
**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. - 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, July 24, 2007
Metro Regional Center, 600 N E Grand Ave., Room 270
Portland, Oregon 97232

AGENDA

Welcome and introductions	(Clark)	5:30 pm
Approve previous meeting's notes	(Clark)	5:30 – 5:35 pm
N. Slough Bridge Feasibility Study	(Hart)	5:35 – 6:05 pm
St. Johns remedial investigation update	(Vandenberg)	6:05 – 6:35 pm
FY 07-08 S&B budget	(Kromer)	6:35 – 7:00 pm
Updates		7:00 – 7:30 pm
Adjourn		7:30 pm

**Summary Meeting Notes
Smith and Bybee Wetlands Management Committee
July 24, 2007**

In Attendance:

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 Parks and Greenspaces
Deb Lev (PPR interim rep) *	Portland Parks & Recreation
Dale Svart*	Friends of Smith & Bybee Lakes
Jane Hart	Metro Parks and Greenspaces
Paul Vandenberg	Metro Solid Waste & Recycling
Ed Johnson	Oregon Bass & Panfish Club
Paul Burnet	CH2M Hill

* Denotes voting SBWMC member

The meeting was called to order at 5:35 p.m.

Consideration of January 23, 2007 meeting notes

Committee members had a couple of questions regarding the status of the willow cutting in front of the Smith Lake viewing blind and raising the path and/or platform of the blind. Dan Kromer stated that neither had been done yet. The willow cutting is being slated for late September/early October when the wetlands are at their lowest water level. Dan will get estimates on costs to raise pathway and/or platform.

The Committee approved the January 23, 2007 meeting notes.

North Slough Bridge Feasibility Study (NSBFS)

Jane Hart updated the Committee on the NSBFS. Metro Council approved a preferred trail alignment in 2006 and as the next step in the process, asked staff to perform a study on bridge alternatives across the N. Slough. Exeltech Consulting was hired to perform the study, which consisted of:

- Natural resources inventory (this has been completed and identified wetland and other related habitat types along with corresponding issues, if any)
- Geotechnical assessment (task is underway; related field work complete; tech memo is being drafted)
- Alternative bridge design/types (the Study Work Group currently in place will review alternatives)

- Presentation to Council of the preferred bridge alternative (Council will discuss and vote on alternative sometime in October)

Based on analysis to date, Jane believes a feasible bridge alternative is likely to be determined by the study. Funding options for construction on the final bridge design will be explored if a feasible bridge alternative is recommended by Metro Council.

Work related to identifying a trail alignment on property adjacent to the south slough will begin in the near future. Property owners along the south side of the slough have been contacted and have indicated that they are amenable to consultants studying the feasibility of a trail across their property. The primary concern of these industrial landowners is to maintain security of their property while having a public trail run adjacent to their businesses. This is a very important issue that must be thoroughly addressed in the trail alignment analysis.

St. John's Landfill Remedial Investigation (RI)

Paul Vandenberg gave a short overview on the status of the RI. Paul introduced Paul Burnet, CH2M Hill, who discussed approaches that are underway to investigate landfill-related contamination and pathways to potential exposure for human and ecological receptors. These include the following:

1. Air data evaluation
2. Soil sampling/analysis (cover soil only)
3. Pore water sampling/analysis (surface groundwater)
4. Sediment sampling/analysis
5. Fish tissue data evaluation
6. Groundwater sampling/analysis (subsurface groundwater)

To date, sediment sampling at 27 different locations has found only a few contaminants at levels which may be of potential concern. ▮

Regarding the groundwater investigation, Paul B. showed several tables depicting wet and dry season subsurface velocity flows in different geological formations beneath the landfill, and how contaminants might transport through them. The formations described included Overbank Silts, Columbia River Sands, and Pleistocene Gravels.

Paul V. stated that two more years are needed to complete the RI, including a formal assessment of risks posed by contaminants of potential concern. He will continue to keep the Committee updated on its progress.

FY 07-08 Smith and Bybee Budget

Dan Kromer gave the following information on the Smith and Bybee Lakes Fund and its FY 07-08 budget.

- The Smith and Bybee Lakes Fund was established as a dedicated endowment fund for the development and management of the Smith and Bybee Wetlands Natural Area as required by the Smith and Bybee Lakes Natural Resource Management Plan adopted by the City of Portland, Port of Portland and Metro Council in 1990.
- Other than interest earnings, the fund has no continuous source of funding. At the time the management plan was developed, it was known that the existing fund balance would be insufficient to fully fund all current and long-term needs.
- The fund is currently only paying for ongoing facility maintenance and restoration costs. Since FY 2004-05, the Regional Parks and Greenspaces Department's general operating fund has been paying for all staff costs associated with the operations and management of the site. This action was taken to preserve the fund balance for future restoration, maintenance and enhancement activities on the natural area.
- The fund's beginning amount for FY 07-08 is \$3,799,959, which includes \$45,000 that was carried forward as part of the T-6 Diesel Spill Remediation payment. Other resources for FY 07-08 include \$50,000 from the Jones v. Thorpe Settlement, \$1,700 education program fees and \$159,586 estimated interest earnings on the fund for the year. These revenues totals \$4,011,245 for FY 07-08. Expenditures consist of \$95,000 from the remediation and settlement, which is being spent on restoration projects at the natural area, and \$21,700 for facility maintenance activities.
- Ending balance for FY 07-08 is estimated to be \$3,894,545. The fund has grown since its inception, especially over the last 3 years due to higher earnings from interest, by about \$700,000.

Updates

- Nancy Hendrickson informed those present of the Slough Regatta on Sunday July 29th.
- Deb Lev stated she will be the interim Portland Parks & Recreation representative on the Committee, due to the retirement of Jim Sjulín, until a permanent appointment is made.
- Next quarterly meeting is scheduled for October 23, 2007 at 5:30 PM. Proposed agenda items include: north slough final bridge alignment proposal, environmental education program presentation and habitat restoration projects update.