

Wildlife Restoration
FINAL PERFORMANCE REPORT

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME
DIVISION OF WILDLIFE CONSERVATION
PO Box 115526
Juneau, AK 99811-5526

Alaska Department of Fish and Game
Wildlife Restoration Grant

GRANT NUMBER: AKW-L-1-2018

PROJECT NUMBER: 1.0

PROJECT TITLE: Potter Marsh Property Acquisition

PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE: March 22, 2018 through December 31, 2018

REPORT DUE DATE: March 31, 2019

PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: Joe Meehan, Lands and Refuges Program Coordinator

COOPERATORS: The Conservation Fund

I. SUMMARY OF WORK COMPLETED ON PROJECT

Objective 1: This parcel will be acquired from a local longtime Alaskan family who are interested in seeing it remain in its natural state and potentially included within the Anchorage Coastal Wildlife Refuge (subject to approval from the Alaska State Legislature). Once acquired and under State of Alaska title, it will be managed for its wildlife values consistent with the adjoining Anchorage Coastal Wildlife Refuge. All title and acquisition requirements are expected to be completed by the end of 2018.

Accomplishments: The Conservation Fund purchased the parcel in 2017 and held title until purchased by the State of Alaska in December 2018. All due diligence requirements including a Phase I environmental site assessment, property appraisal, appraisal review, and title research were concluded prior to purchase by the State. The title is now held by the Alaska Department of Natural Resources on behalf of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G). The parcel is managed by ADF&G through a Management Right consistent with the adjoining Anchorage Coastal Wildlife Refuge. We will consider our future options for including the parcel within the refuge with approval by the Alaska State legislature.

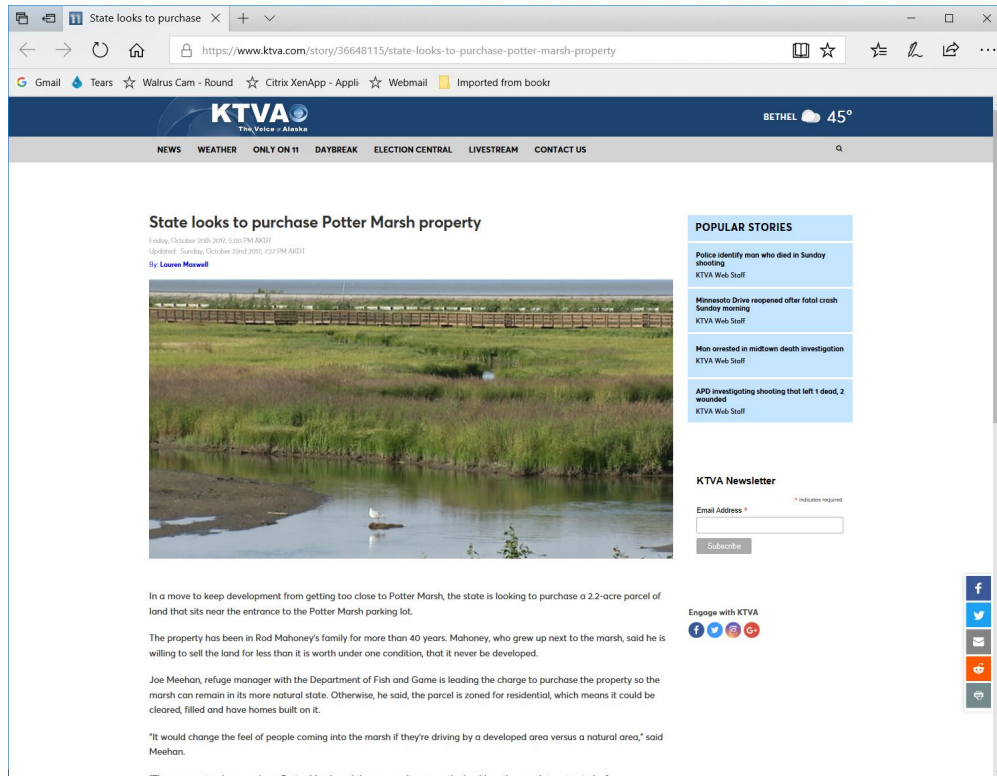
II. SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENT REPORTS AND/OR AMENDMENTS.

None.

III. PUBLICATIONS

There were no publications produced from this project; however, it did generate some local media attention through KTVA News, and Alaska Public Media:

<https://www.ktva.com/story/36648115/state-looks-to-purchase-potter-marsh-property>



The screenshot shows a web browser displaying a news article on the KTVA website. The article title is "State looks to purchase Potter Marsh property". The byline is "By Lauren Maxwell". The article text discusses the state's intention to purchase a 2.2-acre parcel of land near the entrance to the Potter Marsh parking lot. It mentions that the property has been in the Mahoney family for 40 years and is zoned for residential use. Joe Meehan, a refuge manager with the Department of Fish and Game, is leading the charge to purchase the property so it can remain in its natural state. A quote from Meehan states: "It would change the feel of people coming into the marsh if they're driving by a developed area versus a natural area," said Meehan. The article includes a photograph of a marshy area with a body of water and a white bird. The website header shows the KTVA logo, navigation links, and the current location (Bethel) and temperature (45°). There is also a "POPULAR STORIES" sidebar and a "KTVA Newsletter" sign-up form.

<https://www.alaskapublic.org/2017/11/15/two-more-acres-of-land-protected-at-potter-marsh-wildlife-refuge/>

AKW-L-1-2018 Potter Marsh Property Acquisition FY18 Final Performance Report

The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying a news article on the Alaska Public Media website. The article title is "Two more acres of land protected at Potter Marsh wildlife refuge" by Emily Rosset, dated November 13, 2017. The article features a photograph of a marshy landscape with water and reeds. The text discusses the importance of land conservation in Alaska and mentions that Potter Marsh is a popular birding spot. It also includes a quote from Joe Meehan, Alaska Department of Fish and Game, and notes that the marsh attracts over 150,000 visitors annually. On the right side of the article, there are several promotional banners for local events and programs, including "NPSA means opportunity", "BISON HALL", "PLAYSCHOOL", and "ACROSSAGE AUTISM".

IV. REVIEW OF PRIOR RESEARCH AND STUDIES IN PROGRESS ON THE PROBLEM OR NEED

None

Prepared by: Joe Meehan, Lands and Refuges Program Coordinator, Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

Date: April 4, 2019