

How do we protect species amid changing weather?

ASTORIA — The 10th biennial Columbia River Estuary Conference will take place Tuesday through Thursday, April 10 to 12, at the Liberty Theatre (1203 Commercial St.) in Astoria.

The theme of this year's conference is "Promoting Resiliency Under Shifting Environmental Conditions." The conference will explore ways local resource managers and land use planners can adapt to changes in weather patterns to protect native species and watershed health.

The conference brings together regional scientists, researchers, natural resource managers and others to present and learn the latest findings on the

lower river, its plume and nearshore ocean. The conference consists of two and a half days of oral presentations, along with a poster session during a Tuesday evening social.

Speakers will cover topics such as changing ocean conditions and its effect on salmon and ecosystems; sea level rise and flood risk; integrating shifting weather patterns into habitat restoration; measuring results of habitat restoration; toxic contaminants; and more.

Keynote speaker Mary Hunsicker, of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration National Marine Fisheries Service, will present Tuesday morning on detecting

whether ocean conditions have reached an important tipping point. Thursday's keynote address will be given by John Shurts, of Northwest Power and Conservation Council, on the latest in fish, wildlife and energy policy and law.

The cost is \$175 for the full conference, or \$100 for a single day. Locals' discounted admission price is \$20 per day with Clatsop or Pacific county ID. To receive the discounted rate, contact Erinne Goodell at egoodell@estuarypartnership.org. The catered evening session requires regular admission costs.

To register and for more information, visit estuarypartnership.org/CREC2018.

Bringing the wetlands back

MANZANITA — How do you restore tidal channels and wetland habitat in floodplain areas that have historically been diked and disconnected? Join Lower Nehalem Watershed Council as Dick Vander Schaaf, associate director of the Coast and Marine Conservation Program for The Nature Conservancy offers a presentation on the Kilchis Estuary Restoration Project.

"Kilchis Estuary Restoration Project: from Planning through Construction and Planting" will be held at the Pine Grove Community House, 225 Laneda Ave., in Manzanita. The presentation starts at 7:20 p.m. Thursday, April 12, following an up-

date from Lower Nehalem Watershed Council at 7 p.m. Join the group for its regular council meeting from 5 to 6:30 p.m. to learn more about the Council's ongoing work.

The Nature Conservancy purchased a former dairy farm in 2010 on the lower Kilchis River intending to restore the tidal wetland habitats that once dominated the site. The conservancy utilized hydrologic modeling to develop restoration scenarios for the project and to foresee impacts due to climate change. This presentation will step through the planning and restoration process and discuss future work at the site. The project



COURTESY LOWER NEHALEM WATERSHED COUNCIL

The Nature Conservancy is restoring tidal channels and wetland habitat in the Kilchis Estuary.

also has broader implications for wetland restoration on agricultural lands in Tillamook County.

For more information, call 503-368-7424 or email LNWC@nehalemtnet.net.

coast weekend

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From left to right: Bill Jablonski, Peter von Payens and Jimmy Pearson pose for a photo during a fitting for their Jane Barnes Revue costumes.

PHOTO BY COLIN MURPHEY

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COAST WEEKEND EDITOR

ERICK BENDEL
LAURA SELLERS

CALENDAR COORDINATOR

REBECCA HERREN

CONTRIBUTORS

WILLIAM HAM
KATHERINE LACAZE
BARBARA LLOYD McMICHAEL

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Phone: 503.325.3211 Ext. 217
or 800.781.3211

Fax: 503.325.6573

E-mail: editor@coastweekend.com

Address: P.O. Box 210 •
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