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January 7, 2009

Kay Bork
Planning Director
City of Junction City
P.O. Box 250
Junction City, OR 97448

Re: Recommendation for Estimating Probable Wetlands Outside UGB

Dear Ms. Bork:

Thank you again for coming to Salem to discuss the LWI project for Junction City. It's always helpful to everyone to meet in person to look at maps and discuss the project, and we're very pleased that the city is initiating an LWI. At the meeting, we discussed future growth in the city and the pros and cons of including some areas outside the current UGB within the LWI project area.

Based upon many years of experience with wetland delineations on agriculturally managed lands within and outside the city, we recommend that the LWI be conducted only within the existing UGB as originally planned, and that a "scoping" approach be done outside the UGB wherever UGB expansion or new infrastructure may occur in the future.

Because wetlands on the land surrounding Junction City tend to correspond very well with the NRCS soils mapping, mapped hydric soils provide a very good estimation of the location and extent of probable wetlands. For this purpose, it is not necessary to include soils with hydric inclusions (most of the valley bottom soils include inclusions and it will just dilute the information). We also recommend looking at the originally published Lane County soil survey maps and/or other maps with good stream layers, because the online NRCS soil maps no longer include the small tributary creeks. Noting the location of these creeks (many appear on the ground as farmed-through swales) is good information for planning, as natural water conveyance patterns are important to consider. You would also include any DSL-approved wetland delineations.

Please let Anna Buckley or me know if you have any questions about this approach. We look forward to working with you on this effort.

Sincerely,

Janet C. Morlan

Janet C. Morlan, PWS
Wetlands Program Manager

cc: Anna Buckley, DSL
Tim Brooks, Winterbrook Planning