but would be a microcosm of the past. He also suggested we put humps on the inside of the dike.	1	Will be used for elevation changes
Attendee expressed concern about how the public would get across all of the proposed ditches and channels. Were we proposing trails, culverts, or bridges?	1	We are proposing bridges over several channels associated with overall project
Attendee asked how we proposed access control. Would we require any fees?	1	Permits only. Included in goals, objectives, and strategies
Attendee asked if we had any details on access control in the draft plan.	1	Yes
Attendee noted that there is a conservation easement on private land Northeast of the Beaver Slough Tract, and we need to prevent trespass.	1	We have placed boundary signs
Attendee expressed concern that the project would still not address low dissolved oxygen in the summer season. It will not solve all the water quality problems. She also asked that we work with Steve Pennington as we develop the restoration plan.	1	fish benefits from wetland restoration projects are well documented, and that benefits from this project are assumed, although there may be some discrepancies on numbers of fish produced.
Attendee noted that mortality in freshwater controls the coho population. If we increase freshwater production, we will get more coho adults. He also noted that this could provide revenue for the local economy. He provided ex-vessel commercial values from the 1980's versus now, noting an extreme decline. If we increase production, it could lead to delisting of coho.	1	Agreed
Attendee noted that any time one can change the population trend in a listed species, it helps everyone. Specific production numbers are not critical.	1	

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The group had an extensive discussion of weed control.	1	Weed control is addressed in the plan
Attendee noted that reed canary grass is wonderful forage; however if not grazed, it becomes a weed.	1	Grazing is included in the plan
Attendee noted that if management tries to go too far back to historic natural conditions, we will need someone besides an engineer to look at the overall picture and help decide what course to take to best meet management objectives. We may need to spend some funds up front to get the best bang for the buck.	1	
Attendee noted that if we planned to go back to historic natural conditions, we needed to get rid of canary grass, and that should be in the plan. Also noted that we needed to fence livestock off the water right away. Currently, there are some eroded banks	1	permanent fencing has been delayed until the dikes are rebuilt. Since receiving the comment, we will have an agreement in place with the grazing permittee to put in temporary fence in 2016
Attendee noted that we need to balance desire to return to natural state versus what benefits wildlife. He also noted that it was a big positive that this is not federal land. The state has more flexibility in management.	1	
Attendee noted that the current draft plan only has 39 acres of the Winter Lake tract unplanted. She suggested that we increase the amount of unplanted acreage. This would provide more cattle grazing, and more duck habitat.	1	Some time after this comment was received, we proposed to increase the amount of unplanted acreage
Attendee noted that we need adequate pre pre-monitoring to determine success of the project. She asked that ODFW not get in a rush to do the project too soon. She also wanted to be sure we manage for multiple species	1	We have been conducting baseline monitoring since 2013
Attendee asked that we consider mechanical harvest of reed canary grass	1	

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Attendee suggested that we talk to Doug Cottam (ODFW, Newport) about the ODFW Yachats properties; they have the properties to benefit waterfowl.	1	
Attendee asked that we slow down the process, and not try to do it all in 2014.	1	Project has been delayed
Attendee expressed concern about muskrats, and offered to take ODFW staff on a tour to observe muskrats.	1	in the past, muskrats had not been much of a problem.
Attendee stated that if we keep mink populations healthy, they will take care of the young muskrats. Keep mink pops healthy - they'll take young.	1	
Attendee noted that we need funding for dike maintenance on the property	1	Major dike maintenance is drainage district responsibility.
Attendee said the new dike was part of the drainage district responsibility, but was not sure about the other dikes.	1	Major dike maintenance was a drainage district responsibility.
Attendee noted that other OWEB grants did not allow firearms, and that we needed to double-check and make sure firearms were allowed.	1	
Attendee expressed concern over long term 10 year plan	1	Plan has been adjusted to cover 5 years.
Attendee thought a five year plan made sense.	1	
Attendee noted that setting a long term goal with hard check points would work. We could then adjust goals. She was okay with a ten year plan, and have five year strategies that we could adjust.	1	See plan
Attendee noted that we needed flexibility. For the first five years, we would need to look annually and adapt.	1	See plan
Attendee stated that we need long-term goals and flexible strategies.	1	See plan
Attendee asked that a list of stakeholders be included in the plan.	1	Incorporated in repeated stakeholder team meetings

