## AN INVENTORY OF FILLED LANDS

IN
TILLAMOOK BAY ESTUARY
August 1972

## ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO THE STATE LAND BOARD

Representative Anthony Meeker, Chairman Senator Gordon W. McKay, Vice Chairman Senator Betty Browne Senator George Eivers Representative Paul Hanneman Representative Richard Magruder Representative Rod McKenzie Mr. Patrick Gilroy

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Tillamook Bay, Oregon's second largest estuary, covers an area of 8289 acres. $1 /$ There are 4163 acres of tidelands 27 and 4126 acres of submerged land. At the present time, the State Land Board has deeded 1840 acres of these tidelands to private owners. ${ }^{3}$

The Bay, which is located in the northwest portion of Oregon, is six miles long and three miles wide. It discharges directly into the Pacific Ocean two miles west of Garibaldi, Oregon.

The Tillamook sub-basin is drained by five rivers which begin in the coast range and have a combined area of 574 square miles. $\frac{4}{}$ The navigable length of these five rivers is as follows: Kilchis River 2.0 miles, Miami River 0.5 miles, Tillamook River 16.0 miles, Trask River 2.0 miles and Wilson River 3.0 miles. 5 The daily tides affect the Kilchis River 0.3 miles above U.S. 101, the Miami River 0.4 miles above U.S. l0l, the Tillamook River 0.1 miles above U.S. 101, the Trask River to the new bridge on U.S. 101, and the Wilson River to the Southern Pacific Railroad bridge. 57

More than eighty percent of Oregon-produced oysters come from Tillamook Bay. Sport and commercial clam digging and crabbing are also important activities in the bay. Sport fishing for salmon and commercial crab, salmon, shrimp and groundfish fisheries located offshore contribute substantially to the area's economy.

The purpose of this study was to determine the location, extent, ownership history, owner of record and use of filled lands in the Tillamook Bay Estuary. Filled lands or "new lands" and related terms are defined by Oregon Statute Law which in many cases paraphrases English Common Law. A few of the more important definitions pertaining to filled lands are shown below.
274.905 Definitions for ORS 274.905 to 274.940.

As used in ORS 274.905 to 274.940 , unless the context requires otherwise:
(I) "New lands" means those lands, as distinguished from bridges, wharves, quays and similar structures, protruding above the line of ordinary high water, whether or not connected with the adjoining or opposite upland or riparian lands on the same side of the thread of the stream, which have been created upon submersible or submerged lands by artificial fill or deposit.
(2) "Public body" means the State of Oregon or any port organized under the laws of this state or any dock commission of any city of this state.

ORS 274.005. (7) "Submerged lands," except as provided in ORS 274.705, means lands lying below the line of ordinary low water of all navigable waters within the boundaries of this state as heretofore or hereafter established, whether such waters are tidal or nontidal.
(8) "Submersible lands," except as provided in ORS 274.705, means lands lying between the line of ordinary high water and the line of ordinary low water of all navigable waters and all islands, shore lands or other such lands held by or granted to this state by virtue of her sovereignty, wherever applicable, within the boundaries of this state as heretofore or hereafter established, whether such waters or lands are tidal or nontidal.

Selected terms pertaining to tidelands and tidal boundaries are defined in Appendix A.

A brief summary of the procedure used to obtain information about the landfills in Umpqua River is shown below.

1) Obtain copies of all U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (U.S.C.E.) permits for landfills or related projects in study area. Compile and tabulate data.
2) Obtain aerial photographs covering entire study area from U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Forest Service, Oregon State Highway Dept., and other agencies.
3) Obtain reasonably complete set of U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey (U.S.C. \& G.S.) charts of study area.
4) Prepare a comparison overlay showing earliest and latest shorelines. Tentatively locate landfills on overlay using permit data, aerial photographs, and large changes in shoreline as shown by the overlay. The list of maps and charts used is shown at the end of this report.
5) Visit estuary to verify location of landfills. Document size, location, and use of fills.
6) Visit County Courthouse to obtain ownership and assessment data if available
7) Compile and complete report.

