COOS BAY ESTUARY MANAGEMENT PLAN (CBEMP) SURVEY

Dear Survey Participant,

The Partnership for Coastal Watersheds wants to know about your needs, concerns, and desires for the future management of the Coos Bay estuary. This survey is intended to give you an opportunity to provide feedback on preliminary recommendations developed by local stakeholders (via focus groups) for the Coos County Board of Commissioners, City of Coos Bay and City of North Bend to consider when updating the Coos Bay Estuary Management Plan (CBEMP).

Oregon Statewide Planning Goals 16 and 17 include regulations that are required in an estuary management plan. Many of the recommendations that came from stakeholders aligned with the requirements of these Goals, and therefore have not been repeated in this survey. The recommendations in this survey go beyond basic requirements and we would like to know if you think these recommendations should be included in a CBEMP update.

Your responses will help to determine if the greater community agrees or disagrees with the proposed recommendations. Please include additional comments on page 4 of the survey as all information will be included in a final report.

Background information and a glossary of terms are included at the end.

*Download the survey **first**, then fill out and email to Jenni.Schmitt@state.or.us, or mail to: Coos Planning Dept., ATTN: PCW, 250 N. Baxter St., Coquille, OR 97423*

Thank you for your interest in helping the planning efforts for an updated CBEMP!

Knowledge of the Coos Bay Estuary Management Plan				
I have experience using the CBEMP	**Considerable Amount**	**Moderate Amount**	**Minimal Amount**	**None**
Select one	☐	☐	☐	☐
I've used the CBEMP through this/these jurisdictions	**Coos County**	**City of Coos Bay**	**City of North Bend**	
Select all that apply *(Skip if you have no CBEMP experience)*	☐	☐	☐	
I think the CBEMP needs to be updated.	**Yes**	**No**	**Don't Know**	
Select one (Skip if you have no CBEMP experience)	☐	☐	☐	
My experience using the document was fine.	**Agree**	**Neutral**	**Disagree**	
Select one (Skip if you have no CBEMP experience)	☐	☐	☐	

To help ensure we get a balanced response to this survey, we'd like to know something about you.

Please check the box next to the community interest category that most closely relates to your personal or professional interests. *Provide additional information on your interests in the comments space on page 4.*

☐ Economic Development— such as business (large and small), market forces, production (goods, services), consumption, wealth transfer, scarcity and material prosperity, and industry.

☐ Natural Resource Protection— such as ecosystem services, conservation, responsible extraction, depletion prevention, restoration, shoreland/estuarine processes, and renewability.

☐ Socio-Cultural Matters— such as human behaviors, customs, lifestyles, recreation, identity, history, education, social organizations, culture, attitudes, family, social roles, and traditions.

Please tell us how important the following statements are to include in an updated Coos Bay Estuary Management Plan (CBEMP).				
Natural Hazards that should be included:	**Agree**	**Neutral**	**Disagree**	**Don't Know**
A. Planning should include resilience plans and post-catastrophic disaster recovery plans.	☐	☐	☐	☐
B. Natural hazards should be considered when protecting, restoring, and creating wetland biological habitats that are dependent upon an adjacent water body, plus other coastal shorelands and adjacent aquatic areas of biological importance	☐	☐	☐	☐
C. Natural hazards should be taken into consideration when planning waterfront development and wetland restoration.	☐	☐	☐	☐
D. Sea level rise should be taken into consideration when planning waterfront development and wetland restoration.	☐	☐	☐	☐

Wetland Uses that should be included:	**Agree**	**Neutral**	**Disagree**	**Don't Know**
A. Wetland protection processes including criteria should be consistent through the local jurisdictions (i.e., county and cities).	☐	☐	☐	☐
B. Update or clarify tiered approach for protecting wetlands: 1. Avoidance of creating wetland impacts 2. Minimize impacts if they cannot be avoided 3. Mitigate for impacts if they cannot be avoided or minimized.	☐	☐	☐	☐
C. When possible consider "like for like" mitigation as close to the development/redevelopment site as possible (without conflicting with Department of State Lands requirements).	☐	☐	☐	☐
D. The County should amend all inventories to include the most updated data available for habitat protection including wetlands.	☐	☐	☐	☐

Document Narrative should include the following:	**Agree**	**Neutral**	**Disagree**	**Don't Know**
A. The importance of the estuary including locations of natural resources, economic areas of importance and socio-cultural perspectives.	☐	☐	☐	☐
B. An environmental impact section that discusses the history of natural resources in the estuary.	☐	☐	☐	☐
C. A description of the current health of the estuary and its role in the health of the local economy.	☐	☐	☐	☐
D. Add the term "cultural" to the list of defined terms (recreation, industrial, commercial, etc.) identified in the CBEMP.	☐	☐	☐	☐