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Attendee asked that all stakeholders have access to the OWEB grant application	1	
Attendee provided some suggestions for the next meeting agenda <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A quick overview</li> <li>- What input do we want for the plan?</li> <li>- What's missing from the plan?</li> <li>- What's scary for you in the plan?</li> <li>- What's hard to understand?</li> </ul>	1	
Attendee suggested we have a site visit.	1	
Attendee asked: Was Lowe Creek Property part of ODFW's land trade? Wasn't it included in the grant applications?	1	Lowe Creek property was considered, but not part of final land trade. Stuart re-capped some of the power point slides with general maps of CVWA and its two tracts, including access concepts.
Attendee asked: On the bright neon-colored elevation map, what is the datum for "0"?	1	Stakeholder team member from from Beaver Slough Drainage District indicated it was from the NAV88 datum
Attendee asked: Where are the tidegate(s) on Beaver Slough?	1	Stakeholder Team member from Coaledo Drainage District pointed out the location on the Lidar Image
Attendee commented Even with intact wetland habitat, some of which is tidally influenced, mosquitoes have not been a noted problem on Beaver Slough.	1	
Attendee commented USFWS indicated that equipment used in Ni-les'tun Unit restoration left depressions that allowed mosquito production.	1	
Attendee commented ODFW needs to have emergency plan in place in case mosquitoes appear; perhaps a bond?	1	Funding is in place from leftover Timber Sale funds
Attendee commented Aerial spraying may not be available to use up Garden Valley, because of bees and organic gardening.	1	Stakeholder Team member from Beaver Slough Drainage District pointed out that ODFW project will have control of water level (MTR), so you can use that to disfavor mosquitoes. (dry it up or more flushing). - Stuart explained that fish can be used to place in spots that may be producing mosquitoes. Stickleback (native fish) are preferred over gambusia (non-native fish, a.k.a. "mosquitofish"), although gambusia are already widespread within Winter Lake area.

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Attendee asked Is there access from Old Beaver Hill Rd. (by Luckman's)? Is there access from Roseburg Resources?	1	Locals park vehicles at North Bank Rd./Old Beaver Hill Rd. junction when flooding occurs, they park vehicles there and use boats to shuttle into homes. Stuart described the potential for Wildlife Area permits for entry/use; could also limit number of vehicles that can be parked at access points;
Attendee commented that the water level will dictate how people will trespass; may be more risk for trespass when flooded and boats are used.	1	ODFW staff pointed out experience at Sauvie Island: limited parking area size can limit use; "designated use" parking ; parking for permitted hunters only.
Attendee asked that boundary be perimeter fenced	2	Yes, including tall posts with signs above waterline in most floods; plus Signage on fencing. Delayed by construction. Will be temporary in 2016.
Attendee asked: Will gates be installed to prevent access during times of year (off-season) when you don't want public access (e.g. Flooding, Safety Issues)?	1	That is a possibility that ODFW would want to have the ability to gate-off an access point.
Attendee asked: What about dogs crossing property lines? Livestock issue with dogs.	2	Hunter must ask Landowner permission to go onto private property (incl. dog) to retrieve downed game. Oregon State Police discussed trespass enforcement, and need for landowner permission to retrieve game.
Attendee asked: What fencing materials would be used?	1	Fencing materials would be barbed wire or woven wire; wood posts only.
Attendee asked: During flood times, will boat access be allowed? Limit size of boat?	2	Comment: No motors should be allowed on boats within the area. Motors restricted by rule
Attendee comment: - The Watermans indicated that theft is facilitated by use of boats. ODFW should also anticipate litter problems. Hunters also cut fences – no respect for private property.	1	Motors restricted by rule
Comment: - OSP/Lt. Gifford – with a low number of troopers in the local area, they are not going to be able to be there to "babysit" the W. A. all the time.	1	
Attendee commented if ODFW does not allow hunting on dikes, that might keep "winged" birds from going onto private property.	1	Dikes have been designated and signed as travel corridors and safety areas. No shooting is allowed from or across those areas

