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OCT 13 1992



October 7, 1992

Mel Huie
Project Manager
Metropolitan Greenspaces Program
Metropolitan Service District
2000 SW First Avenue
Portland, OR 97201-5398

Re: 91-92 Metro Greenspaces Demonstration Grant
Final Report & Project Photos

Dear Mel:

The Fernhill Wetlands Council and the City of Forest Grove are pleased to offer this final report and progress photographs of our 91-92 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service/Metro Greenspaces Demonstration Grant project.

The \$20,000 grant provided funding for development of the first element of the Fernhill Wetlands Concept Master Plan. The Fernhill Wetlands Council constructed approximately seven acres of emergent wetlands from an area of degraded habitat dominated by a monoculture of reed canary grass.

This wetlands enhancement project has proven that a diverse, experienced governing council consisting of public agencies, conservation groups and hunting organizations can work together effectively to create an outstanding project. The active support of participating public agencies, authoritative field work by Gene Herb, O.D.F. & W., and an expert private grading contractor all contributed to a very efficient use of grant funding to assure a high ratio of enhanced wetland area constructed for each grant dollar spent.

Field inspection one year after completion of the grading work shows a healthy emergent wetland developing in spite of an unusually long drought through the summer months. At this stage the goal of replacing the monoculture of reed canary grass with a more diverse plant culture is succeeding. New habitat has brought more waterfowl into the wetlands over the summer and a beaver has set up residence to further improve the manmade weir structures.

The Fernhill Wetlands Council continues to build on the initial success of this grant project by organizing wildlife habitat improvement projects for the fall/winter of 92-93. The council will commit local grant funds to the installation of upland buffer plantings adjacent to the

new wetlands that will provide food and refuge for birds and riparian animals. The Council will enlist student groups from Pacific University and local schools to participate in the project. Students volunteers will plant native shrubs and install nesting boxes for waterfowl and riparian/woodland species.

This grant project has achieved the goals set forth by the Metro Greenspaces program by engaging diverse local interest groups to create enhanced wetland habitat that offers opportunities for wildlife viewing of unusual diversity, passive recreation and outdoor education and research. The Fernhill Wetlands Project enjoys continued local and regional support which will assure the successful fruition of the Fernhill Wetlands Concept Master Plan goals.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bruce Copenhagen". The signature is written in a cursive, somewhat stylized font.

Bruce Copenhagen
Project Manager

**91-92 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service/Metro Greenspaces Demonstration Grant
Project Slides:**

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|--------------|-----------|--|
| Slide | #1 | Aerial view of enhanced wetlands project looking north towards Forest Grove. |
| | #2 | Aerial view of project looking south towards the Tualatin River. |
| | #3 | Closer aerial view of project area. |
| | #4 | Site conditions prior to enhancement project with reed canary grass monoculture. |
| | #5 | Site conditions prior to project showing diverse riparian tree and shrub upland habitat mixed with reed canary grass. |
| | #6 | New constructed pond and emergent wetland. |
| | #7 | Constructed wetland mosaic within existing riparian/upland habitat. |
| | #8 | Water level controlled by weirs to maintain ponds and islands. |