Please tell us how important the following statements are to include in an updated CBEMP				
Other Land Use Requirements that should be included in the update:	**Agree**	**Neutral**	**Disagree**	**Don't Know**
A. Make research an allowed use throughout all aquatic and shoreland management units.	☐	☐	☐	☐
B. Allow non-dependent, non-related, and temporary uses that allow flexibility for future uses.	☐	☐	☐	☐
C. Amend relevant land use codes and ordinances to incorporate native vegetation and plantings when practical (if not already addressed).	☐	☐	☐	☐
D. Encourage the maintenance or rehabilitation of existing derelict infrastructure when it serves as placeholder for replacement or has habitat significance. Otherwise promote removal.	☐	☐	☐	☐
E. Incorporate flexible development options such as variances to development standards to promote education related to the estuary, open space, trails, emergency/research/recreational access points, education for historical/archaeological sites, and low-impact development/green infrastructure methods.	☐	☐	☐	☐
F. Use Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) storm water standards to develop low-impact development/green infrastructure land use requirements to compliment but not overlap DEQ storm water processes.	☐	☐	☐	☐
G. The plan should include or update cumulative and historical impacts to the estuary.	☐	☐	☐	☐

Document Goals and Priorities should include the following:	**Agree**	**Neutral**	**Disagree**	**Don't Know**
A. Encourage education regarding the value of protecting the estuary for sustenance and food resources including historical and future availability.	☐	☐	☐	☐
B. List of benefits to provide historical information of a place and a strategy to include historical information in development plans.	☐	☐	☐	☐
C. Wetland restoration and mitigation to include education/outreach and historical background (e.g., maps, and interpretive signage).	☐	☐	☐	☐
D. Support public/private/tribal partnerships as a way of promoting interpretive signage, and enhancements such as improved access.	☐	☐	☐	☐
E. Protect natural resources and conserve scenic, archaeological, historic, and open space resources for past, present and future generations, to promote a healthy environment and enhance community livability.	☐	☐	☐	☐
F. Use the best available scientific data shall be used in updates and when explaining why certain regulations apply.	☐	☐	☐	☐
G. Emphasize the health of the estuary and local economy are inter-related.	☐	☐	☐	☐
H. Develop funding mechanisms to support regular updates.	☐	☐	☐	☐
I. Allow flexibility in the plan to submit current data sources to be used if they are more up to date than the inventories.	☐	☐	☐	☐
J. Delineate mitigation/restoration areas to help developers mitigate and to encourage retention of local credits to promote economic development.	☐	☐	☐	☐

Please Provide Additional Comments Here:

Thank you again for your assistance.

Background Information:

Why should we encourage an update to the CBEMP?

The CBEMP has only been minimally updated since it was adopted in 1985 and has become increasingly difficult for everyone to work with. Since the plan was created in response to conditions that existed in the late 1970's and early 1980's, and the economics and demographics of the many communities along the Coos estuary have changed since then, many aspects of the CBEMP have become outdated. For example, ownerships and land uses that once served only timber and fishing industries have changed to include non-industrial purposes such as tourism. Meanwhile, environmental and resource conservation practices have evolved, and permitting processes have become more complex.

Where do the preliminary recommendations come from?

Through a series of workshops, the Coos County Planning Department in collaboration with the Partnership for Coastal Watersheds (PCW- see below) has collected and evaluated local stakeholder suggestions for key CBEMP refinements based on a balance of their needs and those of the estuary and its surrounding communities. Following the workshops, recommendations were developed based on stakeholder suggestions. These suggestions benefitted from several newly compiled and summarized information sources: 1) The Communities, Lands & Waterways: Data Source or "Data Source," a status and trends report assessing environmental and socio-economic conditions in the Coos estuary; and 2) the Coos Estuary Map Atlas, a series of maps and tables of the CBEMP area. Both resources reveal current and potential development and conservation areas within the boundaries of the CBEMP and truly reflect current and likely future conditions in the estuary that can be easily accessed on-line.

What is the Partnership for Coastal Watersheds (PCW)?

The PCW is a local group of civic-minded community members representing county and city planners, natural resource managers, and business, development, and conservation interests. Since 2012, the PCW has developed multiple projects using a collaborative process and insightful discussion, involving a broad cross-section of community stakeholders. In 2016, the PCW received a $246,000 grant from the National Estuarine Research Reserve System Science Collaborative to help Coos County develop the technical information and community feedback it needs as it considers updating its CBEMP. The *Coos Estuary Land Use Analysis Project*, is administered by the South Slough National Estuarine Research Reserve and implemented in partnership with Coos County and the PCW. The PCW will complete this Project in fall 2018, with a report presented to the Coos County Board of Commissioners along will all the public input. For more information on the PCW and its projects visit: www.partnershipforcoastalwatersheds.org or contact Jenni Schmitt (Jenni.Schmitt@state.or.us; (541) 888-8270 x312)

GLOSSARY

ACCESS: Physical contact with or use of the water;

COASTAL SHORELAND: Those areas immediately by oceans, and land next to estuaries.