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Attendee Comment: Ranchers up river are looking at this project to see if changes to the river will cause pasture issues.	1	Hydrologist has done analysis of potential changes in water level.
Comment: The new ditch on east side of duck club must have at least same capacity as existing China Camp Creek ditch system to allow drainage at least at the current rate.		
The size of the culvert under Hwy 42 (4 foot diameter) is a limiting water drain factor that currently exists.		
Attendee asked : If water is run down ODFW Restoration channels during the summer, will that "pond" water in the low spots at the east end of the project? Discussion of restoration channel design, to drain/fill low spots daily.	1	The size of the culvert under Hwy 42 (4 foot diameter) is a limiting water drain factor that currently exists. Four water level loggers have been installed by B.S.D.D., and more are planned. No
The paper/grant that was written 1.5 years ago that referred to 7' and 3' inundation levels needs to be withdrawn, if that is not the current plan		
Attendee asked: Does OWEB funding disallow Hunting?	1	No
Attendee asked: Will there be NEPA or EIS (including economic impact) if federal Funds are involved in this project?	1	Responded that the question is actually a restoration topic vs. Management Plan topic. Permitting will require NOAA consultation
Attendee Commented: for the draft plan, Include who ended up with Eel Lake property (Executive Summary.)	1	Not yet included
Attendee Commented: Will Monitoring/Research be done on both tracts, for comparison? Also, be sure to conduct baseline monitoring. Suggested to also compare to Units 1 and 3 (adjacent Agriculture Land).	1	Yes. Monitoring will occur on both tracts. Baseline monitoring is occurring. Need permission from landowners to conduct monitoring on their lands.
Attendee Commented: Need to monitor fish in Beaver Creek above Hwy. 42 for comparison to below, and to Winter Lake tract. Also compare to Cunningham Creek (lower mile).	1	
Attendee asked: Can we get copies of Oregon Conservation Strategy? Also, ORS's that are referenced in CVWA Plan [Intro]?	1	Answer was yes.

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Attendee Commented: Nickelson (2012) didn't consider that Winter Lake is already slow water habitat, so his benefit numbers may not be accurate.	1	
Attendee Commented: Don't destroy habitat that is already in Winter Lake. Don't trade one species for another.	1	
Attendee Commented: Elevation diversity will provide a variety of waterfowl habitats. Put "bumps and humps" on property.	1	Proposed in restoration plan
Attendee Commented: Wildlife may benefit from non-native vegetation.	1	
Attendee Asked: Plan refers to "desirable non-native fish & wildlife" ... what are those?	1	Gambusia might be an example.
Attendee asked: How might the use or management of non-native species affect funding (like OWEB)?	1	
Attendee commented: With regard to riparian planting—one approach might be to take "hands-off" approach and let the vegetation take off on its own (instead of planting).	1	We are proposing to reduce planting across the area to address funding issues.
Attendee commented: Restoration Plan is moving forward before it has been established what you need to be managing for ("putting Cart before the horse." )	1	
Attendee commented: Coquille Tribe Sub-basin Plan didn't consider flood plain.	1	
Attendee commented: Implementation Approach – be sure to include pre-project monitoring – include water quality monitoring (pg. 19).	1	Pre-project monitoring is ongoing
Attendee commented: Vision Statement: suggest adding that it's a lake in winter... "Subject to winter flooding."	1	
Attendee commented: Tidal interchange from CVWA will inject nutrients into the river system that will benefit juvenile fish.	1	
Attendee commented: Might also inject "hot water" into river system... will need to monitor.	1	



