

**METRO**

Date: May 13, 1998

To: Dennis O'Neil

From: Emily Roth *EmR*

RE: Forecast Cost for Cover Vegetation for St. Johns Landfill

c: Dan Kromer

Thanks for providing me the cost estimates for the native and turf grass options for the landfill. I am concerned that the wildlife benefits associated with each option is not being taken into consideration. Even though you listed it as a secondary objective, the St. Johns Landfill is within the Smith and Bybee Lakes Wildlife Area which, as you know, is managed to protect and enhance wildlife habitat. The use of rough turf grass on the landfill will not get us any closer to that goal. If the native grass revegetation proves to be unsuccessful or too costly, perhaps we should consider planting agricultural crops such as millet, sorghum or wheat on the landfill. Their benefit for wildlife is much greater than rough turf grass. There also may be other options to explore.

In direct response to the costs, there are numerous items in the native cover establishment that need to be removed or modified. There are many more costs associated with the experimental phase of establishing native vegetation that will not be expended on the remaining acres. (I don't have time to do a detailed review now, but will be able to in the future if you want me to.) Again, the benefits of using native grass that is grown on the landfill, making it better able to establish and survive, is not considered. Finally, there will be an economy of scale.

If you have any questions about my concerns for not including the benefits of each cover type for wildlife, and enhancing the wildlife habitat at the landfill, please let me know.



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FAX TRANSMITTAL

TO: Dennis O'Neil

SUBJECT: No-till drill seeder

NUMBER OF PAGES (including cover): 2

Dear Dennis,

I have received a verbal authorization from the Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge (US Fish & Wildlife Service) in Ridgefield, WA to borrow their Tye no-till drill for the early fall seeding of the 3- 1 acre testplots at SJL. There has not been any discussion of a charge for the use of the drill. The exact date of testplot seeding has not been set and it will be depend on the drill's availability and the weather, but I am hoping to do the work during the last week of August or first week of September. The preliminary information that I have received about the drill indicates that the 50+ hp Kubota tractor at the landfill is suitable for hitching and towing the drill for the seeding work. I will verify such when our arrangement to borrow the drill is formalized. My contact at the Ridgefield Refuge is:

**Mr. Kelly Moroney
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge
PO Box 457, Ridgefield, WA 98642
(360) 887 4106**

Please contact Mr. Moroney at your convenience.

There are several matters to be worked out:

The drill may be loaned to us without an operator depending on the workload at the refuge. With your OK, Laura Brophy and I will discuss the seeding work with Janelle Davis and work out a solution.

The drill needs to be transported to and from the refuge on the day of seeding or returned, at the latest, the following morning. A flatbed truck (or truck w/trailer) will be needed for transport. The truck or trailer should have a 15' long bed and be rated for hauling a 2 ton load. The drill will be placed sideways on the truck at the refuge with a fork lift. Is there an loading ramp at the landfill that a truck or trailer could pull up to sideways? Emily Roth suggested that she may be able to arrange for a truck through the Parks & Greenspaces Department.

Finally, I would strongly suggest that Metro enter into a formal lease agreement with the refuge. This lease agreement should address issues of personal liability, property damage/accident, or other harm to the drill.

Thanks for your assistance with these matters Dennis. I am cc'ing a copy of this FAX to Emily and Janelle. Please call me if you need any additional information.



Mark