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Sitka Sedge State Natural Area Master Plan Revision Log September 8, 2016

The following revisions were made in response to a second 30 day comment period for the Draft Master Plan: June 23 – July 28, 2016

Master Plan Revisions:

Intro:

- Cover Page: Date changed from June to August, cover graphic changed, date added to footer of all pages in plan
- Pg iii: Minor changes to OPRD position names and titles to reflect current staff positions

Chapter 2

- Pg 9 Language added to clarify SSSNA as part of estuary and acreage estimates of estuary habitats.
- Pg 11 Reference Added to Figure 2.1 showing Beltz Pond.
- Pg 13 Language describing roles of USFWS ODEQ and ODFW revised to reflect their roles more accurately
- Pg 15 Language edited to clarify the North Coast Land Conservancy property as freshwater wetland, not saltwater influenced.
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Chapter 3

- Pg 17' Habitats' Section changed to 'vegetative habitats' to clarify general content provided in summary paragraph.
- Pg 17-18: Language added to clarify human influence on estuary: "A manmade dike that extends across much of the estuary located on the property has muted saltwater influence inside the dike for several decades. "
- Pg 17-18 Language addressing general vegetative habitat quality added to better define restoration needs.
- Pg 18 Language changed to reflect that only southern portion of Sand Lake Estuary has been under assessment, not the entire estuary.
- Pg 18 Language modified to reflect ODFW's involvement in the hydrology assessment and conceptual restoration design. Intent of assessment clarified to "help inform decision-making regarding future actions to restore natural hydrology and meet fish passage requirements" as

opposed to “develop a comprehensive site assessment to improve fish passage in the south Sand Lake Estuary”.

- Pg 19 Redundant use of ‘conceptual’ removed
- Pg 19 Paragraph describing potential benefits of restoration removed, duplicative of section in Chapter 6 and better suited in analysis of opportunities and constraints found in that chapter.
- Pg 19 Language added to reflect entire scope of Botanical Resource Study: “Vegetation and habitat assessment for the Sitka Sedge State Natural Area property involved both 1) detailed survey of the existing vegetation as part of the standard natural resources background data assessment for use in the development of a Master Plan for the management of the property; and 2) statistical modeling of predicted future vegetation and habitat response to potential dike alterations for improvement of fish passage.”
- Pg 20 Redundant use of ‘various’ removed in regards to saltmarsh types. Types of saltmarsh differentiated.
- Pg 23-24 Language added to Saltmarsh and Developed/Disturbed section referencing historic condition
- Pg 24 Clarification made to language in Water/Mud describing beds of ditches
- Pg 24 Definition of ‘developable’ clarified in reference to Botanical Resource Value.
- Pg 25 In last sentence in paragraph under ‘Botanical Resource Management Recommendations’ refined to reduce redundancy
- Pg 25 References made in error to figure 8.4 have been changed to reference Figure 8.3
- Pg 26 -30 At risk species summaries added to wildlife assessment summary
- Pg 27 & 31 – Footnote added to Figures 3.2 & 3.3: “Portions of OPRD Property are designated critical habitat for Coho Salmon. Spatial extents are currently unavailable. OPRD is in consultation with NOAA to resolve boundaries.”
- Pg 30 & 37 Hunting has been added as a likely traditional native use.

Chapter 5

- Pg 48 Summary of Public Comment: Language added to clarify that this section represents a selection of issues identified during the plan process and comments received by OPRD, not necessarily final management strategies.
- Pg 50 Public Comment Summary – Fish Passage & Hydrology: 1st and 2nd paragraph in section modified to more clearly summarize public opinions on fish passage improvements, correcting awkward wording. ‘Potential’ added to references to flooding as there is no data to define this as true.
- Pg 51 Statement added clarifying that Sand Lake is not the only example in Oregon of salt and freshwater marsh side by side.
- Pg 51 Statement clarifying this section as summarizing public statements at meetings added and reference to more complete summary information added at end of chapter.

