

OSU Extension/Multnomah County 4-H
METRO Salmonid Greenspaces Grant
FINAL Report

#921690

Project Purpose:

The purpose of this project was to develop and sustain a wildlife habitat demonstration site that will serve to educate the public on best land management practices for enhancing salmon habitat

The five goals for this project were:

- Create a wildlife habitat demonstration site for the OSU Extension Wildlife Stewards, Extension Master Gardeners and Extension Master Recylers at the OSU Extension/Multnomah County office.
- Provide an educational opportunity for the Fall 2000 class of Wildlife Stewards to design, plan and build a wildlife habitat demonstration in preparation for their work in helping schools develop habitat sites.
- To provide an outdoor learning lab of extension natural resources programs for extension volunteers, members and families.
- To provide education outreach to the southeast Portland community by providing a demonstration habitat site that they can visit and learn about how to create healthy habitats that help protect our waters and salmon.
- To provide a healthy wildlife habitat that incorporates good management practices that will help promote clean water and healthy watersheds.



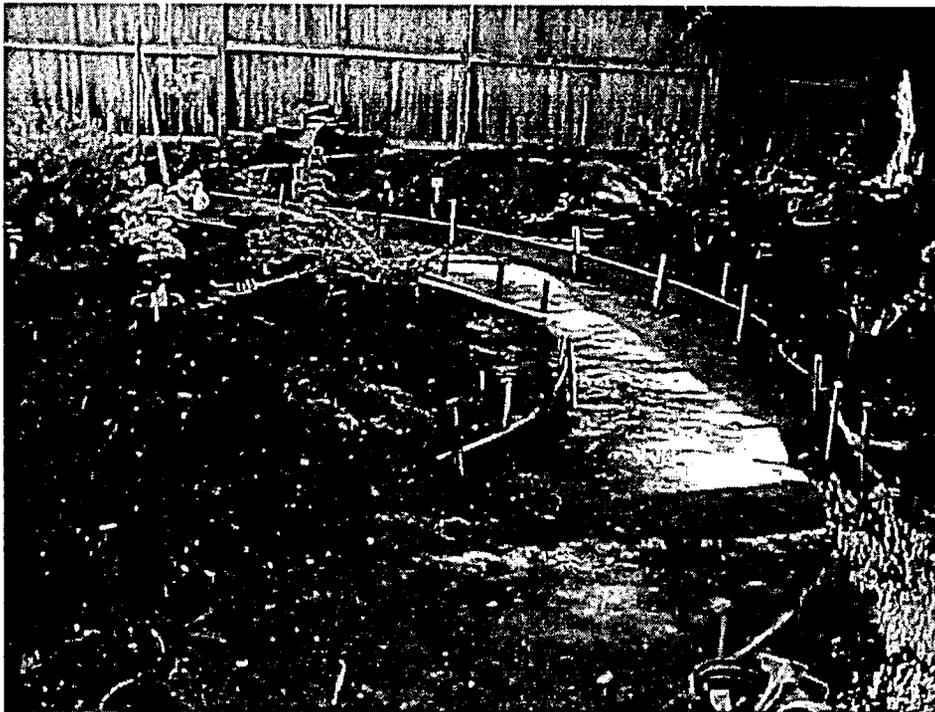
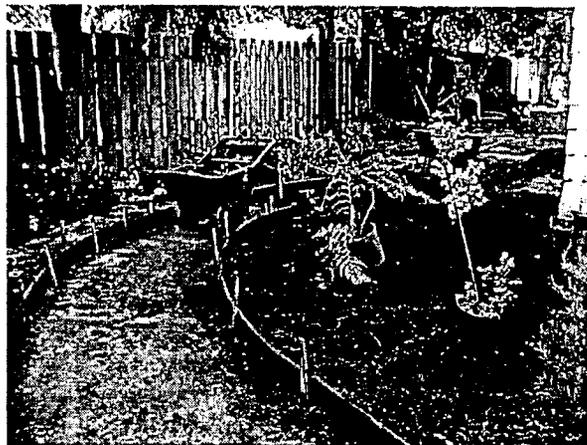
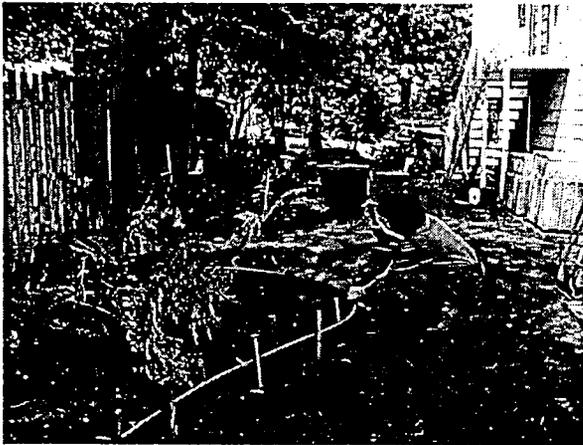
Before pictures of the site

