



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Media contact: Nicole Steen

Phone: 503.842.2672

Email: [nicole@tillamookcoast.com](mailto:nicole@tillamookcoast.com)

**Cape Meares Boosts Chance to Expand Cape Meares Wildlife Refuge**

*Cape Meares Community Association and The Conservation Fund work to protect more than 200 acres in Tillamook County*

**TILLAMOOK, Ore., 22 AUG. 2024** — On August 27, the [Cape Meares Community Association](#) will celebrate two and a half years of hard work and negotiations to secure the protection of more than 200 acres of property surrounding the small community of Cape Meares on the Tillamook Coast.

The plan is for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to expand the Cape Meares National Wildlife Refuge by incorporating the property. “We are the little community that could,” said Beverly Stein, President of the Cape Meares Community Association, referring to completion of the transactions that transferred both a forest parcel owned by CMCA and privately held property that was slated to be logged, to [The Conservation Fund](#) (TCF), which is serving as a bridge buyer.

According to John Wros, TCF’s Alaska and Northwest Field Representative, “We expect to own the properties for two years while the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service works to receive approval for a boundary expansion and confirms funding for the purchase.”

“This project happened because of the vigilance of Cape Meares and we were thrilled to assist,” commented Wros. The Conservation Fund is a national nonprofit organization that has protected more than 130,000 acres in Oregon.

“Protecting these properties from development in perpetuity is a major achievement for this small community. It involved complex negotiations, fundraising, research and working with numerous environmental groups and governmental agencies,” says Stein. “Our watershed will be protected, a permanent old growth forest will surround our community which will benefit not just our community but will be an asset for the whole region.”

The community and other supporters of the project will be celebrating this achievement on August 27, 4 p.m. at the Cape Meares Community Center, 5690 4th St. NW in Cape Meares. RSVP to [capemearesca@gmail.com](mailto:capemearesca@gmail.com).

###

**About Visit Tillamook Coast**

Tillamook Coast Visitors Association (dba Visit Tillamook Coast) is a destination management organization committed to sustainable tourism principles of community, stewardship and economic vitality. We support the Tillamook Coast through initiatives guided by those principles, including

outdoor recreation, accessibility, culinary/agritourism, cultural heritage/arts, community development, natural resources and public safety. For more information, visit [www.tillamookcoast.com](http://www.tillamookcoast.com).