

**METRO**

November 24, 1999

Dear,

Troy Clark
Frank Opila
Holly Michael
Nancy Hendrickson
Gerry Wright
Lance Bailey

Kevin O'Sullivan
Pam Arden
Jim Sjulín
Jim Morgan
Gerry Meyer

I know that many of you have heard the news by now, but for those of you that haven't, I have made a decision to leave Metro and the manager position of Smith and Bybee Lakes Wildlife Area. This has been a very difficult decision for me. I feel very fortunate to have had the opportunity to work with everyone on the management committee for the protection and enhancement of the wildlife area, to learn about the ecology of a very special "wilderness" in our community and to have spent many wonderful hours paddling. I have learned about western painted turtles, been frustrated by beaver, logged hundreds of hours of conversation with Troy on weekly bird walks and even managed to learn the Bewick's Wren's song.

December 8th will be my last day at Metro. My position is currently being advertised and will be open until December 17. If you know anyone who would be interested in the position, a job description and applications are available at the Human Resources Department at Metro. It's a plum position so I expected Metro will get many qualified applicants. In the interim, Dan Kromer – Parks and Greenspaces, Operations and Maintenance Manager, and Jim Morgan will look after the lakes until a new manager is hired.

So, why am I leaving? I don't have a definite answer to that question. An opportunity came up for me at the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) to manage the planning and policy portion of the Portland Harbor clean up. After much discussion and agonizing, I decided to take the job. I am excited, and a little nervous, about being part of the DEQ team working to restore and enhance the Willamette so it will be cleaner for all users – humans and wildlife.

Again, thanks for all the hard work and energy you have brought to the protection and enhancement of the wildlife area throughout my tenure as manager. I am confident that your good work will continue through this transition time and when a new manager is hired.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Emily".

Emily Roth
Wildlife Area Manager
Smith and Bybee Lakes
(at least for a few more days)