

## **SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION**

### **Item 11: Department of Fish and Wildlife Acquisition of Coquille Tidal Wetlands**

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To: Ways and Means Full Committee  
From: Natural Resources Subcommittee  
Carrier: Senator Frederick

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The Natural Resources Subcommittee recommends that the Joint Interim Committee on Ways and Means approve the submission of a federal grant application to the National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration in the amount of \$2.1 million to acquire 528 acres of tidal wetlands for incorporation into the Coquille Valley Wildlife Area.

The Department of Fish and Wildlife would wholly own the land, and the acquisition would not negatively impact revenue collected for county property tax or the Coos Forest Protective Association.

The 528-acre parcel is located directly adjacent to the Coquille Valley Wildlife Area. The current landowner is working with The Nature Conservancy to find a buyer who will manage the parcel for fish, wildlife, and habitat conservation. The Nature Conservancy has agreed to contribute \$1.3 million toward purchasing the 528 acres if the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife buys the property for incorporation into the existing Wildlife Area.

The grant application is due by January 10th and no matching funds are required.

The Natural Resources Subcommittee recommends approval.