Smith and Bybee Wetlands Natural Area
Water Control Structure Project

Permit No. 200200175

Implementation Monitoring Report to USFWS

December 2005

Prepared by:

Elaine M. Stewart
Natural Resources Scientist
Metro Parks and Greenspaces
600 NE Grand Avenue
Portland, OR 97232-2736

503-797-1515
stewarte@metro.dst.or.us

Introduction

This is the implementation monitoring report for Corps of Engineers (COE) permit number 200200175, provided to U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service per the Biological Opinion for the project (NOAA Fisheries, August 2003). Page 15 of the Biological Opinion for this project provides a list of information required for this report; a copy of that page is appended. Other site-specific monitoring required by COE for this project involves fish monitoring and is reported separately to NOAA Fisheries annually.

Project identification

Applicant: Metro (Regional Parks and Greenspaces)
Attn: Elaine M. Stewart
600 NE Grand Avenue
Portland, OR 97232-2736

Permit number: 200200175

Project name: Smith and Bybee Lakes Habitat Improvement Project (water control structure)

Photo documentation

See attached photographs.

Other data

Work cessation: Work was not interrupted or halted by high flows at any time.

Pollution and erosion control inspections: Water quality inspections were conducted as required by the Oregon DEQ "401 certification" for the project; no violations were noted. Erosion control measures remained in place and functioned as intended throughout the project. There were no hazardous material spills.

Site preparation: A total of 0.06 acres was disturbed for this project. No new impervious area was created, with the exception of limited amounts of concrete at the structure's headworks and tailworks.

Site restoration: Disturbed areas on either side of the structure were seeded with a mix of native grasses and forbs after construction was completed. These areas were monitored in June 2004 and August 2005.

Herbaceous plants (groundcover) were sampled by randomly placing a 1-meter quadrat in five locations and determining percent cover of each species by visual

inspection. Overall percent cover was 38 and 49 percent in 2004 and 2005, respectively (Table 2). All of the disturbed area could serve as nesting habitat for western painted turtles (Chrysemys picta), a state-listed sensitive species. Typically, such nesting areas should have 20 to 30 percent cover; thus the herbaceous cover appears somewhat high. However, most of the groundcover plants are bunchgrasses (e.g., *Agrostis exarata*) and are preferable to rhizomatous plants for turtle nesting habitat. These bunchgrasses do not preclude turtles from digging nests in areas with more groundcover.

Table 2. Average percent cover of groundcover samples at water control structure.

Species	2004 Percent Cover	2005 Percent Cover
Agrostis exarata	1	24
Prunella vulgaris	4	16
Hordeum brachyantherum	1	4
Plantago major	T	1
*Lotus corniculatus**	T	1
Festuca occidentalis	21	T
*Cirsium arvense**	T	T
Epilobium ciliatum	T	T
Lythrum salicaria	T	T
*Plantago lanceolata**	T	T
*Dipsacus fullonum**	-	T
*Hypochaeris radicata**	-	T
*Trifolium repens**	-	T
*Daucus carota**	-	T
*Lythrum portula**	3	-
*Anthemis cotula**	2	-
*Matricaria discoidea**	1	-
Navarretia sp.	1	-
Unknown sedge	1	-
Lactuca sp.*	T	-
*Triticum aestivum**	T	-
*Lolium perenne**	T	-
Elymus glaucus	T	-
*Gnaphalium uliginosum**	T	-
Cyperus strigosus	T	-
Total percent cover	38	49

1. Other species observed on the site in 2004: *Pedicularis* sp., *Ranunculus sceleratus*, *Gratiola ebracteata*
2. Other species observed on the site in 2005: *Anthemus cotula**, *Melilotus alba**, *Lactuca* sp.*
3. Asterisk (*) denotes non-native plant

No remedial actions were taken in 2005 to reduce percent cover of grasses and forbs, because the site is fairly young and the species composition of plants is still shifting. A number of weedy, non-native plants that appeared in 2004 were not seen in 2005. Metro will continue annual monitoring of this area and will remove some groundcover (particularly non-native plants) if necessary to optimize percent cover for nesting turtles.

These photographs were taken of the Smith-Bybee earth dam and water control structure in September 2003 and December 2003, respectively.

FROM NOAA FISHERIES' Biological Opinion

Implementation monitoring. Ensure that the applicant submits a monitoring report to the USFWS within 120 days of project completion describing the permittee's success meeting his or her permit conditions. Each project level monitoring report will include the following information.

i. Project identification.
   (1) Applicant name, permit number, and project name.
   (2) Project location, including any compensatory mitigation site(s), by 5th field HUC and by latitude and longitude as determined from the appropriate USGS seven-minute quadrangle map
   (3) USFWS contact person.
   (4) Starting and ending dates for work completed

ii. Photo documentation. Photo of habitat conditions at the project and any compensation site(s), before, during, and after project completion.[5]
   (1) Include general views and close-ups showing details of the project and project area, including pre and post construction.
   (2) Label each photo with date, time, project name, photographer's name, and a comment about the subject.

iii. Other data. Additional project-specific data, as appropriate for individual projects.
   (1) Work cessation. Dates work cessation was required due to high flows.
   (2) A summary of pollution and erosion control inspections, including any erosion control failure, hazardous material spill, and correction effort.
   (3) Site preparation.
      (a) Total cleared area – riparian and upland.
      (b) Total new impervious area.
   (4) Site restoration.
      (a) Finished grade slopes and elevations.
      (b) Log and rock structure elevations, orientation, and anchoring (if any).
      (c) Planting composition and density.
      (d) A five-year plan to:
         (i) Inspect and, if necessary, replace failed plantings to achieve 100% survival at the end of the first year, and 80% survival or 80% coverage after five years (including both plantings and natural recruitment).
         (ii) Control invasive non-native vegetation.

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[5] Relevant habitat conditions may include characteristics of channels, eroding and stable streambanks in the project area, riparian vegetation, water quality, flows at base, bankfull and over-bankfull stages, and other visually discernable environmental conditions at the project area, and upstream and downstream of the project.