Project Results:

As part of the 24-hour training course of the Wildlife Stewards Fall 2000 class, the Wildlife Stewards class participants designed the habitat site. A professional landscape architect donated her time to work with the class participants to create the design. Since it was a strong possibility the OSU Extension site would be moving, no further developments were made on this project until a final decision was made on the move. When it was realized that the OSU Extension office was not moving, the project move forward beginning the spring of 2001.

Since the spring of 2001 the following was accomplished:

- Surrounding neighbors were contacted to solicit their support. Since the site will border their properties, written permission to trim trees, paint fences, etc were secured.
- Due to problems with several homeless men camping out in our site the local police was contacted to solicit their feedback. They provided input into our habitat design that would deter the homeless from using this area as their home and possibly vandalizing the site. They also agreed to patrol the area with a careful eye.
- An OSU Extension staff habitat team was formed. This team comprised of 5 OSU Extension staff helped provide feedback and input into the habitat design. The team met three times and the plans were finalized. The final plans were presented to the full staff. Since this site is also a work site for over 30 people, we felt it was important to have their participation and ownership in the project.
- Colliers Tree Service donated their services to prune the large overhanging trees to allow more sunlight into the area.
- Joyce and Bob Orr donated hundreds of dollars of native plants from their property in Sandy, Oregon
- A 4-H Wildlife Steward, Celina Steiger, was recruited to volunteer as the project coordinator
- Celina Steiger worked with the habitat team to identify plants and materials needed.
- Celina secured tools, materials, wood chips, etc needed for the habitat.
- Two one-day work parties were organized and 4-H Wildlife Stewards were recruited to assist in creating the habitat. Over 15 people worked over 8 hours each to dig, plant, haul, weed, etc.
- In May 2001 the paths were dug and laid and the first set of plants were planted.



May 2001 work party to plant the habitat

- Ray McNeilan, former OSU Extension Master Gardener Agent, volunteered his time to repair and restore the sprinkler system.
- Outside electrical outlets were installed for lighting and for using power tools.
- In the summer of 2001 4-H Junior Wildlife Stewards volunteers and their parents worked with volunteer artist Tracy Mandel to create an art mural project on a nearby wall. Eight 4-H Junior Wildlife Stewards and two parents worked on the art mural project during the two days of work parties. All painting supplies were donated by REACH.

