
**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 28, 2009
Metro Regional Center, 600 N E Grand Ave., Room 270
Portland, Oregon 97232

AGENDA

Welcome and introductions	(Larry Devroy)	5:30 pm
Approve January's meeting notes	(Larry Devroy)	5:30 – 5:40 pm
Friends of S&B invasive species plan proposal and grant application	(Dale Svart)	5:40 – 6:00pm
Natural Resource Management Plan update kick-off	(Kathleen Brennan-Hunter)	6:00 – 6:55 pm
General updates & next agenda topics		6:55 – 7:00 pm
Adjourn		7:00 pm

**Summary Meeting Notes
Smith and Bybee Wetlands Management Committee
April 28, 2009**

In Attendance:

Larry Devroy (Chair) *	Port of Portland
Troy Clark (Vice Chair) *	Audubon Society of Portland
Susan Barnes*	Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife
Lynn Barlow*	Portland Parks & Recreation
Dave Helzer*	Portland Bureau of Environmental Services
Dale Svart*	Friends of Smith & Bybee Lakes
Ray Piltz*	St. John's Neighborhood Association
Dan Kromer* (Recorder)	Metro Parks and Environmental Services
Kathleen Brennan Hunter	Metro Sustainability Center
Paul Vandenberg	Metro Parks and Environmental Services
Janet Bebb	Metro Sustainability Center

* Denotes voting SBWMC member

The meeting was called to order at 5:35 PM.

Consideration of January 27, 2009 meeting notes

The Committee approved the January 27, 2009 meeting notes.

2009 Friends of Smith & Bybee Lakes Invasive Species Risk Assessment Plan

Dale advised the committee that Friends of Smith and Bybee member Jeffrey Key was trying to obtain support and funding, from several sources including the committee and Metro, to prepare an Invasive Species Risk Assessment Plan for Smith and Bybee. The Friends have expressed a concern in the past regarding an increase in the number and types of non-native plant species invading the site and the need of a proactive approach to address their control.

According to Dale, Jeffrey was planning on attending the meeting but decided not to as he felt Metro was not supportive of doing an assessment plan. He also has decided not to pursue grants or other funding options for the plan at this time. Kathleen said she had a phone conversation with Jeffrey and explained to him that the committee will be discussing updating the Natural Resource Management Plan starting at this meeting and thought the Friends proposed Invasive Species Risk Assessment Plan could be part of this update.

Metro strongly believes invasive weed management at Smith and Bybee is a priority and an aggressive approach for control is necessary. Kathleen will follow up with a call to Jeffrey to further explain Metro's point of view.

Natural Resource Management Plan Update (NRMP)

Kathleen introduced Janet Bebb, Parks Planner, who will be leading the NRMP update process and working with the committee. Janet began the discussion by saying she would like to come out of this meeting with a scope of work for the update and has talked to Chris Scarzello, City of Portland Bureau of Planning, about possible update options. Such options include: a straight NRMP update; a

Comprehensive Natural Resource Plan; an Environmental Master Plan; or a Non-regulatory Master Plan. Depending on the plan, it would have to go through a “legislative” or “quasi-judicial”. The committee briefly talked about these options and their associated costs. Janet will pull together a list of strengths and weaknesses for each type of plan for the next meeting.

The committee then discussed items that needed to be addressed in the plan. These entailed:

- High use/capacity of the site (balancing act)
- Barriers to fish & wildlife movement
- Landfill restoration and use
- Dogs
- Trail use
- Coordination with the Oregon Conservation Strategy
 - Invasives – plant and animal
 - Barriers to fish and wildlife
 - Buffering human disturbance
 - Habitat and strategy species
 - Conservation Opportunity Area
- Recreation opportunities – hiking, wildlife viewing, paddling, environmental education
- Balancing use between wildlife and people (habitat vs use)
- Research – turtles and birds
- Past and future restoration projects – Columbia sedge, cottonwoods and beaver
- Consent decrees/mitigation projects
- Invasive weed control options – use of herbicides
- Invasive wildlife control – nutria, bullfrogs, red sliders, snapping turtles, carp
- Clarify role of the committee
- Smith & Bybee Trust Fund endowment management
- Project priorities for habitat (wildlife and native plant) management
- Use of plan for adjacent properties land use requirements

It is anticipated that the NRMP update process will take at least a year to complete and will be and will be the major agenda item for the next four quarterly meetings. The committee discussed more often if necessary as the update progresses.

Updates

Larry informed the committee that the Ramsey Lake rail construction project, which he has previously discussed with the group, will begin in July.

ODFW has developed turtle ID cards for anglers and paddlers.