
**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, May 23, 2006
Metro Regional Center, 600 N E Grand Ave., Room 270
Portland, Oregon 97232

AGENDA

Welcome and introductions	(Devroy)	5:30 – 5:35 pm
NRMP review – recreation	(Devroy)	5:35 - 6:20 pm
Updates	(All)	6:20 - 6:30 pm
Adjourn		6:30 pm

Summary Meeting Notes
Smith and Bybee Wetlands Management Committee
May 23, 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 Parks and Greenspaces
Jim Sjulín *	Portland Parks & Recreation
Dale Svart*	Friends of Smith & Bybee Lakes
Vickie Eldredge	Metro Parks – Committee Recorder

* Denotes voting SBWMC member

The meeting was called to order at 5:47 p.m.

NRMP REVIEW

- Elaine Stewart Submitted 2 handouts for the meeting. The first one was a letter from the City of Portland, Bureau of Planning. The letter is an update on a recent effort undertaken by City of Portland staff, in collaboration with the Multnomah County Drainage District and other agencies, to scope a potential future project in the Columbia Corridor. The second handout was a List of Criteria Used in the Trails Feasibility Study she thought might be helpful in stimulating thoughts and ideas for the NRMP review (evaluating future recreational uses at Smith and Bybee). Elaine was unable to attend due to an illness.
- Larry Devroy began the meeting by passing out a list of recreational activities to consider for Smith and Bybee. He posed the questions: How do we address this? How do we simplify this process?
- It is not Smith and Bybee Park. It is Smith and Bybee Wetlands Natural Area. We need to take a look at the goals of the Wetlands and build the criteria based on these goals. Activities contrary to the original goals should not be allowed. These activities could be cut off the list of allowable activities. Activities need to be structured around the goals and original uses of the Park.
- Some of the things that we should consider in evaluating criteria for the NRMP are: Seasonal limits, geographical limits, consumptive use. What ordinances already exist, (city, state, Metro). Some of the activities may be limited to state and local ordinances in place.

- ❑ If an activity is determined to be unacceptable, how do you state why? It needs to be based on already existing State and local ordinances and on the criteria that we put in place in the NRMP. One of the activities that was discussed was equestrian activities. Are they allowed in other parks and trails? Do we have adequate facilities to sustain this kind of activity? What kind of damage to trails would horse-back riding cause? If we do allow this kind of activity, then we needs to be spelled our very clearly.
- ❑ If we have the criteria in place, then the reasons why certain activities are not permitted are already in place. It was suggested that using a matrix still might be useful in working through this process of determining a workable criteria.
- ❑ The terms “passive” activities and “mainstream” activities were mentioned and the question asked, what is the definition of passive activities? What are mainstream activities? Are there limited kinds of activities? We need to start the process of writing this out. We need to test it and have explanations of why we allow certain activities or exclude certain activities.
- ❑ Larry will work on the matrix and work on grouping activities. He will focus on the impact on wildlife and habitat, based on the kind of activity – competitive events, passive events, and mainstream activities. Is Smith and Bybee set up with the correct kind of facility appropriate for the activity? Should we allow projectile activities, such as archery, firearms shooting practice? Frisbees, baseballs etc.
- ❑ We need to refine the criteria – throw everything out there. It will help define the criteria. The common thread for this should be taken from the goal statement with the habitat and wildlife always the motivating factor. There must be consistency across the board that makes sense. We need to be clear on what is allowed and what is not and with what conditions.

Update

Nancy Hendrickson brought up the question of where are we going for our yearly field trip? She suggested that we tour the Ramsey refugia project for our July or August meeting.

Dan Kromer informed us that the Metro Parks staff would update the Metro Council on the Smith and Bybee trail study project at its Tuesday, June 13th work session at 3:00 p.m. These work sessions are working meetings for the Council and not public hearings, so public testimony is not solicited. But it is a public meeting and you are welcome to attend and observe the discussion.

Adjourned: 6:45 p.m.