

**From:** Elaine Stewart  
**To:** George Kral; Mark Wilson  
**Date:** 3/13/01 11:36AM  
**Subject:** SJ landfill habitat possibilities

After our meeting at the landfill, I agreed to send habitat ideas to both of you. These are potential wildlife habitat types that might be established at the landfill. Hopefully you will have some ideas on what plants might work to establish the habitats, and what experimental plots might be appropriate to test the plants.

Dennis is quick to remind me that you both have contracts with REM - and I'm sure you know not to put any billable hours into this until he asks for them. [OK, Dennis? ; ) ] Please think of this email as food for thought.

Overall habitat potential - mosaic of grasslands, with scattered shrub patches, occasional single shrubs, and some savanna.

**Grasslands -**

- Short = less than 1 ft. high, can be small patches & still be valuable
- Medium = varied grass heights up to 18 in. high with scattered shrubs
- Tall = grass up to 30 in. high, scattered (less than 10 percent) shrubs

Some species require sizable acreages. For example, northern harriers (marsh hawks) need more than 300 acres for home ranges, but can use various grassland types as well as adjacent wet prairie that occurs around the lakes. Western meadowlarks need 200 acres of grassland of variable heights, and they need some shrubs and trees for singing perches. A mosaic of habitats could provide habitat for these and a number of other increasingly rare wildlife species.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

-Elaine

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Elaine Stewart  
Smith and Bybee Lakes Wildlife Area Manager  
Metro  
600 NE Grand Avenue  
Portland, OR 97232-2736

Tel 503.797.1515  
Fax 503.797.1849  
stewarte@metro.dst.or.us

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**CC:** Dennis O'Neil