
**Smith and Bybee Wetlands Natural Area
Management Committee**

Larry Devroy, Chair



METRO

600 NE Grand Ave.
Portland, OR 97232-2736

Smith and Bybee Wetlands Management Committee Meeting

5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m., Tuesday, Feb. 28, 2006
Metro Regional Center, 600 N E Grand Ave., Room 270
Portland, Oregon 97232

AGENDA

Welcome and introductions	(Devroy)	5:30 pm
Approve previous meeting's notes	(Devroy)	5:30 – 5:35 pm
Corps of Engineer's bank stabilization project at SJLF	(Paul Vandenberg, Metro SW&R) (Mike Meyer, Cornforth &Consultants)	5:35 – 6:00 pm
Next steps for NRMP review	(Devroy/Stewart/All)	6:00 – 6:15 pm
Damage from January-February flooding	(Kromer)	6:15 – 6:20 pm
Updates	(All)	6:20 – 6:30 pm
Adjourn		6:30 pm

**Summary Meeting Notes
Smith and Bybee Wetlands Management Committee
February 28, 2006**

In Attendance:

Larry Devroy (Chair) *	Port of Portland
Troy Clark (Vice Chair)*	Audubon Society of Portland
Brenda Hanke *	St. John's Neighborhood Assn.
Nancy Hendrickson *	Portland Bureau of Environmental Services
Dan Kromer *	Metro
Dale Svart *	Friends of Smith and Bybee Lakes
Jim Sjulín *	Portland Parks & Recreation
Vickie Eldredge	Metro Parks – Committee Recorder
Elaine Stewart	Metro Parks – Natural Resources Scientist
Paul Vandenberg	Metro Solid Waste and Recycling – Solid Waste Planner
Mike Meyers	Conforth & Consultants

* Denotes voting SBWMC member

Welcome and call to order at 5:36pm

Consideration of January 24, 2006 meeting notes

Approve previous minutes, unable to approve due to lack of a quorum. Minutes will be held until the next meeting.

Corps of Engineers bank stabilization project at SJLF

At the previous meeting, Paul Vandenberg requested a letter of support from the committee for this project. Larry and Elaine have a letter ready to go if the committee agrees. The project qualifies for funding under a Corps program. Design and engineering would be fully funded by the Corps; Metro's responsibilities would include site sponsorship, providing a third of the construction funding, and securing permits.

Paul Vandenberg reviewed the previous bank stabilization project and highlighted differences between it and the new project. As in 2000, the design would probably include rocks at the toe of the slope below ordinary high water (where vegetation will not grow). Higher elevations would include a combination of engineered slopes and plantings to help stabilize the slopes. Plantings done in 2000 did not all survive; this time Metro will focus on native plants that handle drier environments.

Committee members had several questions, including:

- How deep is the refuse in this area? The perimeter bank is 30 to 40 feet wide in this project area.
- Will the landfill bank shift laterally (outward)? No, its position should be permanent.

Elaine Stewart briefed the committee on the contents of the draft letter of recommendation. It contains two points: 1) the committee supports keeping the refuse in place and maintaining the levy, and 2) the committee wishes to be involved in design and engineering work.

The letter of recommendation was approved; all were in favor.

Next steps for NRMP review

This item was moved over to the March meeting.

Damage from January-February flooding

Dan Kromer informed the committee that the flooding was over 16 ½ feet in elevation, the highest since the late 1990s. Erosion occurred at the water control structure and emergency spillway; it has been repaired. At the canoe launch, one of the large woody debris pieces was moved and is now right next to the path. There was damage to several sections of the Port trail, including under cutting. Members asked whose responsibility it is to repair the Port trail? That responsibility appears to lie with the Port of Portland at this time. Metro and the Port have not formalized an agreement for managing Port property within the natural area boundary. Committee members recommended that Metro and the Port pursue an agreement to clarify roles and responsibilities. For now, the Port will see if a warranty may cover the work.

Updates

Elaine informed the committee of an open house for the City of Portland's storm water management plan at Hinson Memorial Baptist Church on March 14th, 5-7 pm.

A group of agency staff and volunteers is starting up fish sampling at the water control structure's fish way to search for larvae of freshwater mussels. Larvae attach themselves to fish for a short time during their development. These mussels are in decline throughout Oregon, and little is known about their host fish species.

We have a volunteer starting a bird-monitoring project to look and see if there is any detectable difference in the bird communities between areas with and without public trails. This work is following up on Troy Clark's weekly counts; preliminary results indicate there may be differences.

Meeting adjourned.