Information collected during this study which pertains to landfill ownership, has been summarized in Table I. Detailed sketches of each landfill are shown in Appendix B, and a plate showing the location and relative size of each landfill is located at the end of this text. (The shaded areas on the sketches and plat denote landfills.) Included in Appendix $B$, you will find an additional plat showing the shoreline changes for the years 1867 and 1971 for comparison purposes.

Table I shows ownership and location data. Each landfill has been designated by a two-part number -the first part being an arbitrary number assigned during this study, and the second part being the Tillamook County Tax Lot Number. In addition to ownership and location, this table lists the area of the fill and indicates whether a Corps of Engineers Permit was issued.

The relative size and location of each fill discussed in Table I are shown on Plate I at the back of this report. In addition, detailed drawings of each landfill parcel and a brief summary of pertinent data concerning the fill appears in Appendix $B$.

[^0]There are 102.63 acres of landfill on submerged and submersible lands in the Tillamook Bay Estuary. Of this 102.63 acres, 0.57 acres are located on stateowned submerged land. The remaining 102.06 acres are on submersible lands.

The majority of these landfills were constructed from 15 to 50 years ago with only one fill being constructed after 1958. The major portion of the fills are industry-oriented with no particular emphasis on navigation.

We wish to take this opportunity to thank all the agencies which provided portions of the necessary information enabling the completion of this report. In particular, we wish to extend our gratitude to the following agencies:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Portland District Oregon State Water Resources Board Oregon Division of State Lands<br>Tillamook County Assessor<br>Port of Bay City<br>Port of Tillamook Bay

## Maps and Charts Used in this Study

U.S.C. \& G.S. Charts for the years
1867 ..... 1963
1904 ..... 1958
1930 ..... 1971
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' aerial photos19391967
Oregon State Highway Department aerial photos1971
Tillamook County Assessor's Maps Department of Revenue Forest Cover Maps

APPENDIX A
DEFINITIONS OF TERMS PERTAINING TO
TIDELANDS AND TIDAL BOUNDARIES
Definitions Used by
U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey
from
Shore and Sea Boundaries
by

Aaron L. Shalowitz

Mean Higher High Tide, - Same as Mean Higher High Water.
Mean Higher-High-Tide line. - Same as Mean Higher-HighWater line.

Mean Higher High Water. - The average height of the higher high waters over a l9-year period. See Higher High Water, Nineteen-year Tidal Cycle.

Mean Higher High Water Line. - The intersection of the tidal plane of mean higher high water with the shore. See Mean Higher High Water.

Mean High Tide. - Same as Mean High Water.
Mean High Water. - The average height of the high waters over a 19-year period. All high waters are included in the average where the tide is either semidiurnal or mixed. Where the type of tide is predominantly diurnal, only the higher high-water heights are included in the average on those days when the tide is semidiurnal. See mixed tides, semidiurnal tides, diurnal tides, Nineteen-year Tidal Cycle.

Mean High-Water Line. - The intersection of the tidal plane of mean high water with the shore.

Mean High-Water Mark. - Same as Mean High-Water Line.
Mean Lower Low Water. - The average height of the lower low waters over a l9-year period. The tidal plane used on the Pacific Coast as a datum for soundings on the hydrographic surveys and nautical charts of the Coast and Geodetic Survey.

Mean Low Water. - The average height of the low waters over a l9-year period. All low water heights are
included in the average where the type of tide is either semidiurnal or mixed. Where the type of tide is predominantly diurnal, only the lower low water heights are included in the average on those days when the tide becomes semidiurnal.

Mean Low-Water Line. - The intersection of the tidal plane of mean low water with the shore.

Mean Sea Level. - The average height of the surface of the sea for all stages of the tide over a 19 -year period, usually determined from hourly height readings. A determination of mean sea level that has been adopted as a standard for heights is called a sea level datum.

