



VOTER

League of Women Voters of Coos County
PO Box 1571, Coos Bay, OR 97420
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www.lwvcooscounty.org

League of Women Voters of Coos County
Presents an Informational Forum

The Jordan Cove Project, The Coos Bay Environment, & Our Community

Thursday, January 31, 2019

Egyptian Theatre
7:00-9:00 p.m.

The public is invited.

We conclude that the project proposed is **NOT** consistent with the protection, conservation and best use of the water resources of this state; and we conclude that the activities proposed would **interfere** with the paramount policy to preserve waters for navigation, fishing and public recreation.

Millions of dollars from state, federal and private sources have been spent to mitigate past mistakes and restore the function of our estuaries and rivers as habitat for fish and wildlife. The recovery of aquatic habitat in Coos Bay has been a focus for more than 25 years with good results. Among participants in restoration is the DSL's South Slough Estuarine Research Reserve, whose management policy includes maintaining and protecting the integrity of the estuary from alterations and activities within and beyond its boundaries.

The economic value of tourism in Coos County in 2017 was estimated at \$261 million with fishing the strongest contributor.

The export of LNG by a foreign owned company **will not market** Oregon products or natural resources. Instead, their estimated project life of 25 years will provide only short-term boom and bust jobs. Nowhere in their analysis of impacts are the CO2 emissions from the massive removal and fill. Our local fishers have already been affected by Ocean Acidification and Toxic Algae.

For these and other reasons we of the Coos County League of Women Voters urge that DSL deny the Removal Fill permit application.”

Christine Moffitt, PhD.



Christine Moffitt
LWVCC Board Member

Christine presented our League's position against the Jordan Cove

LNG project at the State Land Board hearing January 10, 2019, at the Mill Casino. Following is the statement she read and filed on our behalf:

“Good evening. I am Christine Moffitt, a resident of Coos Bay and a fisheries scientist. I want to thank Director Walker for hearing us today.

I speak on behalf of members of the League of Women Voters of Coos County. Our members and those from three other Oregon Leagues stand in **strong opposition** to this project. Our opposition is based on our grass roots policy and resource studies.

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League member Steve Miller presented the following written statement to the DSL at the hearing January 10:

"I'm Steve Miller, a citizen of Coos Bay, and a family member of the League of Women Voters of Coos County. In the Removal/Fill application we find very serious problems with proposed mitigation plans.

The Kentuck mitigation site, currently a functioning freshwater wetland, is the only mitigation proposed for destruction of wetlands over the entire 229-mile pipeline route. Dredge spoils pumped through a 24" pipeline from the LNG export terminal area to Kentuck slough would be spread over that delineated wetland--destroying a wetland to create a wetland. A marine scientist who has studied Jordan Cove's application and the Kentuck mitigation site said, that to carry out that proposal would be "the biggest wetland impact of the entire project".

And there are many other problems with the proposed Kentuck mitigation:

- 1) Other mitigation sites were not considered by Jordan Cove in its application.
- 2) Design alternatives were also not provided
- 3) The sandy dredge material pumped to Kentuck is incompatible with soils at the Kentuck site. The mitigation proposed would not result in a wetland anything like the Kentuck wetland.
- 4) The 24" pipeline laid on the bottom of the bay from the LNG site to Kentuck could dam up water and create pools that trap fish at low tide.
- 5) The LNG pipeline would go right through the mitigation site.
- 6) By choosing to destroy a freshwater wetland already at the Kentuck site as part of mitigation, has the applicant addressed how it will mitigate for that destruction?

The 10 acre eelgrass mitigation site proposed to mitigate for destruction of eelgrass during dredging for the access channel to the tanker slip has serious deficiencies:

- 1) Estuary studies show that much of the area proposed for the eelgrass mitigation is just too high for eelgrass to grow.
- 2) The design of the eelgrass site shows lower elevation toward the center, creating a sump, which can trap fish at low tides (making them vulnerable to predators), and raising water temperatures.

For these and many other deficiencies I urge denial of a Removal/Fill permit."
Steve Miller

Calendar for upcoming meetings and events:

Saturday, January 19, 12:00–1:00 - Women's March in downtown Coos Bay.

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/events/538480199966437/>

Website: <https://actionnetwork.org/events/womxns-march-2019-coos-bay?fbclid=IwAR3th3WnGFFRNemZnzNo6UULg4FmvBqBvlttL87MS1QZIQm8Hiu2Blq1poY>

Thursday, January 31 – LWVCC presents an Informational Forum on the Jordan Cove Project, the Coos Bay Environment, & Our Community. 7:00-9:00 p.m. at the Egyptian Theatre, 229 So. Broadway, Coos Bay.

Monday, February 4 – LWVCC Board meeting – 12:00 at Inland Point. All League members are welcome to attend.

Saturday, February 9 – Study of Hard Rock Mining prepared by LWV of Curry County. 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon. Location: UniServe office, 3229 Broadway, North Bend, in the mall at NE corner of Broadway and Newmark, next to Bree's.

Saturday, March 16 – Membership meeting. Location TBA.

Civil Discourse Essay Contest coming in May – Last year's contest was so successful we have decided to sponsor one again. The contest is open to high school and middle school students and SWOCC students in Coos County and Reedsport. Students are to write a 250-300 word essay answering the question, "How can we promote civil discourse?" Cash prizes will be awarded. Our committee is also considering a community member category for adults.

May 17-19, 2019 – LWVOR State Convention at the Ashland Springs Hotel in Ashland, OR.

Annual Holiday Potluck & Auction



League members and their guests had a great time at our annual holiday potluck & auction at Jan and Steve Hooper's home December 8. We had many delicious food items to sample and interesting auction items to bid on.

LWVCC president Sue Thornton (at left) holds up a pillow donated to the auction. \$500 was raised for our League's voter service activities. We are grateful to Jan and Steve for hosting our group!

Dues: It's not too late to renew your membership with LWVCC. Please send your check to PO Box 1571, Coos Bay, OR 97420. \$65 individual members, \$95 for household, and student memberships (age 16 and up) are free!



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Informational Forum

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Egyptian Theatre

229 S. Broadway, Coos Bay

The Jordan Cove Project, The Coos Bay Environment, & Our Community

Scientists & experts will review ecological aspects of the Jordan Cove Project and their implications for our community. Topics to be discussed include how this project will influence the ecology of the estuary, recreation, fishing and hunting, bay access and navigation.

The Public Is Invited.

For more information, call Susan Thornton
at 541-297-8305 www.lwvcooscounty.org