Chapter 6

- Pg 56 Title of ‘Natural Resources and Restoration changed to ‘Restoring Hydrology to South Sand Lake’ to better characterize intent of restoration and contextualize needs, constraints and opportunities described in the section.
- Pg 56-58 This section has been revised heavily to better describe needs, constraints opportunities as well as remove perceived bias towards a particular outcome described by some readers.
- Pg 56 ‘Need’ statement edited to reflect ‘preservation *or* restoration’.
- Pg 56 Language referring to disruption of native hydrology to place restoration in historical natural history context added at beginning of paragraph.
- Pg 56 Additional language added to reference state fish passage review scenarios, options and statutes.
- Pg 56 Language added to clarify potential benefits and impacts of restoration as a guide for future restoration concept development and studies as potential opportunities and constraints.
- Pg 56 Reference to potential benefit of waterfowl habitat removed.
- Pg 56 Language added to reference potential benefits and impacts of restoration are not static and subject to successional processes.
- Pg 57 ‘Current and Potential’ added to qualify upstream habitat value of Beltz and Reneke Creeks.
- Pg 58 Minor changes to ‘Western Snowy Plover Habitat Conservation’ section changed to clarify current status of Site Management Plan and minor clarifications in wording.

Chapter 7

- Pg 63, Goal 1: Section 1:1 Language added to give examples of citizen science projects (eBird and volunteer groups working with OPRD natural resource staff).
- Pg 63 Goal 1: Section 1:1 Rephrased bullet from “Study potential negative or unintended consequences of restoration” to “study the effects of various restoration scenarios on adjacent habitat and land uses” to clarify OPRD’s approach to looking at all relevant data prior to making a decision on restoration approaches.
- Pg 63 Reference made in error to waterfalls, cliff faces and talus slopes removed

Chapter 8

- Pg 77 Reference to ODFW rules for fish passage on tide gate improvement clarified.
- Pg 80 References made in error to figure 8.4 have been changed to reference Figure 8.3
- Pg 80 Fish Passage and Stream Restoration: This section has been revised heavily to better describe plans for achieving restoration goals as well as remove perceived bias towards a particular outcome described by some readers.
- Pg 80 Outline of communication plan for hydrology study added.
- Pg 80 Expected dates for completion of hydrology study have been revised to reflect current estimates.
- Pg 80 ‘Potential Next Steps to Meeting this Goal’ Section : Some changes made to clarify intent and remove perceived bias towards a particular restoration concept

- Pg 82-83 Figure 8.3: Several items in the management recommendations referred to a mapped historic alignment of Reneke Creek. As hydrological analysis is still in process and the historic creek channel has yet to be fully investigated, these revised management recommendations reflect OPRD's plan to evaluate the merits of habitat improvements and fish passage enhancements developed in the context of the hydrology study.
- Pg 84 Interpretive theme removed due to confusion over intent: "Address perception that "natural" means it hasn't been altered by man-made influences by posing questions to visitors about how they define nature and sharing alternate views on the idea"
- Pg 84 Interpretive opportunity removed due to fact that there are several other examples of freshwater and saltwater estuaries on the Oregon Coast: "Sitka sedge provides a rare opportunity to observe salt and fresh water estuaries side-by-side. "
- Pg 84 Interpretive opportunity edited to clarify intent: "How the dike shaped the natural space and local environment, *including changes to natural hydrology.*"
- Pg 84 Interpretive opportunity edited to clarify intent: "This site is unique compared to other estuarine park habitats because it is bisected by a human-built dike that serves as a travel way across wetland habitats that otherwise would be unreachable on foot."

Chapter 9

- Pg 91-95 Minor edits to cost estimates made to reflect the removal of features no longer included in development proposals.

Chapter 12:

- Pg 107-108 OPRD Natural Resource Report titles have been changed to match final report titles referenced throughout the plan.