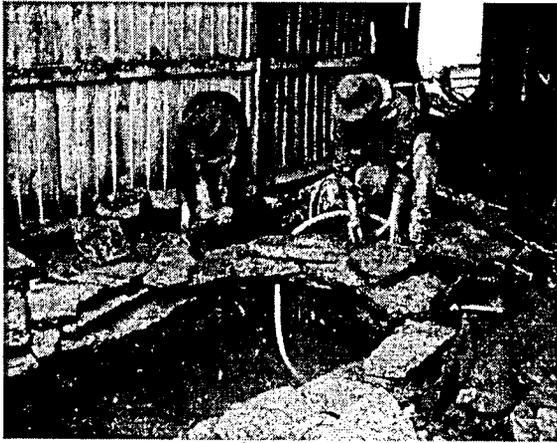


The art mural project (August 2001)

- Susan Morey, a pond specialist, was recruited to conduct a one-day workshop for 4-H Wildlife Stewards on how to create a pond for your habitat. Despite the hard rains, 8 4-H Wildlife Stewards attended the workshop and created a habitat pond.

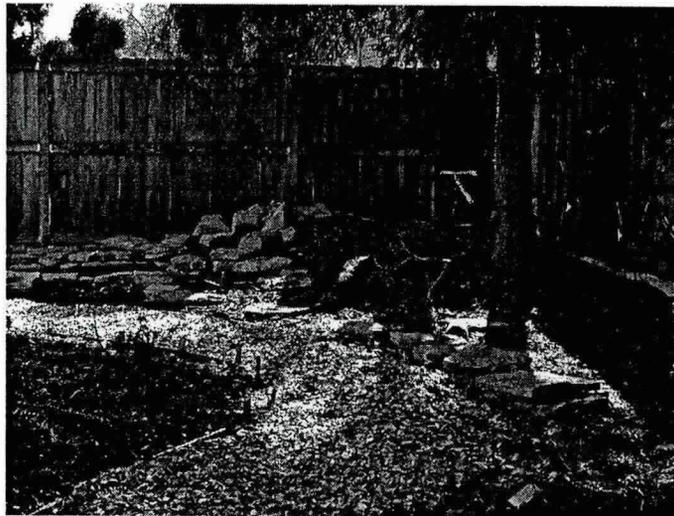


The pond workshop (October 2001)



The pond workshop (October 2001)

- Benches and tables made of recycled materials were ordered for the habitat site. These tables and benches will be used as a teaching station. *The benches and tables are still on back order and will be installed this spring.*
- A wooden fence to create a storage area and to hide unattractive air conditioning/power units was installed in the fall of 2001. A few additional plants were planted this fall.
- A second and much larger planting will take place this spring (spring 2002) with additional donated plants.
- Once the benches arrive and are installed and the second planting takes place, an open house will be conducted for the neighbors and friends of OSU Extension, USFWS and Metro to dedicate the site.



The completed site

This project will provide the 4-H Wildlife Stewards a demonstration site for preparing them for their role in supporting students and teachers at local schools to develop and use wildlife habitats on school grounds. 4-H Wildlife Stewards and Master Gardeners currently serve thirty local schools. These school projects involve students, teachers and parents in projects that create and enhance wildlife habitat.

Future Status

Since this project is envisioned as a demonstration site for 4-H Wildlife Stewards we will continue to add features to the habitat that will most likely be found in a school habitat. Workshops on different topics will be offered to 4-H Wildlife Stewards. These workshops will take place at the demonstration site. Specifically, the following types of workshops will be offered:

- Signage: We are collecting samples of different ways of identifying plants using different materials (clay stones, wood carvings, etc)

- Nest boxes: Bird nest boxes and feeding stations workshops will be offered. 4-H Wildlife Stewards will create and place bird nest boxes and feeding stations in the habitat demonstration site.
- Education Stations: 4-H Wildlife Stewards will create 3-4 lessons for education stations for the habitat site

FINAL NOTE: Since we were delayed by several months to move on this project when we thought the OSU Extension offices might be moving, we did not complete our additional plantings or were able to install the benches. However, we are still scheduled to complete these projects in the next few months. Furthermore, in order to ensure that this project remains an educational project, additional workshops over the next several years, will allow 4-H Wildlife Stewards to not only learn new skills through hands-on experiences, but it will also enhance and expand our habitat site to an even more viable and sustainable project. Thank you to METRO and USFWS for believing in our vision and making our dreams a reality!