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Attendee asked that if there were major public concerns with the plan, if the plan could be referred back to the stakeholders.	1	ODFW staff noted that if the stakeholders requested it, we were sure we could do that.
Attendee noted reading about mosquitos in San Francisco, and that those types of mosquitos thrive on the movement of tide.	1	Staff described the input from mosquito experts at an on-site meeting the previous week. They noted the benefits of muted tidal regulators in setting fixed tides, which should limit this type of mosquito production.
Attendee commented they need to compare fish and wildlife production on both tracts. Add monitoring and comparison between Winter Lake and Beaver Slough.	1	Baseline monitoring is ongoing, and post project monitoring is planned
Attendee asked: Are we monitoring on units 1 or 3? This would be a better way to compare. Side by side as opposed to a timeline.	1	Need permission from private landowners to conduct monitoring
Attendee noted: It would be best to compare Beaver Slough and Winter Lake. This would allow comparison of restoration without tide gates vs. restoration with muted tidal regulators.	1	Baseline monitoring is ongoing, and post project monitoring is planned
Attendee noted that we need to use hoop traps above and below highway 42 on Beaver Slough. Cunningham Creek would be a good comparison to China Camp Creek. Also discussed issues with water quality on Cunningham Creek. Fall freshets make the creek habitable, and coho juveniles are looking for rearing habitat.	1	
Attendee stated: One could just look at the plan, and adjust after five years. Don't get forced into revising the plan for small things. At this point, the plan notes that this is a five year plan.	1	
Attendee noted: Monitoring is critical, particularly pre-project monitoring.	1	
Attendee asked for a copy of the 2006 Conservation Strategy, and asked when the strategy would be revised.	1	brought them to the next meeting, the staff was unsure when it would be revised. Revisions occurred in 2015.

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Attendee asked for copies of all ORS's referenced in this section	1	will bring them to the next meeting or provide them via email.
Attendee stated that this plan refers to the Coho Conservation Plan, and he wanted to know the purpose of that reference then noted that the quoted plan states that stream complexity is a primary limiting factor, and that water quality is a secondary limiting factor. the attendee also mentioned that the plan quotes Nickelson 2012. The attendee stated that Nickelson's numbers are erroneous. He conducted the analysis as if the restored area was non-flooded upland.	1	
Attendee stated: Make sure you do not destroy what you already have. You already have great duck habitat. Don't play god on species habitat.	1	
Attendee noted some issues on other wildlife areas, particularly federal areas. Don't rely primarily on native plants. Just use what benefits wildlife. Keep the option open for non-native plants.	1	
Attendee said that he was not excited about the term "desirable non-native fish and wildlife". There was extensive discussion of this.	1	There was extensive discussion of this, and statements that ODFW was not supportive of black bass in the system. In fact, they removed all bag limits for bass in the Coquille basin.
Attendee mentioned cinquefoil is a plant utilize by waterfowl for food. There was discussion about using birdsfoot trefoil as a forage species on CVWA	1	
Attendee noted that Birdsfoot Trefoil may be listed as an invasive	1	
Attendee stated that vegetation will most likely end up being canarygrass or bentgrass, since they are already established.	1	
Attendee noted that Appendix 2 lists benefits of the project to ducks. He does not agree.	1	noted that there should be benefits, and referred to the recent nearly year-round survey results, and duck use in woody habitat.

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Attendee noted that he had heard that grazing provides the best forage for ducks. Short, green grass. He proposed a variety of elevations within the project to allow opportunity for design to provide diverse habitat.	1	Proposed in restoration plan
Attendee noted potential conflict in the future regarding vegetation. The management plan proposes to maximize use of the area by desirable species. If we want to ask OWEB for funds, we may have a problem, because they have a native plant policy. OWEB could have a problem with planting non-native plants. He suggested we could go with the OWEB route, and see what happens with a relatively hands-off approach to vegetation. See if this approach works, or we need active management.	1	
Attendee commented: Regarding vegetation, simply look at the ponds by Sturtevant Park and Cunningham Creek. Willows came in on their own and choked out the Canarygrass. We may want to set aside a portion of the project area to just respond naturally.	1	
Attendee commented: If restoration is planned correctly, one should be able to catch cutthroat trout through June, and catfish in summer. We should leave some open pastureland for ducks.	1	
Attendee commented: Please provide a definition of desirable non-native species. Be careful, because you seem to be putting the cart before the horse. OWEB funds are driving the proposed restoration. There are obvious holes in the management plan. We are too far along. Other forces are driving this process. Look at all the alternatives regarding potential restoration. Do not let actions be forced by external powers that be.	1	

