

**Summary Meeting Notes
Smith & Bybee Lakes Management Committee
January 27, 2004**

In attendance:

Frank Opila *	Friends of Smith & Bybee Lakes
Jim Sjulín *	Portland Parks & Recreation
Elaine Stewart	Smith & Bybee Lakes Wildlife Area Manager
Nancy Hendrickson *	Portland Bureau of Environmental Services Services (BES)
Jane Bogus *	St Johns Neighborhood Association
Jim Morgan *	Metro
Patricia Sullivan	Metro Regional Parks & Greenspaces (RP&G)
Denise Rennis *	Port of Portland
Troy Clark *	Portland Audubon Society
Pam Arden *	40 Mile Loop Trust
Dennis O'Neil	Metro Solid Waste & Recycling (SW&R)
Paul Vandenberg	Metro SW&R
Amanda Spencer	Hart Crowser, Consultants
Katy Brooks	J. D. White & Company, Consultants
Bill Egan	Oregon Bass and Pan Fish Club
Patt Opdyke *	North Portland Neighborhoods
Robin Plance	St. Johns Neighborhood Association

* denotes voting SBLMC member

Updates

Troy Clark reported on the Feb 4 meeting of the Friends of Smith & Bybee Lakes, which will feature a special speakers forum including Metro Council President David Bragdon, Councilor Rex Burkholder and Metro Parks & Greenspaces Director Jim Desmond. They will be speaking on the Metro Parks & Greenspaces program and, in particular, issues concerning the Smith & Bybee Lakes Wildlife Area. The meeting will take place at the BES Water Lab and begin at 6:30 pm.

According to Port of Portland's Denise Rennis, the wildlife undercrossing at Time Oil Road to connect parts of two mitigation sites is scheduled to begin construction this week. The city of Portland is taking the lead in construction, however foul weather may slow the proceedings. Within the next two weeks the rail line will be dug up and the specialized 3 ft. culvert installed.

Review of previous meeting's notes

The meeting notes from December 2, 2003 were approved as presented by a vote of three in favor, two abstentions and none in opposition.

Briefing on remedial investigation proposal for St. Johns Landfill

Paul Vandenberg, of Metro's Solid Waste and Recycling Dept. (SW&R) reviewed the process of the remedial investigation (RI), which includes investigating landfill-related contaminants, assessing risks from those contaminants to human health and the environment and evaluating the options for necessary remediation. According to the agreement with DEQ, the entire RI process must be completed within four years of the issuance of the consent decree (October 31, 2003).

Amanda Spencer, consultant from Hart-Crowser, has begun to develop a conceptual framework for the project including an understanding of how groundwater moves in the vicinity of the landfill (groundwater being the primary pathway by which contaminants may move into the surrounding environment). This framework will be included in the RI proposal to DEQ which is due on February 28, 2004. The RI proposal will create the basis for the details to be included in the RI work plan, the document which will describe how the investigation will be carried out.

At a January 15 meeting with DEQ, Dennis O'Neil of SW&R presented relevant site history and Amanda provided a conceptual framework for site hydrogeology. The objective was to give DEQ a sense of the direction in which the process is heading and Metro's understanding of site characteristics.

Amanda presented some of the fundamental concepts she presented to DEQ to give the Management Committee a sense of how basic site characteristics are used in this project. She referred to two steps in putting together the RI proposal. The first is to summarize all the data that has been collected to date and the second is put it into two main frameworks 1) a hydrogeologic model of the landfill and 2) a risk framework.

Using maps and charts, Amanda discussed soil types under the landfill – silt, sand and gravel. Extensive data collected on the soil from the last 30 years provides a visual concept of how area water may move and what are the most influential factors in water movement. There are areas of the landfill, according to Amanda, that have very thick layers of silt which do not allow leachate or other fluids to flow through easily. It was noted that fluids will move more slowly vertically through the silt than horizontally. Amanda spoke about the potential movement of leachate in relation to the Willamette and Columbia rivers, and particularly in relation to the closer bodies of water - the Columbia Slough and the North Slough.

Questions to be addressed: Can chemicals from the landfill get into the sloughs? Where are the areas of greatest concern regarding leachate? Is there sufficient data to adequately analyze those issues? Are there any gaps in the data? "Tools" used for evaluation are water movement, (pathways to the sloughs) and chemical movement (which chemicals might move with the water, at what speed, where they might end up and in what concentrations.

Review of public outreach plan for St. Johns Landfill RI/FS

Katy Brooks of J.D. White Co. reviewed the public outreach plan for the first phase of the St. Johns Landfill RI and Feasibility Study (FS). The overall goal is to make sure that current information is provided to the public and that interested parties have a forum in which to share ideas and become involved in the process. Metro's role, it must be remembered, is not as the regulator, but as the owner of this landfill. Information to be provided will include how the work plan will be put together and how the risk assessment will be done. It will also be important to address comments and questions as quickly and accurately as possible.

A list of the components of the public outreach program was distributed. In answer to a question as to how interested groups might become involved, it was suggested to contact Katy Brooks (kbrooks@jdwhite.com) or Paul Vandenberg (vandenbergp@metro.dst.or.us)

Additional updates

A question was raised as to whether there were any remaining grant funds for bus transportation for environmental education trips to Smith & Bybee Lakes. Nancy Hendrickson reported that the grant funds ran out on December 31, 2003 and that very few teachers/schools took advantage of the

program. The “word” needs to get out to more teachers and school districts. Opdyke suggested this topic be put on a future SBLMC agenda.

Frank Opila distributed a copy of a letter sent from the Friends of Smith & Bybee Lakes to the Multnomah County Commission on January 24 regarding the Wapato Correctional Facility. It expressed disappointment with the current status of the facility in regard to design, vegetative plantings, and other issues. The letter also asked that the County consider several actions to address the situation.

Elaine Stewart reported that LaSalle High School has just begun a project for which students have “adopted” some of the sedge meadows at the wildlife area. They will be participating in education and stewardship activities. Elaine will be working with them to develop a curriculum on plant communities and resource management. It is hoped this will develop into a long-term relationship with the school.

Denise Rennis provided an update on the completion of the portion of the 40-mile loop trail through the Rivergate area. Only planting needs to be done and BES will have that completed within the next couple of weeks. “Non-inviting”-type plants will be used to discourage trail users from continuing past the end of this leg of the trail. Signage will also serve the same purpose.

The draft IGA and RFP for the trail feasibility study recommended by the Management Committee has been sent to Portland Parks from Metro Parks for review.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.