

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

IN THE MATTER OF PROCLAIMING )  
MAY AS AMERICAN WETLANDS MONTH ) PROCLAMATION  
IN MULTNOMAH COUNTY ) 91-63

WHEREAS, between the mid-1950's and mid-1970's, over 11 million acres of wetlands disappeared in the lower 48 States; and

WHEREAS, an estimated 90% of the historic wetlands areas in the Portland Metropolitan area have vanished; and

WHEREAS, wetlands provide a critical habitat for a myriad of plants and animals; nearly 35% of all rare and endangered species, including the bald eagle and the peregrine falcon, are located in wetlands or dependent on wetlands; and

WHEREAS, wetlands improve water quality by filtering out pollutants and sediments; and

WHEREAS, wetlands serve as huge sponges which reduce flooding severity and maintain river and stream flows during dry periods; and

WHEREAS, wetlands replenish the aquifers; and

WHEREAS, wetlands add open space and diversity to urban scenes and provide opportunities for a variety of recreational pursuits including nature studies, bird-watching, canoeing, and hiking; and

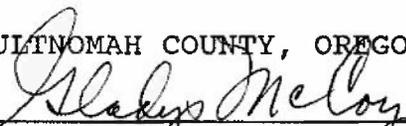
WHEREAS, with the Earth Day 1990 dedication of the Beggar's Tick Marsh, Multnomah County committed itself to active protection of our valuable wetlands; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has declared May as American Wetlands Month; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT PROCLAIMED, that May 1991 is American Wetlands Month, and that all Multnomah County residents join in acknowledging, protecting and valuing our wetland resources.

DATED this 9th day of May, 1991

MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

  
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Gladys McCoy  
Multnomah County Chair

