

**Smith & Bybee Lakes Wildlife Area
Management Committee**
Nancy Hendrickson, Chair



Coordinated by:

Metro

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METRO

Smith & Bybee Lakes Management Committee Meeting

5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, February 27, 2001
Metro Regional Center, Room 270
600 N E Grand Ave.
Portland, Oregon 97232

AGENDA

Arrive, mingle /15 min.	5:15 - 5:30 pm
Introductions, review and approve January meeting notes /10 min.	5:30 - 5:40 pm
Discussion: St. Johns Landfill revegetation (George Kral, Dennis O'Neil) /30 min.	5:40 - 6:10 pm
Discussion: North Lombard overcrossing (PDOT, CH2M Hill) /30 min.	6:10 - 6:40 pm
Updates: /15 min.	6:40 - 6:55 pm
Set March 27 agenda /5 min.	6:55 - 7:00 pm

Enclosures:
January 2001 Meeting Notes

1. variability in soil profile, nutrient levels, seed bank, compaction, etc.
2. Limited options + limited follow-up treatment
i.e. sheep, timing of mowing, spray

Smith & Bybee Lakes Management Committee Summary Meeting Notes

Smith & Bybee Lakes Wildlife Area
February 27, 2001
5:30 PM

In Attendance:

Nancy Hendrickson *	City of Portland BES
Jim Morgan *	Representing Metro Exec Officer
Denise Rennis *	Port of Portland
Patt Opdyke *	North Portland Neighborhoods
Jim Sjulín *	City of Portland Parks
Patricia Sullivan	Metro Parks & Greenspaces
Elaine Stewart	Metro Wildlife Area Mgr
Dennis O'Neil	Metro Regional Environmental Management
Bill Briggs *	Merit USA Inc
Barbara Smolak	Port of Portland
Jim Laubenthal	Port of Portland
Dave Simmons	CH2M Hill
Bill Egan	Oregon Bass & Panfish Club
Lynn Barlow	City of Portland BES
George Kral	City of Portland BES

* - voting member

Review and Approval of January 2001 Meeting Notes

Elaine Stewart noted that Gerry Meyer was not included among those listed in attendance at the January meeting. With that revision, the notes were approved.

St. Johns Landfill Revegetation

Dennis O'Neil provided an historical overview of the revegetation efforts since 1992 to establish native vegetation at the landfill. A variety of test plots have been tried over the years to determine optimal conditions for survival of such plants. Experiments have included: 1) applying numerous methods of clearing the soil of non-native plants, 2) planting in different types of soil mixes, and 3) using more than one type of grass seed. Monitoring in 1999, however, indicated native grasses comprised less than 1% of the cover on the plots. Experiments are continuing.

George Kral of City of Portland's Bureau of Environmental Services, in speaking primarily of work he has done on revegetating the perimeter of the landfill, distributed a map of existing and proposed sites. In 1996, most of the vegetation consisted of dense stands of Himalayan blackberry. At that time, Kral elected to work entirely with non-chemical methods such as mowing, chopping, mulching, weeding, cutting and even "stomping". He explained the progression of vegetation that occurred. After knocking down the blackberries manually, poison hemlock and reed canarygrass emerged in its place along with morning glory. There has been no adequate manual solutions for those plants.

He termed the landfill probably the most challenging site he has endeavored to revegetate around the Columbia Slough. Other than the vegetation itself, reasons have included 1) lack of access, 2) hydrology - the majority of the perimeter can be inundated for extended periods of time in the late spring and early summer during the growing cycle of plants, 3) animals such as carp, nutria, mice and beaver eliminate the woody vegetation, 4) soil composition - a large portion is artificial fill and 5) soil stability. All plants tried have been thwarted by one or another of the above factors. Ultimately BES has had to turn to very careful and directed applications of herbicides to help control some of those plants. There has been, however, some success in partially establishing a number of species: -

Oregon ash, black cottonwood (with some substantial devices to protect them from beaver), red twig dogwood, and red elderberry at areas of higher elevation.

According to Stewart, the Management Committee will be considering long term management objectives of the landfill area during the next six to nine months. At this point, the only specific guiding principal the committee has for that site is the statement in the management plan that it is to be managed as a meadow habitat. Over the next number of meetings, the committee will have the opportunity to discuss options and provide policy recommendations.

North Lombard Overcrossing

Dave Simmons, the project manager for CH2M Hill, reviewed highlights of a previous presentation given to the Committee in April 2000, which included the decision to pull the bridge alignment back from Bonneville Pond to within the footprint of the existing roadway to reduce environmental impacts. A number of questions followed from committee members relating to outreach and stakeholder input. A single open house is tentatively scheduled for late spring or early summer at the point of final design. A consensus was reached that Stewart would take the lead in following the progress of the project and update the committee as needed.

Updates

Patt Opdyke reported no progress yet from the task group formed to develop ideas for providing financial support for the transportation component of the environmental education program at Smith & Bybee Lakes Wildlife Area.

Opdyke brought up the issue of the degree of hydrologic connectivity at the west Delta wetland (or "Radio Towers" site) and nearby sites. Denise Rennis and Stewart will investigate and inform the committee.

Bill Briggs of Merit USA, Inc distributed copies of documents concerning what he believes is a mapping error including his property in the Smith & Bybee Lakes Wildlife Area boundary. The committee was asked to review the material prior to the March meeting at which time it will be a point of discussion.

The draft of the trail IGA will soon be forwarded to Jim Sjulín for his review.

The Jones vs. Thorne (Port of Portland) Consent Decree is under the first deadline. The Port has contacted Stewart regarding concerns of the Management Committee. The discussion continues.

Setting the March Agenda

Multnomah County Vector Control
Radio towers update
Merit USA boundary

Note: Jim Sjulín will facilitate the March meeting in Nancy Hendrickson's absence.

From: Elaine Stewart
To: Georgek@bes.ci.portland.or.us
Date: 2/8/01 10:14AM
Subject: Management committee date for Feb. 27th

Hi George-

Just a reminder that we would like for you to come to the Smith and Bybee Lakes Management Committee meeting on February 27, 2001. The meeting will be held at Metro, room 270, from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m.

We want you and Dennis O'Neil to discuss revegetation efforts at the landfill to date. Long-term planning for the landfill site is one of the things the management committee will start working on this year, and your re-veg. work is an important piece of information. The discussion may extend into results of our meeting at the landfill last week and some of the next steps that are under consideration.

I'm going to cc Mark Wilson on this email too. I do not know whether he will attend; Dennis may take the lead on discussing that work.

There won't be a lot of time for the topic, only 20-25 minutes. So the discussion may not go to deep (yet). We want a review of what's been done and current plans, and would welcome your thoughts and ideas about what may be feasible.

Thanks.

-Elaine

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CC: Dennis O'Neil; mwilson@ci.portland.or.us; Nancy Hendrickson