
**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. - 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, April 22, 2008
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
N. Slough Bridge Feasibility Study update	(Jane Hart)	5:35 – 6:05 pm
Ramsey rail yard improvements	(Robin McCaffrey, Port Transportation Development Manager)	6:05 – 6:35 pm
Committee Chair nominations	(Devroy)	6:35 – 6:45 pm
General updates & next agenda topics		6:45 – 7:00 pm
Adjourn		7:00 pm

**Summary Meeting Notes
Smith and Bybee Wetlands Management Committee
April 22, 2008**

In Attendance:

Larry Devroy (Chair) *	Port of Portland
Patt Opdyke *	N. Portland Neighborhood Assn.
Brenda Hanke*	St. Johns Neighborhood Assn.
Dan Kromer *	Metro Parks and Greenspaces
Mart Hughes *	Portland Parks & Recreation
Frank Opila*	Friends of Smith & Bybee Lakes
Jane Hart	Metro Parks and Greenspaces
Robin McCaffrey	Port of Portland
Ed and Cherie Johnson	Oregon Bass & Panfish

* Denotes voting SBWMC member

The meeting was called to order at 5:40 PM.

N. Slough Bridge Feasibility Study Update

Jane Hart gave the following update to the Committee on the N. Slough Bridge Feasibility Study.

- The feasibility study is 2/3 of the way complete.
- A few different bridge designs are now being evaluated to determine their feasibility. A matrix has been developed to evaluate which permits and reviews will be necessary. Indications are that a feasible bridge design will be possible. Once the final bridge design is approved by the review committee, a cost estimate will be prepared. The bridge feasibility review committee consists of individuals from several different agencies/organizations and includes SBWMC members Pam Arden and Troy Clark. A report should be completed by end of July.
- Metro recently contracted with Alta Planning + Design to assist in feasibility analysis of segments of the alignment including the south slough segment, the neighborhood connections (landfill bridge to Pier Park) and the potential re-alignment of trail on E. landfill segment to avoid trail cutting through the middle of the landfill. The layout of the south slough segment goes through property owned by Union Pacific, Columbia Steel and City of Portland BES. Expect analysis/report to be completed in September.
- In partnership with Portland Parks and Recreation, Metro is applying for a \$1.5 million grant from ODOT to design and build a bike/pedestrian bridge between Pier and Chimney Parks, which is an important part of the neighborhood connection. Application due May 2 with decision in July.

Ramsey Rail Yard Improvements

Robin McCaffrey, from the Port of Portland, discussed and showed an aerial map/design of the next phase of rail improvements adjacent Ramsey wetland. Robin said these improvements are phase 2 of a project whose first phase was completed in 1997. That phase constructed 1-2 sets of new rails south of N. Marine Drive to N. Columbia Boulevard and laid the ballast for future rails.

Phase 2 improvements will increase the limited capacity of unit trains by constructing one (1) lead and three (3) storage tracks just to the west of Ramsey wetlands to the N. Lombard Street overpass. Liners will be placed under the new tracks, which will funnel any seepage or spills from trains into control basins per BES standards and specifications. The new tracks will be for short-term rail usage and will not be a repair yard, storage yard or refueling stop.

Phase 2 is currently at the 50% design and engineering stage with construction starting in late 2008 or early 2009 and be completed by October 2009. Robin said she would be willing to come back to a future SBWMC meeting to give an update if requested.

Chair & Vice-Chair Nominations/Elections

Larry Devroy was nominated and elected for another term as Chair of the Committee. The Vice-Chair nomination/election was postponed until the July meeting.

Consideration of January 22, 2008 meeting notes

The Committee approved the January 22, 2008 meeting notes. Brenda Hanke and Mart Hughes abstained.

Updates

Dan updated members on the proposed FY 08-09 (7/01/08-6/30/09) S&B Trust Fund budget. The fund will have a balance of around \$4,000,000 at the end of this fiscal year (6/30/08). Approximately \$70,000 of the estimated \$160,000 interest to be earned on the fund balance in FY 08-09 will be used for part of S&B's staff (naturalist, scientist and ranger) and operation expenses.

Committee members asked about the status of their letter to Metro Parks Director Jim Desmond regarding invasive weed control management at Smith and Bybee. Dan said both Elaine and Jim Morgan have been addressing the issues the committee raised in the letter and that hopefully one of them could come to the next meeting to give an update.