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Coordinated by:

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

**Metro**  
600 NE Grand Ave.  
Portland, OR 97232  
(503) 797-1870

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**Smith & Bybee Lakes Management Committee Meeting**

5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m., Tuesday, May 28, 2002  
Metro Regional Center, Room 270  
600 N E Grand Ave.  
Portland, Oregon 97232

**AGENDA**

Welcome and introductions/ 5 min.	5:30 - 5:35 pm
Approve April meeting notes/ 5 min.	5:35 - 5:40 pm
Discussion: Canoe launch evaluation criteria/ 30 min.	5:40 - 6:10 pm
Discussion: 40-Mile Loop Trail/ 30 min.	6:10 - 6:40 pm
Updates/ 10 min.	6:40 - 6:50 pm
Setting agenda for next meeting/ 10 min.	6:50 - 7:00 pm

**Smith & Bybee Lakes Management Committee**  
**Summary Meeting Notes**  
**May 28, 2002**  
**5:30 pm**

In attendance:

Jim Morgan *	Metro Executive Office
Dennis O'Neil	Metro Regional Environmental Management
Denise Rennis *	Port of Portland
Pat Sullivan	Metro Regional Parks & Greenspaces
Nancy Hendrickson *	Portland Bureau of Environmental Services
Elaine Stewart	Metro Regional Parks Wildlife Area Mgr
Frank Opila *	Friends of Smith & Bybee Lakes
Jim Sjulín *	Portland Bureau of Parks & Recreation
Pam Arden *	40-Mile Loop Trust
Troy Clark *	Portland Audubon Society
Holly Michael *	Oregon Dept of Fish & Wildlife
Ray Piltz *	St. Johns Neighborhood Association
Gregg Everhart	Portland Bureau of Parks & Recreation
Emily Roth *	The Wetlands Conservancy

\* denotes voting member

**Review April meeting notes**

An asterisk following Elaine Stewart's name erroneously indicated her as a voting member in the April notes. A clarification was also made by Stewart regarding SBLMC 's participation on the Project Advisory Committee (PAC) that will be formed for the public art project at the lakes. All members of SBLMC will be members of the PAC. The April meeting notes were approved as amended. The vote was seven in favor, three abstaining.

**Discussion: Canoe launch evaluation criteria**

Further discussion on the site of the proposed canoe launch took place. Some of the areas of concern included:

- vehicle accessibility (school bus and canoe trailer access)
- ease of access to launch site (distance; walking surface)
- proximity to amenities
- dredging feasibility (including cost)
- water depths (in lake as well as at launch site)
- outfall testing (source; publicly or privately owned)
- risk factor from the outfall
- should evaluation criteria be weighted?
- likelihood of obtaining permits

Interviews of consultants will take place on June 4. The team contracted will conduct a feasibility study of the two launch sites.

**Discussion - Trail at Wildlife Area**

Some committee members asked to re-visit this issue and put it on tonight's agenda. The vote at the last meeting was to support the trail recommendation with provisions for vegetative

buffers and signage and to send a letter to the Office of Planning and Development Review (OPDR) expressing that support. The vote was split - 4 in favor, 2 against and 1 abstention.

Issues raised in this discussion in support of the trail:

- The alignment of the trail conforms to the 1990 Natural Resources Management Plan (NRMP).
- The Consent Decree stipulates the location where the Port is to build the trail.
- If the City withdraws the trail requirement with respect to the Port, the Port's obligation to build the trail is eliminated.
- Connection with the 40-Mile Loop Trail is an important goal.
- The trail would provide access to the wildlife area to a large segment of the community.
- The initial design called for elimination of between 200 and 300 trees; a revised design reduced the number to less than 10.
- The estimated number of days of trail closure due to flooding has been reduced from 180 to 15 by locating the trail on higher ground.

Issues raised not in support of the trail include:

- The NRMP states that only environmentally compatible recreation uses will be encouraged.
- Location of the trail as outlined in the Consent Decree could adversely affect wildlife and habitat.
- Neither bicycles nor pets are allowed at the Wildlife Area, which conflicts with 40-Mile Loop Trail objectives.
- Off-trail use will likely occur due to its "dead-end" design.
- The "ideal" location for the trail has not been determined through a public planning process.
- Nearby Kelly Point Park has experienced increases in illegal activities, which could easily spill over to Smith & Bybee Lakes.

