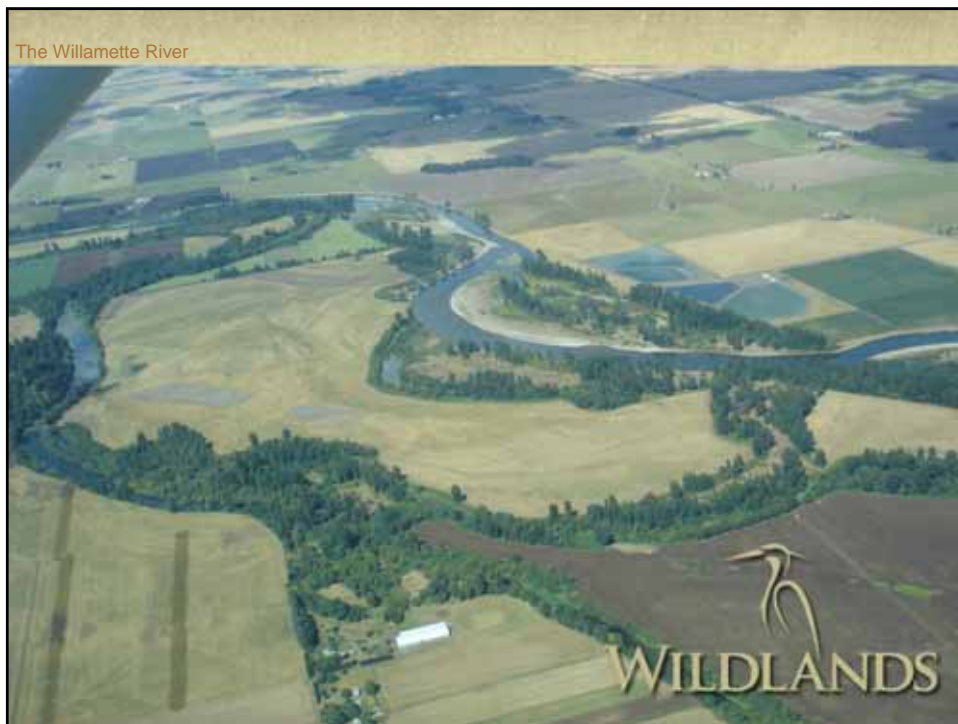


The Willamette River




## Current Market Opportunities — Wetlands & Species

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## Wetland & Species Opportunities Overview

- Focus on the private perspective
- Market drivers
- Overview of current wetland & species banks
- Benefits of conservation and mitigation banks
- Markets in Oregon
- Wildlands and bankers can provide



## Primary Sources of Demand for Wetland and Species Mitigation



- Section 404 of the Clean Water Act
- Oregon Fill & Removal Law (OR-FR)
- Federal Endangered Species Act



## Key Market Drivers

- Favorable Regulatory Environment
  - Strong application of Federal and State regulation
  - A natural landscape that lends itself to being regulated
  - Resource Agencies accepting of banking
- Velocity of Growth
  - Demographics
  - Economic growth
  - Commitment to improving infrastructure



Vernal Pool Fairy Shrimp



## Essentials for a Successful Wetland and Species Marketplace

- Larger ecologically significant sites that contribute to no net loss and/or recovery of species
- Efficient regulatory approval process
- Acceptance by the agencies to use banks to offset project impacts
- Sites that present opportunities for restoration and recovery- 404/OR-FR/ESA combinations





## Wetland Mitigation Banking in Oregon

- Approx. 16 active and 12 pending banks
- Blend of public and private banks
- Strong market potential—acceptance by all the players
- Active & engaged mitigation bank review team (MBRT)
- Mitigation banking favored in new mitigation rules



## New Federal Mitigation Rules

- Promotes innovation and encourages expansion of banking
- Reaffirms the 'mitigation sequencing'
- Emphasizes process to locate compensatory sites
- Requires measurable ecological performance
- Requires regular monitoring
- Specifies components of compensation plan
- Emphasizes use of science-based assessment for impact analysis
- Focus on results - land, \$'s, monitoring & responsible parties



## Conservation Banking in Oregon

- Recovery tool for listed species
- Regulatory framework
- NMFS and USFWS willingness to participate
- Opportunity to overlay species with wetland banks




Photo by Roger Peters, courtesy of USFWS



## Benefits of Conservation Banks

- First and foremost they contribute to recovery/conservation
  - In perpetuity
  - Creation, restoration/enhancement, preservation
  - Large preserves, instead of piecemeal mitigation sites
  - Consistent with agency prepared Recovery Plans or conservation strategies
  - Temporal benefit - in place prior to impact





## Conservation Banks – Beyond Recovery

- Important tool for use in Section 7 consultations
  - Consistent, reliable means to recommend and implement RPA, RPM and CM
  - Streamlining consultation process for agencies and project proponent
  - Reducing uncertainties for agencies and project proponent
  - Providing attractive tool for project proponent
  - Reducing piecemeal approach to mitigation project impacts



## Overarching Benefits of Banks

- Private sector money implementing conservation and recovery!



Nookachamps  
Mitigation Bank  
Skagit County,  
Washington



## Benefits- Science based

- Best available data
- Establish clear, measurable biological goal
- Evaluate through monitoring
- Encourage adaptive management
- Data valuable to agencies
- All approved by agencies



## Benefits-Economic

- Severance of liability for buyer of credits
- Streamlined permitting process
- Known Costs – up front
- Economy of scale – reduced costs per mitigation unit



Shaded River Aquatic Habitat  
for Delta Smelt





## Mitigation Transaction Overview

- Bank is approved and in place prior to the impacts
- Banker and project proponent seek preliminary approval of regulatory Agencies
- Project proponent enters into a fixed cost contract.
- Purchase of mitigation funded by project proponent
- Bill of Sale provided to agencies and project proponent
- Transaction complete



## Habitat Development





## A Vision for Oregon


- Continued strong 404 & OR-FR programs
- Addition of conservation banks for recovery of listed species
- A “string of pearls” throughout the Willamette Valley focused on critical habitats and high growth watersheds
- Conservation banks approved by USFWS and NMFS for salmonids, Oregon chub and other listed aquatic species
- Conservation banks for upland species
- Temperature offset and water quality trading markets
- Vernal pool banking
- Creating a true ecosystem marketplace



## Proposed Jackson County Vernal Pool Preserve

- Wildlands' first conservation bank in Oregon
- Within the Klamath Mountain Vernal Pool Recovery Unit
- Top priority for conservation and regional planning
- Opportunities for vernal pool preservation and restoration - - 404/OR-FR/ESA overlay





## Wildlands is here to help

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