

BEFORE THE METRO COUNCIL

FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROCLAIMING THE ) RESOLUTION NO. 06- 3702  
GRAND OPENING OF THE TUALATIN RIVER )  
NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE ON JUNE 3 & ) Introduced by Councilor Susan McLain  
4, 2006

WHEREAS, the Tualatin River National Wildlife Refuge, near Sherwood, Oregon, is a regionally significant open space preserving wetlands, riparian corridors, and other floodplain habitats and the fish and wildlife that live in and migrate through the Tualatin River Basin, all in the midst of the urbanizing Portland metro area; and

WHEREAS, the Tualatin River National Wildlife Refuge is one of America’s few “urban” refuges, and grew from an idea first promoted in 1990 by the City of Sherwood, Oregon and its citizens; and

WHEREAS, from its inception, the Tualatin River National Wildlife Refuge has been a unique and broad-based partnership between members of the local Sherwood community, federal and state agencies, surrounding local jurisdictions, business groups, and local and national non-profits, with steady support from Oregon’s Congressional delegation; and

WHEREAS, the story of this community-based Tualatin River National Wildlife Refuge has entered a new chapter as the building of refuge visitor facilities is nearing completion; and

WHEREAS, with this new development, the Tualatin River National Wildlife Refuge will take its place among the most important publicly accessible natural areas in the metro area and Northwestern Oregon, and for the first time will be open to the public on a regular basis; and

WHEREAS, protection of important fish and wildlife habitat within and adjacent to the refuge boundary has been assured for future generation through the Metro Council's acquisition of lands along the Tualatin River as part of the 1995 Open Spaces Bond Measure approved by the Metro voters in May 1995; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Refuge and the Metro Council have worked together cooperatively to secure funding for, implement and maintain restoration projects on Metro-owned properties within the refuge Tualatin River target area; and

WHEREAS a series of grants from Metro have supported restoration efforts at the refuge such as the recreation of oak savannah habitat and the development of environmental education programs such as the city of Sherwood's Raindrops to Refuge grassroots community conservation education program, the Friends of the Refuge's Seasonal Field Guide to the Refuge (created by school children) and a special 12-week intensive Nature University training for refuge staff and volunteers from Metro's expert naturalists staff; and

WHEREAS, in celebration of this community dream that has been over 15 years in the making, a Grand Opening Celebration is planned for June 3 & 4, 2006 at the Tualatin River National Wildlife Refuge on State Highway 99W between Sherwood and King City; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that the Metro Council does hereby declare:


That June 3 & 4, 2006 is officially declared Tualatin River National Wildlife Refuge Celebration Weekend and the Metro Council and the citizens of our metro area are hereby encouraged to take the opportunity to tour and enjoy the Refuge on the afternoon of Saturday, June 3 and all day Sunday, June 4, and in the weeks, months and years that follow.

ADOPTED by the Metro Council this 25th day of May, 2006.



David Bragdon, Council President

Approved as to Form:



Daniel B. Cooper, Metro Attorney