

Review of Rural Comprehensive Plan – General Plan Policies – Goal Sixteen

Goal Sixteen: Estuarine Resources

Natural

1. Log storage on existing sites should continue subject to the requirements of state and federal regulations. Log storage in the waters of the Siuslaw has been the practice of wood processing firms for many years. Storage and handling of logs by use of water is an integral part of the present facilities' manufacturing processes and is therefore water dependent. However, due to impacts of log storage in intertidal areas, Lane County recommends against expansion of existing sites or creation of new storage sites in the Natural MU.
2. Low-intensity grazing on high salt marshes is consistent within the capacity of the marsh to accommodate such use and retain significant natural characteristics.
3. Commercial clamming and fishing shall only be allowed to the extent that the productivity of the resource is not endangered. The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife shall be the proper consulting agency in this regard.
4. Riprap to protect structures existing prior to October 7, 1977, to protect unique natural resources, historical and archaeological values and public facilities such as bridge support structures, shall be allowed provided other protection measures less harmful to the estuary have been considered and found by the County not to be feasible. Short-term fills for temporary alterations are permissible, provided such alterations satisfy Goal 16 and Lane Code standards concerning such activities, and provided the estuarine areas impacted can be restored following removal of the fill.
5. Provided they comply with Goal 16 and Lane Code 16 provisions concerning the protection of the resource capabilities of the areas in which they are to be located, uses involving the maintenance and/or installation of the public facilities (bridge crossing, tidegates, temporary alterations and other similar uses identified in the Goal) are appropriate within this Management Unit.
6. Temporary alterations are permitted in the Management Unit only to allow minor and reversible alterations to areas and resources that Goal 16 otherwise requires to be preserved or conserved. This exemption is limited to alterations in support of uses permitted by the Goal; it is not intended to allow uses which are not otherwise permitted by the Goal. A resource capabilities test shall be applied to temporary alteration proposals to ensure:
 - a. That the short-term damage to resources is consistent with resource capabilities of the area; and
 - b. That the area and affected resources can be restored to their original condition.

Conservation

1. Log storage on existing sites is subject to the requirements of state and federal regulations. Log storage in the waters of the Siuslaw has been the practice of wood processing facilities for many years. Storage and handling of logs by use of water is an integral part of the present facilities' manufacturing processes and are therefore water dependent.

Expanded or new log storage leases shall be allowed only if:

- a. It is determined that the storage is water dependent;
 - b. A public need is demonstrated;
 - c. No alternative upland locations are feasible;
 - d. Adverse impacts are minimized as much as feasible;
 - e. The storage meets all applicable state and federal regulations;
 - f. The storage does not pre-empt long-established recreational use to the site; and
 - g. The logs will not ground at low water.
2. Single-family, single-purpose piers are discouraged in favor of public, multiple-purpose or commercial piers. Mooring buoys, floating piers, launching ramps and dry-land storage are potential alternatives.
 3. Filling, dredging and other activities which degrade natural estuarine values will be allowed only:
 - a. If required for navigation or other water-dependent uses that require an estuarine location or if specifically allowed by the applicable management unit requirements of this goal; and
 - b. If a need (i.e., a substantial public benefit) is demonstrated and the use or alteration does not unreasonably interfere with public trust rights; and
 - c. If no alternative upland locations exist; and
 - d. If adverse impacts are minimized.
 - e. If in compliance with mitigation requirement of ORS 541.605 to 541.695 (Fill and Removal Law). [**renumbered ORS 196.800 – 196.905 (1989)**]
 4. Temporary alterations are permitted in this Management Unit only to allow minor and reversible alterations to areas and resources that Goal 16 otherwise requires to be preserved or conserved. This exemption is limited to alterations in support or uses permitted by the Goal; it is not intended to allow uses which are not otherwise permitted by the Goal. A resource capabilities test shall be applied to temporary alteration proposals to ensure:
 - a. That the short-term damage to resources is consistent with resource capabilities of the area; and
 - b. That the area and affected resources can be restored to their original conditions.

Development

1. New dredging projects, any project with requires filling of the estuary, or other degradation of natural biological values, shall be allow only:
 - a. if required for navigation or other water-dependent uses that require an estuarine location or if specifically allowed by the applicable management unit requirements of Goal 16; and
 - b. if a need (i.e., a substantial public benefit) is demonstrated and the use or alteration does not unreasonably interfere with public trust rights; and
 - c. if no feasible alternative upland locations exist; and
 - d. if adverse impacts are minimized.

- e. if in compliance with mitigation requirements of ORS 541.605 to 541.695.
[renumbered ORS 196.800 – 196.905 (1989)]
- 2. Dredge or fill activities, as otherwise approved, must be mitigated, if found to the subject to the mitigation requirement, by creation, restoration or enhancement 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.
- 3. Maintenance dredging of the navigation channel, as authorized in the Siuslaw River Dredge Material Disposal Plan, is automatically approved and need not go through an impact assessment for each individual project.
- 4. Proposals must consider and not be detrimental to natural characteristics of value in the adjacent estuary.
- 5. Flood and erosion control structures such as jetties, bulkheads and seawalls, shall meet the requirements of Policy #1 and shall be designed and situated to minimize:
 - a. erosion or man-induced sedimentation in adjacent areas, and
 - b. other adverse impacts on water currents, water quality, and fish and wildlife habitat.
- 6. Temporary alterations are permitted in this management unit only to allow minor and reversible alterations to areas and resources that Goal 16 otherwise requires to be preserved or conserved. This exemption is limited to alterations in support of uses permitted by the Goal; it is not intended to allow uses which are not otherwise permitted by the Goal. A resource capabilities test shall be applied to temporary alteration proposals to ensure:
 - a. That the short-term damage to resources is consistent with resource capabilities of the area; and
 - b. That the area and affected resources can be restored to their original condition.