



Donna Matrazzo, Nature Writer
The Writing Works

19300 NW Sauvie Island Rd.
Portland, OR 97231
(503) 621-3049
matrazzo@msn.com

**South Slough National Estuarine Reserve
Odyssey Productions, Inc.**

TIDE OF THE HERON: The Story of Sough Slough

Final Script

TIDE OF THE HERON:
The Story of Sough Slough

FADE IN:

1. Golden sun behind clouds.

SFX: Drums

MUSIC: Mythical, other-worldly-sounding

UP AND UNDER

NARRATOR: (voiceover)

THERE ARE PLACES

WHERE THE SUN

2. Wide pan across misty landscape.

... COMBINES FORCES

WITH THE MOON ...

3. Ocean waves rolling in; pull back to a wide shot. Water is a golden orange color.

... TO CREATE A CELESTIAL

TUGGING OF THE WATERS:

THE TIDE.

4. Other-worldly shot of moon with clouds wafting around it.

5. Pan across hills to golden sun-ball.

IN CERTAIN TIDAL ZONES ...

WHERE RIVERS AND

STREAMS MEET THE SEA ...

6. Waves from opposite sides rolling in to meet each other.

FRESH WATERS

MIX WITH THE SALT.

7. Misty, Japanese-print-like scene of heron by water.

AND ONLY A FEW
CREATURES,
LIKE THE GREAT BLUE
HERON, CAN FEED FROM
BOTH.

8. Brilliant ball of sun, half-hidden behind grasses and clouds.

THESE PLACES ARE CALLED
ESTUARIES, FROM THE LATIN
WORD "AESTES," MEANING
"TIDE."

9. Wide, moody shot of expanse of South Slough.

THIS IS THE STORY OF SOUTH
SLOUGH,
PART OF THE COOS ESTUARY
IN OREGON:

10. Heron in mud at water's edge.

THE TIDE OF THE RICHEST
PLACE ON EARTH.
THE TIDE OF THE EAGLE AND
EELGRASS.

11. The heron takes off in flight and soars.

SUPER TITLE: **TIDE OF THE HERON**

The Story of South Slough National Estuarine Reserve

... THE TIDE OF THE HERON.

SFX: Heron sqwark

MUSIC UP AND OUT

long, slow dissolve to:

12. Subjective camera: walking through trees (shot day-for-night,)with the camera turning to make sudden jerking pans, as though looking for the source of sounds.

SPECIAL EFFECT: Ghost images of nocturnal creatures

SFX: animal sounds piercing the night:

mountain lion roar, great horned owl

hooting, black bear growl

BEFORE DAYBREAK,

CREATURES OF THE NIGHT

FINISH THEIR NOCTURNAL

HAUNTS.

13. Long pan across a misty hillside covered in fir trees.

SFX: Gentle sounds of birds

THEY LIVE IN THE UPLANDS

... THE BEGINNING OF THE

ESTUARY'S WATERSHED.

14. Camera circling around the tree canopy.

UPLANDS ARE MOUNTAINS

AND VALLEYS ...

15. Pan of closeup of tree bark.

.. COVERED WITH FOREST ...

16. Closeup of rain dripping on Douglas fir needles.

... THAT TRANSFORM RAIN ...

17. Rack focus to extreme closeup of red buds on green branch.

18. At a creek, camera is low to the ground and water is running right to it.

... INTO FRESHWATER

SPRINGS AND STREAMS.

19. Profile shot of a heron in a tree.

SFX: Heron sqwark

IT'S MORNING IN SOUGH

SLOUGH, AND MANY OF ITS

CREATURES ... LIKE THE

GREAT BLUE HERON ... LEAVE

THEIR UPLAND HOMES TO

HUNT ELSEWHERE BY DAY.

20. Long follow shot of a heron flying.

THE GREAT BLUE IS ONE OF

THE WORLD'S MOST ANCIENT

AND MAJESTIC BIRDS.

21. Continue: a different flying shot.

ITS SPECIES,

MORE THAN 60 MILLION

YEARS OLD.

22. The heron slows and gracefully lands.

THE HERON HAS AGED
GRACEFULLY ... WHILE
KEEPING A DISTINCTLY
PTERODACTYL LOOK.

23. Closeup of an owl.

THE UPLANDS OFFER
SHELTER AND PROTECTION ...

24. A deer chewing on grasses.

FOR THE WILDLIFE THAT
FEED ...

25. Extreme closeup of snail slowly moving.

... THROUGHOUT THE
ESTUARY.

26. Great closeup of a hawk looking directly at the camera.

FROM RED-TAILED HAWKS ...

27. An eagle flying.

... AND BALD EAGLES...

28. The camera moves past bear-claw scrapes on a tree.

... TO THE BLACK BEAR WHO'S
LEFT HIS CLAW MARKS ON

THIS ALDER.

This is page 7 of 28 pages

To see the complete script, contact me at matrazzo@msn.com
