

Date: June 26, 2002

To: Elaine M. Stewart
Smith and Bybee Lakes Area Manager

From: Joseph Pesek
Wildlife Biologist

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the habitat values of, and the future plans for, the Smith and Bybee Lakes Wildlife Area.

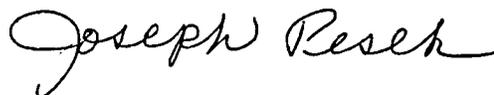
The following comments concern that area of the site that lies north of and along the channel immediately north of the landfill site. This is an area of Oregon ash forest which is unique to the S&B lakes area. It is the last remnant of more extensive ash forests that occurred in that general vicinity. The area is dominated by Oregon ash with a typical understory of shrubs, forbs, and grasses. Some of the ash trees are greater than 4 feet DBH which indicates extreme age. Some decadent snags with numerous cavities remain and there are a good number of young trees in the understory. The size of this forested area indicates that it is a significant portion of the upland habitat of the overall area and as such is an irreplaceable component of the total habitat matrix.

On a recent but somewhat abbreviated visit to the area, I made sightings of or observed signs of, fifteen species of birds and 5 species of mammals. Both feeding and nesting activities were noted. Ash forests are known to support many more species and further study of this area would, I am sure, bear this out. I know that bats would be attracted to the many cavities present and downed trees would provide habitat for several species of amphibians and reptiles.

It is my understanding from our conversation that a segment of the Forty Mile Loop trail is planned for this area and current plans call for constructing this segment somewhere in the ash forest area. In light of the uniqueness of this habitat type and its value to wildlife I believe this would be an unwise decision. Wherever the trail was situated the construction would significantly reduce the size of the forest and the subsequent use of the trail would greatly impact the use on the remaining portion. If the trail bisected the forest it could, in effect, preclude most use by wildlife. I believe a more appropriate site for the trail would be on the landfill where it would be buffered from the ash forest by existing channel.

Again thank you for the opportunity to comment on this important issue in the overall plan for the Smith and Bybee Lakes Area.

Sincerely,





METRO

October 29, 2002

Linda Hval
Chair, St. Johns Neighborhood Association
8316 N Lombard #441
Portland, OR 97203

Dear Ms. Hval:

I understand that Ray Piltz, SJNA representative to the Smith and Bybee Lakes Management Committee, is leaving soon for the winter. Ray told me that there would be another representative from the SJNA while he is away, but he did not have the name or contact information the last time I spoke with him.

The management committee has formed a sub-committee to work on developing a position regarding trails at the wildlife area. The recommendations from the management committee to Metro will probably include suggestions regarding alignments, construction standards and possibly also performance standards. When the sub-committee was formed at the last regular management committee meeting, Ray volunteered for the work (knowing that we would need his replacement for the group). The sub-committee will meet for the first time next week.

I have mailed the enclosed materials to Ray, but in case he has already left I am also mailing them to you. Can you see that Ray's replacement receives them? Also, if you have the name and contact information for the new person, that would be very helpful. You could get it to me via email (stewarte@metro.dst.or.us) if that is more convenient than regular mail.

Thank you for your help in this matter, it is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Elaine M. Stewart". The ink is dark and the signature is fluid and legible.

Elaine M. Stewart
Smith and Bybee Lakes Wildlife Area Manager

Enc.

From: Dennis O'Neil
To: Denise Rennis; Elaine Stewart; Emily Roth; Holly Michael; Jim Sjulín; Nancy Hendrickson; Pam Arden; Patt Opdyke; Troy Clark
Date: 2/7/03 5:05PM
Subject: Re: Notes from final subcommittee meeting

Hi, Elaine,

Below are some edits best reflect my comments at the February 4 meeting.

In Risks of Public Assess on Landfill

2. "Fire - underground combustion resulting from oxygen coming into contact with the garbage through the cover or at its edge. This can cause sudden, unexpected cave-in of the cover surface."

"Other issues of concern to Dennis included damage to the landfill cover that might result from a shutdown of the gas collection system (the gas pressure would build and could damage the cover)." I believe that the next sentence should be omitted because subsidence as a risk to people is connected with underground combustion, not with gradual settlement due to decomposition.

"Grass fires are another concern because the landfill cover system design makes the vegetation on the cover tinder-dry during the summer and early fall." I showed aerial photos which demonstrated this.

Overall, my comments were condensed well. Your bulleted items concerning the landfill in the Alignment section were succinct and right-on.

Dennis
2/7/03

>>> Elaine Stewart 02/07/03 02:36PM >>>

Hi all,

Take a look at the attached notes and get back to me with your comments and edits. For the best management practices, I started with the list generated at the November 20th subcommittee meeting. Then I fleshed it out with information I found in the city's comp plan and the 40-mile loop master plan. Then I added the guidelines from the Colorado trail planning guide. When I added the Colorado stuff, the writeup got considerably longer - even after I tried to edit out the redundant and irrelevant material (e.g., horse feed guidelines). So let me know if it's useful to have the Colorado stuff there or not. I could take it out, or list it all separately as an appendix, or leave it like it is.

As we discussed at the last meeting, your work will come to the management committee at the February meeting. After I get your feedback on this set of notes, I'll compile a handout with the recommendations which will be in 3 parts: 1) partial alignment recommendation, 2) feasibility study recommendation, and 3) best management practices recommendations. Whatever is approved by the management committee will go to Metro as a formal recommendation.

I'm impressed with all that you accomplished. I think this was a very productive group and it has compiled some great recommendations. Thanks for all of your work on this issue!

-Elaine

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From: troy clark <brillobrain@ureach.com>
To: "Elaine Stewart" <stewarte@metro.dst.or.us>
Date: 2/10/03 7:52AM
Subject: Re: Notes from final subcommittee meeting

hi elaine, thanks for pulling all this material together. i think it should go forward as is. at this stage more information, even redundancies, is better than overlooking considerations deemed important by others in similar contexts. enjoy, troy

--- On Fri, 07 Feb 2003, Elaine Stewart (stewarte@metro.dst.or.us) wrote:

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>
> -----

> Elaine Stewart
> Smith and Bybee Lakes Wildlife Area Manager

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<http://www.ureach.com/reg/tag>