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Attendee asked: Waterfowl diversity and abundance is thought to have declined according to the plan. Is that because of agriculture?	1	responded that at this point, there is a large amount of a specific habitat type. Habitat diversity would be beneficial to waterfowl.
Attendee noted that the original Coquille Basin Plan (Coquille Tribe) did not include the lower river. He stated that they did not include the floodplains, so did not think the plan was very applicable.	1	
Attendee noted that he was on the technical advisory team for the Coquille Basin Plan, and it did have a lower mainstem portion.	1	
Attendee commented that the first listing of coho did not include any critical habitat below the forks.	1	
Attendee recommended: In the vision statement or elsewhere, address the pumping of food from the project into the river, which will enhance coho growth in the river (In Purpose and Need?)	1	Has not been addressed
Attendee shared concern over public access map. There is no public access right now, but the map shows access to Waterman property. They have had people on the property, with a chain cut and signs pulled down. Wants a notice of no public access.	1	
Attendee commented: make sure map does not indicate access through neighbors	1	Posted maps note only one access point off North Bank Lane
Attendee would like to remove term "desirable non-native fish" from the "Descriptive Environment" section	1	Done
Attendee commented: make stronger case for waterfowl benefits	1	
Attendee commented: review Nickelson report to make sure ODFW is using the information correctly	1	
Attendee asked: are you going to evaluate two areas against each other?	1	Monitoring on both areas
Attendee noted to prioritize control of invasive species, especially ones that could effect neighbors	1	Invasive species control is included in the plan

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Attendee noted to look at Beaver Slough as a blueprint for restoration	1	
Attendee commented: define "wetlands" in the spirit of this project	1	
Attendee commented that Beaver Slough is not good duck habitat.	1	
Attendee commented to incorporate educational opportunities	1	Included in the plan
Attendee stated that as the water warms, the invertebrate community changes and it would be a good opportunity for students to help with monitoring	1	
Attendee noted to monitor channel changes over time - aggradation	1	
Attendee asked: If there are issues with trespassing, at what point are you going to do something? Hunter thefts are already occurring. Also, if there are repeat offenders, can you pull their privileges to hunt?	1	
Attendee noted to include grazing and mowing as tools	1	Included in the plan
Attendee noted for infrastructure failure, there needs to be a "failure plan"	1	Drainage District is responsible to deal with major dike failures
Attendee said they need clarity about who is responsible for infrastructure	1	Stakeholder Team Member from Beaver Slough Drainage District answered that DD is responsible for the infrastructure
Attendee asked: If restoration activities affect livestock on adjacent properties, what do neighbors do?	1	ODFW said that they will add monitoring for other wildlife to the plan, or at least have that conversation.
Attendee stated that coyote activity has affected their livestock in the past	1	
Attendee asked: Is the money from the logging at Eel Lake coming to the wildlife area?	1	Yes
Attendee recommends a trash service, or otherwise you'll get people dumping trash	1	
Attendee asked: Any boat/motor restrictions? Will there be a boat launch? recommends no motors.	1	Boat motors are restricted by rule

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General concern over potential adverse impacts to neighbors. Need to specify how those will be avoided, including trespass, dogs, beaver, nutria, muskrat, water levels, predators, mosquitos, salinity. Wants specifics listed in plan for how all will be dealt with. Included request for specific related goals and objectives.	3	
Concern over use of funds when ODFW is under financial strain	2	
Asked for definitive water distribution and control plan	2	
Concern that public land was obtained without public access agreements in place	2	
Asked for no trespassing signs between CVWA and private property		
Asked for more control and influence by ODFW over our project partners. Include as specific goal and objectives	2	
Include qualified hydrologist in restoration plan design	1	Done
Would like to see the associated dike and tidegate restoration project not cost landowners financially		
Concern over proposed water management plan for units outside ODFW property as proposed by Beaver Slough Drainage District		
Requested specific goals, objectives, strategies and tasks spelling out wildlife management, fencing, predator control, water management.		