

## Michelle Berglund

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**From:** CLAIRE Christopher w \* ODFW <Christopher.w.CLAIRE@odfw.oregon.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 20, 2022 7:30 PM  
**To:** Michelle Berglund  
**Subject:** RE: P-22-004 Belanger

This Message originated outside your organization.

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Michelle,

The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife has reviewed the Belanger application proposal to partition  
Michelle,

The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (department) greatly appreciates your concern with conservation of Oregon fish and wildlife habitats. We have reviewed the Belanger application to the Coos Planning Department in regards to partitioning of property at and the likelihood that the project will have negative effects to fish and wildlife habitats or populations.

The department has considered the proposed project on lands owned by Joy Plummer and potential impacts to Fish and Wildlife resources and provides the following comments.

### 1). Comments/Recommendations

*Thanks for the opportunity to comment on this proposed project. The location historically was late seral forest that would have been high functioning Habitat Category 1 or 2 as classified under the Oregon Dept. of Fish and Wildlife (Department) Habitat Mitigation Policy; OAR 635-415. Since Euro-human development the habitats have been highly altered through removal of the older forest and development, resultantly the ecological function of the habitats currently would be considered Category 4 or 5 with low function for production of fish and wildlife. However, minimization of impacts due to disturbance during construction actions remain a high priority in order to prevent further reduction of habitat function or minimize impacts to adjacent habitats (e.g. streams/waterways).*

- The department recognizes that the parcel is sufficiently large to provide some refugia for small mammals within the expanding urban neighborhood. In addition, the remaining forest provides cover for passerine birds and perching raptors hunting in the vicinity of the slough. Further fragmentation through harvest of the remaining trees is a pathway for reducing existing ecological function. The department recommends for retention of the maximum number of trees possible with the partition and development. In addition, the site is along the edge of Joe Ney slough where the riparian forest provides both hillslope stability and cover for wildlife. The department recommends that timber within 100ft of the slough is retained in entirety other than trees that present a safety concern. If a visual corridor is a goal from the new homesites to the slough, the department recommends that trees are limbed up to a height to provide the visual aesthetics rather than felled and removed.*
- There are several historic raptor nesting sites within one mile of the proposed construction site along Highway 101 and likely others that we do not know about. In order to ensure protection of any nest sites, and in line with the Forest Practices Act (629-665-0020), "When (or if) a resource site (nest) is discovered by the operator, timber owner or landowner during a forests operation (construction activity), the party making the discovery shall: ... (b) Immediately notify ODFW. This notification should apply to any nesting sites within one-half mile of the property. At that time a site inspection will be completed by our agency to determine to risk associated with construction activities.*

Thanks for your concern with conservation of Oregon's fish and wildlife and their habitats,

Chris,

Christopher W. Claire  
Habitat Protection Biologist  
Oregon Dept. of Fish and Wildlife  
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*"Creation of hydrologic chaos does  
not necessarily mean you have created  
habitat."*



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**From:** Michelle Berglund <mberglund@co.coos.or.us>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 19, 2022 11:29 AM  
**To:** CLAIRE Christopher w \* ODFW <Christopher.w.CLAIRE@odfw.oregon.gov>; Christopher Claire <Christopher.w.Claire@state.or.us>  
**Cc:** Planning Department <Planning@co.coos.or.us>  
**Subject:** P-22-004 Belanger

Good morning!

Please find attached the application for the Belanger family, to partition their property.

Please let us know any comments, questions, or concerns that you might have.

Thank you so much!  
Michelle, Planning Aide  
Coos County Planning Dept

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