A suggestion to set aside the vote taken last month due to insufficient discussion about environmental repercussions to the wildlife area and then to take a new vote did not have a consensus. A stated objection was that a quorum of voting members was present at the April meeting and the vote, therefore, was valid.

*The recommendation of the SBLMC remains in support of the proposed trail with the provision that there is vegetative treatment and signage at the trail-end to discourage off-trail usage.*

A letter to OPDR expressing that support will be sent but will also state that the vote by the committee was divided on the issue. All the pros and cons discussed by the committee will also be included.

An on-site visit to Smith & Bybee Lakes Wildlife Area will take place on June 25 in lieu of the regularly scheduled meeting at Metro Regional Center. The SBLMC will visit the future site for recreational facilities. Further details will follow.

From Lora Price  
Date: April 25, 2002

CANOE LAUNCH EVALUATION CRITERIA:

1. Water depths; months of year launch site would be accessible  
*↳ @ launch site & surrounding lake, distance from shore*
2. Vehicle accessibility for drop off and parking - *incl. #10 here & #9*
3. Handicap accessibility
4. Implementation Cost - *incremental cost per add'l user (or month) (or day or week)*
5. Long term maintenance costs
6. Visibility and security
7. Minimal impacts to natural resources
8. Harmonious integration with 40 mile loop trail and other facilities
9. Bus Access *10. Ability to accommodate trailers, e.g. Alder Ck.*  
*School*
11. Feasibility of dredging
12. *Proximity of* ~~Availability~~ amenities
13. Composition of stormwater outfall discharge
14. Ease of access (substrate & distance)
15. "Permitability"

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coordinated by:

**Smith & Bybee Lakes Wildlife Area  
Management Committee**

*Nancy Hendrickson, Chair*

*Troy Clark, Vice Chair*

**Metro**

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(503) 797-1515

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May 28, 2002

Jessica Wilcox  
Planner  
OPDR  
1200 SW 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Portland, OR 97204

Re: LUR 02-xxxxxx EN

Dear Ms. Wilcox,

By majority vote, the Smith & Bybee Lakes Management Committee (SBLMC) recommends support for the trail proposed in LUR 02-xxxxx EN. It should be noted that the vote was not unanimous. Several concerns were raised on both sides:

**In support:**

- The trail is long overdue. The Port is committed to building it at this time and should be allowed to do so. It is very important to connect with the 40-Mile Loop trail in this area.
- The number of trees eliminated due to trail design has been reduced from 200 to less than 10.
- The number of days of trail closure due to high water has been reduced from 180 to 15.

**Not in support:**

- The final and optimum placement for the trail in the Wildlife Area has not yet been determined. The design of the proposed trail should be integrated in the final design of the trail in the Wildlife Area.
- The trail will create negatives impacts on the Wildlife Area by providing human access to sensitive wildlife habitats. Because the trail ends in a dead-end at Bybee Lake, the potential for "bandit" trails is greater than usual, in this more-sensitive-than-usual area.
- Bike riding and dog walking are expressly forbidden on the Interlakes trail; how these activities will be deterred on the Lakes segment of the proposed trail has not been defined.

The final recommendation of the SBLMC was to support the proposed trail, provided there is vegetative treatment and signage along the trail and at the trail end to discourage off-trail use. We urge you to take these concerns into consideration.

Sincerely,

Nancy Hendrickson  
Chair, Smith & Bybee Lakes Management Committee

cc Charles Ciecko, Director of Parks and Greenspaces, Metro  
Elaine Stewart, Smith & Bybee Lakes Wildlife Area Manager, Metro  
SBLMC members and staff

Port - \$\$ would be for consent decree, would not be made available for other work later. Port has some contractor ready for trail work, does not want to do all but trail now & bring contractor back later.

## Options

1. ~~do nothing~~

2. ltr of support

3. ltr not in support

4. ltr raising issues discussed

5. ~~ltr proposing w/d of trail const<sup>n</sup> (relieve Port of responsibility)~~

6. ltr proposing Port defer/delay const<sup>n</sup> until planning process done

voted on 2, 3 & 6

Emily moved to vote to rescind. <sup>~ previous mtg's vote.</sup> No second.

not changing the vote, keeping letter of support w/ add'l discussion incl. encouraging planning process move ahead. Planning process also incl. Port exn. of trail (what it would look like).