Mean Tide Level. - Same as Half-tide Level. A tidal datum midway between Mean High Water and Mean Low Water.

Ordinary High Water. - A nontechnical term considered by the Coast and Geodetic Survey to be the same as the tidal plane of mean high water.

Ordinary Low Water. - A nontechnical term considered by the Coast and Geodetic Survey to be the same as the tidal plane of mean low water.

Diurnal Tide. - Tides having a period or cycle of approximately one tidal day. Such tides exhibit only one high and one low water during a tidal day; the predominant type of tide in the Gulf of Mexico.

Semidiurnal Tides. - Tides having a period of approximately one-half a tidal day; the type of tide that is predominant throughout the world, with two high waters and two low waters each tidal day. Tides along the Atlantic Coast are of this type.

Mixed Tides. - Tides in which the presence of a diurnal wave is conspicuous by a large inequality in either the high or low-water heights, or in both, with two high waters and two low waters occurring each tidal day. Tides along the California (and Oregon) Coast are of the mixed type.

Tidelands. - The land that is covered and uncovered by the daily rise and fall of the tide. More specifically, it is the zone between the mean high-water line and the mean low-water line along a coast, and is commonly known as the "shore" or "beach." Referred to in legal decisions as between ordinary high-water mark and ordinary low-water mark. Tidelands presuppose a high-water line as the upper boundary.
Typical Tidal Range Reneral Shore Profile

Tillamook Bay (T 1N, LS - R lOW)

| Total Area: | 8289 acres $\frac{1 /}{2} /$ |
| :--- | :--- |
| Tideland: | 4163 acres |
| Tideland Sold: | 1840 acres $\frac{3}{3} /$ |
| Navigable Length: | (a) Kilchis -2.0 miles $4 /$ |
|  | (b) Miami R. -0.5 miles |
|  | (c) Tillamook R. 16.0 miles |
|  | (d) Trask R. -2.0 miles |
|  | (e) Wilson R. -3.0 miles |

Tidewater: 5/
(a) Kilchis R. - 0.3 miles above U.S. 101
(b) Miami R. - 0.4 miles above U.S. 101
(c) Tillamook R. 0.1 miles above U.S. 101
(d) Trask R. - New U.S. 101 Bridge
(e) Wilson R. - Southern Pacific R.R. Bridge

## Port District: Port of Tillamook Bay Port of Bay City

Tide Data

Barview
Stage M.L.E.W. M.S.L.

| M.H.W. | +6.8 | +3.41 |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| M.L.W. | +1.1 | -2.29 |
| M.L.L.W. | 0.0 | -3.39 |

Bay City M.L.L.W. M.S.L.

$$
\begin{array}{rr}
+6.4 & +3.38 \\
+1.0 & -3.02 \\
0.0 & -3.02
\end{array}
$$

$$
+6.0+3.90
$$

$$
+0.8-1.30
$$

$$
0.0 \quad-2.10
$$

$\frac{1}{2} /$ Oregon Division of State Lands
$\underline{\underline{2} / \text { / Oregon Division of State Lands (Area between M.L.W. }}$ and M.H.W.)
3/ Total acreage deeded to private owners by State Land Board
4/ U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

## APPENDIX B <br> SKETCH PLATES OF LANDFILL PARCELS



$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { TOTAL FILLED AREA: O.19 ac. } \\
& \\
& \text { PARCEL \#I } \\
& \text { Tax Lot } 200 \\
& \text { Owner: Dorothy Harris } \\
& \text { Construction Dates: } 1945 \text { to } 1946 \\
& \text { Use: Commercial }
\end{aligned}
$$













[^0]:    $\frac{1 /}{2}$ Oregon Division of State Lands
    2/ Oregon Division of State Lands (Area between M.L.W. and M.H.W.)
    3/ Total acreage deeded to private owners by State Land Board
    4/ Oregon State Water Resources Board
    5/ U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