COASTAL WATERS: Territorial ocean waters of the continental shelf; estuaries; and coastal lakes.

CRITERIA: A standard on which a judgment or decision may be based

CUMULATIVE IMPACTS: Cumulative impacts are those that result from past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions, combined with the potential impacts of the project.

DEVELOP: To bring about growth or availability; to construct or alter a structure, to conduct a mining operation, to make a physical change in the use or appearance of land, to divide land into parcels, or to create or terminate rights to access.

ECOSYSTEM: The living and nonliving components of the environment which interact or function together, including plant and animal organisms, the physical environment, and the energy systems in which they exist. All the components of an ecosystem are inter-related.

ENCOURAGE: Stimulate; give help to; foster.

ESTUARY: A body of water semi-enclosed by land, connected with the open ocean, and within which salt water is usually diluted by freshwater derived from land. The estuary includes: (1) estuarine water; (2) tidelands; (3) tidal marshes; and (4) submerged lands. Estuaries normally extend upstream to the head of tidewater.

FLEXIBLE DEVELOPMENT: capable of being flexed with regards to density, setbacks or other siting standards to accommodate a use, development or activity.

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE: When nature is used as an infrastructural system it is called “green infrastructure”. The main components of this approach include stormwater management, climate adaptation, less heat stress, more biodiversity, food production, better air quality, sustainable energy production, clean water and healthy soils, as well as the more anthropocentric functions such as increased quality of life through recreation and providing shade and shelter in and around towns and cities. This approach can be used to provide important services for communities such as protecting them against flooding or excessive heat, or helping to improve air, soil and water quality.

HABITAT: The place or site where a plant or animal naturally lives and grows.

HISTORIC: Of, relating to, or having the character of history.

INVENTORIES: Inventories include maps and data in which all decisions are based on. The maps include all resources designated for protections (habitats, natural hazards, historical/archeological, etc.).

LIKE-FOR-LIKE MITIGATION: Mitigating in areas with highly comparable biodiversity components as those affected by a project, including species diversity, functional diversity and composition, ecological integrity or condition, landscape context (e.g., connectivity, adjacent land uses, patch size, etc), and ecosystem services (including people’s us and cultural values).

LOCAL JURISDICTION: in this document refers to the Coos County, Coos Bay and North Bend. These are jurisdictions that have jurisdictional authority over land use in Coos Bay Estuary.

LOW-IMPACT DEVELOPMENT (LID): A type of green infrastructure, Low-Impact Development is a management approach that uses land planning and engineered designs that emphasize natural features to address stormwater management.

MANAGEMENT UNIT: A discrete geographic area, defined by biophysical characteristics and features, within which particular uses and activities are promoted, encouraged protected, or enhanced, and others are discouraged, restricted, or prohibited. Management units are delineated on the Plan map, and provide a framework for policy decisions embodied in Volume II, Part 1, Section 5.2 of the Coos Bay Estuary Management Plan.

Aquatic Management Units include: Natural Aquatic Areas; Conservation Aquatic; Development Aquatic

Shoreland Management Units include: Natural Shoreland Areas; Conservation Shoreland Areas; Rural Shoreland Areas; Urban Development Areas; Urban Water-dependent Areas; Development Shorelands; Water-Dependent Development Shorelands

MITIGATION: The creation, restoring, or enhancing of an estuarine area to maintain the functional characteristics and processes of the estuary, such as its natural biological productivity, habitats, and species diversity, unique features and water quality (ORS 196.830.

NATURAL HAZARD: Natural occurring physical phenomena including: floods, landslides, earthquakes, tsunamis, coastal erosion, and wildfires.

OPEN SPACE: An open or enclosed lot parcel or tract of land set apart and devoted for the purposes of pleasure, recreation, ornamentation, or light and air.

ORDINANCE: A document containing zoning regulations set out to implement the comprehensive plan.

OREGON ESTUARY CLASSIFICATION: To assure diversity among the estuaries of the State, by June 15, 1977, LCDC with the cooperation and participation of local governments, special districts, and state and federal agencies shall classify the Oregon estuaries to specify the most intensive level of development or alteration which may be allowed to occur within each estuary. After completion for all estuaries of the inventories and initial planning efforts, including identification of needs and potential conflicts among needs and goals and upon request of any coastal jurisdiction, the Commission will review the overall Oregon Estuary Classification.

