

**Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board  
Wetlands Conservation**

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The Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board is requesting permission to apply for a grant from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grant Program. This program is limited to state applicants and requires a 25% match. The Ecola Creek Wetlands Protection and Restoration Project, submitted on behalf of the City of Cannon Beach, would acquire 29 acres of estuarine and coastal wetlands adjacent to the existing Ecola Creek Forest Reserve, which the city already owns. The proposed acquisition will allow the City of Cannon Beach to consolidate management of the lands while providing permanent protection to 28 acres of wetlands. The city plans to improve fish passage and hydrologic connection in the lower Ecola and Waterhouse Creeks if the property is acquired.

The grant is for \$161,681 and requires a minimum 25% match. The local sponsors will be requesting OWEB funding for the remaining \$94,095 of project costs. This is a competitive grant and applications are due June 24, 2015.

Your Natural Resources Subcommittee recommends approval of the request.