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## MEMORANDUM

**Date:** September 29, 2015

**To:** Suzanne Savin, Senior Planner, Long Range Planning  
Washington County Dept. of Land Use & Transportation

**From:** John van Staveren  
Tina Farrelly

**Re:** Significant Wildlife Habitat – Safe Harbor Method  
Bonny Slope West Expansion Area

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As part of the natural resource inventory for the Bonny Slope West expansion area, Pacific Habitat Services (PHS) has inventoried wildlife habitat, which if determined to be significant is a Statewide Planning Goal 5 resource. The wildlife habitat assessment was conducted using the Safe Harbor method. This memorandum briefly describes the results of our evaluation.

First, two definitions - "wildlife habitat" is defined as an area upon which wildlife depend in order to meet their requirements for food, water, shelter, and reproduction. "Documented" means that an area is shown on a map published or issued by a state or federal agency or by a professional with demonstrated expertise in habitat identification.

Goal 5 has a safe harbor provision allowing jurisdictions to assess whether wildlife habitat is significant and, therefore a Goal 5 resource. The significance criteria are as follows:

*(4) Local governments may determine wildlife habitat significance under OAR 660-23-040, or apply the safe harbor criteria in this section. Under the safe harbor, local governments may determine that "wildlife" does not include fish, and that significant wildlife habitat is only those sites where one or more of the following conditions exist:*

- (a) The habitat has been documented to perform a life support function for a wildlife species listed by the federal government as a threatened or endangered species, or by the state of Oregon as threatened, endangered, or sensitive species;*
- (b) The habitat has documented occurrences of more than incidental use by a species described in subsection (a) of this section;*
- (c) The habitat has been documented as a sensitive bird nesting, roosting, or watering resource site for osprey or great blue herons pursuant to OAR 527.710 (Oregon Forest Practices Act) and OAR 629-24-700 (Forest Practices Rules);*
- (d) The habitat has been documented to be essential to achieving policies or population objectives specified in a wildlife species management plan adopted by the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission pursuant to ORS Chapter 496;*

(e) The area is identified and mapped by ODFW as habitat for a wildlife species of concern and/or as habitat of concern (e.g. big game winter range and migration corridors, golden eagle and prairie falcon nest sites, or pigeon springs).

To determine whether species matching the criteria are found in the Bonny Slope West expansion area, PHS obtained records from the Oregon Biodiversity Information Center (ORBIC). The records requested were for all known sightings of sensitive, threatened, or endangered species within and two miles from all properties within Township 1 North, Range 1 West, Section 22. PHS obtained a similar list from the US Fish and Wildlife Service<sup>1</sup> and Oregon Department of Agriculture<sup>2</sup> for species known to occur anywhere in Multnomah and Washington Counties. A complete list of species is included in the table below.

**Table 1. Sensitive and listed species found within and two miles of the Bonny Slope West expansion area and within Multnomah and Washington Counties.**

Common Name	Scientific Name	Federal Status*	State Status*
<b>ANIMALS</b>			
Red tree vole	<i>Arborimus longicaudus</i>	C	None
Marbled murrelet	<i>Brachyramphus marmoratus</i>	LT/CH	LT
Yellow-billed cuckoo	<i>Coccyzus americanus</i>	LT	None
Streak horned lark	<i>Eremophila alpestris strigata</i>	LT	None
American peregrine falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus anatum</i>	None	SV
Columbian white-tailed deer	<i>Odocoileus virginianus leucurus</i>	LE/CH	None
Northern spotted owl	<i>Strix occidentalis caurina</i>	LT/CH	LT
<b>FISH</b>			
Green sturgeon	<i>Acipenser medirostris</i>	SOC	None
Coho salmon	<i>Oncorhynchus kisutch</i> pop. 1 Lower Columbia River ESU	LT	LE
Steelhead	<i>Oncorhynchus mykiss</i> pop. 27 Lower Columbia River ESU	LT	SC
Steelhead	<i>Oncorhynchus mykiss</i> pop. 33 Upper Willamette River ESU, winter run	LT	SV
Chinook salmon	<i>Oncorhynchus tshawytscha</i> pop. 21 Lower Columbia River ESU, spring run	LT	SC
Chinook salmon	<i>Oncorhynchus tshawytscha</i> pop. 22 Lower Columbia River ESU, fall run	LT	SC
Chinook salmon	<i>Oncorhynchus tshawytscha</i> pop. 23 Upper Willamette River ESU, spring run	LT	SC
Bull Trout	<i>Salvelinus</i>	LT/PCH	None

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.fws.gov/endangered/>

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.oregon.gov/ODA/programs/PlantConservation/Pages/ListedPlants.aspx>

Common Name	Scientific Name	Federal Status*	State Status*
<b>OTHER VERTEBRATES</b>			
Painted turtle	<i>Chrysemys picta</i>	None	SC
Northern red-legged frog	<i>Rana aurora</i>	SOC	SV
Fender's blue butterfly	<i>Plebejus icariodes fenderi</i>	LE/CH	None
<b>PLANTS</b>			
Northern wormwood	<i>Artemisia campestris var. wormskioldii</i>	None	LE
Golden paintbrush	<i>Castilleja levisecta</i>	None	LE
White rock larkspur	<i>Delphinium leucophaeum</i>	None	LE
Peacock larkspur	<i>Delphinium pavonaceum</i>	None	LE
Willamette Valley daisy	<i>Erigeron decumbens var. decumbens</i>	LE/CH	LE
Howellia	<i>Howellia aquatilis</i>	None	LT
Kincaid's lupine	<i>Lupinus sulphureus ssp. kincaidii</i>	LT/Ch	LT
White-topped aster	<i>Sercocarpus rigidus</i>	None	LT
Nelson's checkermallow	<i>Sidalcea nelsoniana</i>	LT/CH	LT

Source: ORNHIC 2009, USFWS 2009, and StreamNet 2009.

\*Key to Federal and State Status Designations:

LE	Listed Endangered	C	Candidate for Listing
LT	Listed Threatened	SOC	Species of Concern
CH	Critical Habitat has been designated for this species	SC	Sensitive-Critical
SV	Sensitive vulnerable	PCH	Potential Critical Habitat

According to our research and field investigation, none of the sensitive or listed species documented within two miles or listed in Multnomah and Washington Counties is likely to occur beyond incidental use within the Bonny Slope West expansion area. Under the safe harbor approach, jurisdictions do not need to consider fish as wildlife; however, fish habitat was addressed as part of the riparian corridor designation process. **Based on our review of the safe harbor criteria, there is no wildlife habitat in the Bonny Slope West expansion area that should be designated as "significant" wildlife habitat.**