OREGON STATEWIDE PLANNING GOALS: Oregon’s state land use policies, expressed as a set of 19 goals.

> Goal 16: Estuarine Resources - To recognize and protect the unique environmental, economic, and social values of each estuary and associated wetlands; and To protect, maintain, where appropriate develop, and where appropriate restore the long-term environmental, economic, and social values, diversity and benefits of Oregon's estuaries.
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> Goal 17: Coastal Shorelands - To conserve, protect, where appropriate, develop and where appropriate restore the resources and benefits of all coastal shorelands, recognizing their value for protection and maintenance of water quality, fish and wildlife habitat, water-dependent uses, economic resources and recreation and aesthetics. The management of these shoreland areas shall be compatible with the characteristics of the adjacent coastal waters; and To reduce the hazard to human life and property, and the adverse effects upon water quality and fish and wildlife habitat, resulting from the use and enjoyment of Oregon’s coastal shorelands.

POST-CATESTROPHIC DISASTER RECOVERY PLANS: A documented process of actions for communities to take to prepare for, respond to, and recover from a disaster.

RECREATION: Any experience voluntarily engaged in largely during leisure (discretionary time) from which the individual derives satisfaction:

RESEARCH AND EDUCATIONAL OBSERVATION: Activities such as sampling of water and vegetation, surveying, inventorying, trapping or taking of fish, birds or other animals for the purposes of scientific research or education.

RESILIENCY PLANS: Often called climate change planning, this is a document that guides communities as they adapt to changing conditions (e.g., sea level rise).

SEA LEVEL RISE (SLR): An increase in global average sea level due to an increase in volume of water in the oceans. Sea level rise rates vary across locations from tides, tectonics, land subsidence, storms etc.

SHORELANDS: Areas located between the Coastal Shoreland Boundary and the line of non- aquatic vegetation fringing the Coos Bay Estuary

VARIANCES: A device which may grant a property owner relief from certain provisions of the Ordinance when because of the particular physical surroundings, shape or topographical conditions of the property, compliance would result in a particular hardship upon the owner, as distinguished from a mere inconvenience.

WATER-DEPENDENT: A use or activity which can be carried out only on, in, or adjacent to water areas because the use requires access to the water body for water-borne transportation, recreation, energy production, or source of water. The following definitions also apply:

- ACCESS: means physical contact with or use of the water;
- ENERGY PRODUCTION: means uses which need quantities of water to produce energy directly (e.g., hydroelectric facilities, ocean thermal energy conversion);
- RECREATIONAL: e.g., recreational marinas, boat ramps and support;
- REQUIRE: means the use either by its intrinsic nature (e.g., fishing, navigation, boat moorage) or at the current level of technology cannot exist without water access;
- SOURCE OF WATER: means facilities for the appropriation of quantities of water for cooling processing or other integral functions;
- WATER-BORNE TRANSPORTATION: means uses of water access:
  - which are themselves transportation (e.g., navigation);
  - which require the receipt of shipment of goods by water; or
  - which are necessary to support water-borne transportation (e.g., access: means physical contact with or use of the water;

Typical examples of water-dependent uses include the following:

- AQUACULTURE;
- CERTAIN SCIENTIFIC AND EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES which, by their nature, require access to coastal waters: estuarine research activities and equipment mooring and support;
- COMMERCIAL: e.g., commercial fishing marinas and support; fish processing and sales; boat sales, rentals, and supplies;
- INDUSTRIAL: e.g., manufacturing to include boat building and repair; waterborne transportation, terminals, and support; energy production which needs quantities of water to produce energy directly; water intake structures for facilities needing quantities of water for cooling, processing, or other integral functions.
- RECREATION: means water access for fishing, swimming, boating, etc. Recreational uses are water-dependent only if use of the water is an integral part of the activity;

Examples of uses that are not “water dependent uses” include restaurants, hotels, motels, bed and breakfasts, residences, parking lots not associated with water-dependent uses, and boardwalk.

WATER-RELATED: Uses which are not directly dependent upon access to a water body, but which provide goods or services that are directly associated with water-dependent land or waterway use, and which, if not located adjacent to water, would result in a public loss of quality in the goods or services offered. Except as necessary for water-dependent or water-related uses or facilities, residencies, parking lots, spoil and dump sites, roads and highways, restaurants, businesses, factories, and trailer parks are not generally considered dependent on or related to water location needs.

WETLANDS: Areas that are inundated or saturated by surface water or ground water at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and that under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated conditions. Wetlands generally include swamps, marshes, bogs and similar areas.