

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Item 35: Department of State Lands Climate Ready Coasts - Forest Lands

To: Emergency Board
From: General Government Subcommittee
Carrier: Representative Gomberg

The General Government Subcommittee heard a request from the Department of State Lands for approval to submit a federal grant application to transfer an 80-acre Common School Fund land parcel to the South Slough Reserve.

The 80-acre parcel of mature forest land is directly adjacent to the southeastern boundary of the South Slough Reserve. The Department of State Lands currently owns the land as an asset of the Common School Fund. Timber harvests have been halted on the 80-acre parcel due to sightings of the endangered marble murrelet, precluding revenue being generated from the parcel.

If the grant is awarded, the Department of State Lands will buy the land parcel, at fair market value, and reclassify the acreage as special stewardship lands for incorporation into the South Slough Reserve. The land would remain a real property asset of the Common School Fund and be managed as natural habitat for endangered species and habitat conservation.

The transaction has no impact on county property tax or harvest tax revenue. The grant application is due by January 9th and no matching funds are required.

The General Government Subcommittee recommends that the Emergency Board approve the submission of a federal grant application from the Department of State Lands to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, in the amount of \$950,000, to transfer an 80-acre Common School Fund land parcel to the South Slough Reserve.