



KALMIOPSIS AUDUBON SOCIETY

P.O. Box 1265 • Port Orford OR • 97465

October 21, 2021

To: Curry County Planning Commission

Re: AD-2119 Stone Butte Quarry proposal

Dear Curry County Planning Commission members:

I am writing on behalf of the Kalmiopsis Audubon Society. Our organization has more than 400 members in Curry County who are concerned about conservation of habitat for birds, fish, and wildlife as well as protecting water quality and so we appreciate the opportunity to provide input on the proposal you are considering.

We appreciate the project applicant's intent to prevent erosion and runoff that would cause sedimentation into local streams.

The proposed quarry expansion site is proximate to the headwaters of Willow Creek and runoff from haul roads leading to the site have potential to affect Swanson Creek. Both of these are important streams for spawning salmon, including federal ESA-listed, threatened [Oregon Coast Coho](#).¹

This was *not* mentioned in either the project application, the consultant's stormwater runoff plan, or the staff report.

Because the Floras Lake population of Oregon Coast Coho is significant, there has been public investment in fish passage and restoration of habitat to help conserve this local run. It's important to underscore that the haul road identified for access to the quarry site comes close to known spawning habitat in Swanson Creek.

The presence of threatened Oregon Coast Coho demands an especially high level of care and attention to management of storm water runoff from the site and from the haul roads.

We urge the Planning Commission to add the following conditions of approval:

- The applicant/owner must acknowledge the presence of ESA-listed (threatened) Oregon Coast Coho in these streams that could be affected by quarry activities

- Add to ODFW to Condition No. 4

*4) An approved Erosion and Sediment control Plan must be approved by DEQ, **ODFW**, and the County prior to commencing operations.*

- The applicant must monitor road conditions during high rain events to prevent risks of sedimentation and of polluted runoff that could be harmful to salmon

Conserving our local salmon, especially our threatened runs of salmon, demands that we all pay extra careful attention to their needs for clean water and spawning gravels when we engage in activities that have potential to impact stream habitat.

I thank you for considering our input.

Sincerely,



President, Kalmiopsis Audubon Society

ⁱ <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/west-coast/endangered-species-conservation/oregon-coast-coho-salmon>; Streamnet mapper, fish distribution data, <https://www.streamnet.org/home/data-maps/sn-mapper/>