

SMITH AND BYBEE LAKES

184944

IF YOU WISH TO SPEAK TO CITY COUNCIL, PRINT YOUR NAME, ADDRESS, AND EMAIL.

NAME (print)	ADDRESS AND ZIP CODE	Email
✓ KATY WEIL	METRO - 600 NE GRAND AVE. PORTLAND	Katy.Weil@oregonmetro.gov
✓ DAVE HELZER	BES - 1120 SW 5th	david.helzer@portlandoregon.gov
✓ Janet Bell	Metro - 600 NE Grand Ave	Janet.Bell@oregonmetro.gov
✓ TROY CLARK	2821 NE KUCKITAT 97212	BRILLOBRAIN@URREACT.COM
✓ PATT O'DYKE	8971 N. Fortune Ave 97203	pattop@rshcast.net
✓ Bill Williams	2100 SW River Parkway	rgwi@deainc.com
✓ Emily Roth	Portland Parks & Recreation	emily.roth@portlandoregon.gov



Oregon

John A. Kitzhaber, MD, Governor

184944

Department of Fish and Wildlife

Northwest Region
17330 SE Evelyn Street
Clackamas, OR 97015
Phone: 971-673-6000
Fax: 971-673-6070

October 12, 2011



Mayor Adams
Commissioner Fish
Commissioner Leonard
Commissioner Fritz
Commissioner Saltzman
1221 SW 4th Avenue
Portland, Oregon 97204

AUDITOR 10/18/11 AM 10:39

*Emailed to Council
10/18/11 km*

Re: Retirement of the 1990 Natural Resources Management Plan for Smith and Bybee Lakes

Dear Mayor Adams and City Council members:

On behalf of the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) and as a member of the Smith and Bybee Wetlands Advisory Committee, I am writing to encourage you to retire the 1990 Natural Resources Management Plan (NRMP) for Smith and Bybee Lakes.

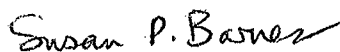
ODFW has provided input on the management of Smith and Bybee Wetlands for many years, relying on the goals, policies and specific management actions outlined in the 1990 NRMP. Over the past 20 years much has been accomplished through the Advisory Committee's collaborative approach to resource management at Smith and Bybee Wetlands. More recently, the Advisory Committee determined that all key actions called for by the 1990 NRMP have been completed and that an updated management plan for Smith and Bybee Wetlands is needed to reflect current resource conditions, include new information on wetland restoration and other habitat management techniques, incorporate the variety of natural resource data collected since 1990, and address current species and habitat priorities, including concerns related to non-native invasive species. This new plan (a Comprehensive Natural Resource Plan) will retain the same vision for the Smith and Bybee Wetlands - to protect and enhance the Smith and Bybee Wetlands area as an environmental and recreational resource for the region. The updated plan will also depend upon the successful and collaborative partnership demonstrated by the Advisory Committee over the years.



Retirement of the 1990 NRMP and adoption of an updated comprehensive natural resource plan is consistent with the Oregon Conservation Strategy (ODFW 2006), Oregon's statewide blueprint for conserving priority species and habitats. The Oregon Conservation Strategy specifically calls out Smith and Bybee Wetlands as an area with unique conservation opportunity and an updated resource management plan will help maximize resource protection and enhancement at Smith and Bybee Wetlands. Retirement of the 1990 NRMP is a key first step in paving the way for an updated resource management plan. With this in mind, ODFW again encourages you to retire the 1990 NRMP and set the stage for the future vision of Smith and Bybee Wetlands.

Thank you to Bureau of Planning and Sustainability Center staff who have worked closely with the Advisory Committee. If you have any questions you may contact me at susan.p.barnes@state.or.us or (971) 673-6010.

Sincerely,



Susan P. Barnes
Conservation Biologist
Northwest Region



Oregon

John A. Kitzhaber, MD, Governor

Department of Fish and Wildlife

Northwest Region
17330 SE Evelyn Street
Clackamas, OR 97015
Phone: 971-673-6000
Fax: 971-673-6070



October 12, 2011

Mayor Adams
Commissioner Fish
Commissioner Leonard
Commissioner Fritz
Commissioner Saltzman
1221 SW 4th Avenue
Portland, Oregon 97204

AUDITOR 10/12/11 PM 5:07 12:43
FW

Re: Retirement of the 1990 Natural Resources Management Plan for Smith and Bybee Lakes

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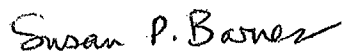
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Thank you to Bureau of Planning and Sustainability Center staff who have worked closely with the Advisory Committee. If you have any questions you may contact me at susan.p.barnes@state.or.us or (971) 673-6010.

Sincerely,



Susan P. Barnes
Conservation Biologist
Northwest Region

www.oregonmetro.gov



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Smith and Bybee Wetlands Natural Area **Comprehensive** **Natural Resource** **Management Plan**



Metro | *Making a great place*

Introduction

At nearly 2,000 acres, Metro's Smith and Bybee Wetlands Natural Area is one of the largest protected wetlands within an American city and one of the region's best-kept secrets. Surrounded on all sides by industrial development, it provides essential habitat for rare plants and a suite of wildlife, from sensitive species such as the Western painted turtle, bald eagle and migrating songbirds, to ubiquitous species such as raccoons, striped skunks and robins. Pulses of wildlife enter and exit as the seasons and water levels change over the course of the year.



The management area is bounded by North Portland Road, Columbia Slough and the Rivergate Industrial District. The project area also includes Columbia Slough, the Ramsey Lake wetland mitigation area and the St. Johns Landfill. The Smith and Bybee Wetlands Comprehensive Natural Resource Management Plan is a tool for protecting and enhancing this area. First developed in 1988 (adopted in 1990), the original plan implemented a management framework, provided the funding and instituted the processes needed to begin restoration of the wetlands. The 1990 plan was first developed through a consensus of property owners,



neighborhood organizations and residents, environmental interest groups and governmental agencies. The common vision shared by this diverse group included a natural area reserved for fish and wildlife habitat and no-impact or low-impact recreational use. The adoption of the 1990 plan was a binding document that:

- preserved Smith and Bybee Wetlands and incorporated the landfill into the management area
- formed the Smith and Bybee Lakes Advisory Committee to coordinate the vision with landowners and the community
- opened the door for Metro's role as owner and land manager
- approved the use of the landfill's "end use fund" for the entire management area
- established a vision for the area and a set of initial policies and actions.

The Comprehensive Natural Resource Management Plan is a new vision. It builds on the legacy of the past 20 years, with an emphasis on the restoration of wildlife habitat. The plan also recognizes the importance of integrating human experiences in the Smith and Bybee Wetlands Natural Area. Through these experiences, the area will continue to garner support and provide educational assets within an urban setting.

Goal and objectives

The goal of the comprehensive natural resource plan is to describe a course of action that will protect and enhance the area as an environmental and recreational resource for the region. The area will be maintained and enhanced, to the extent possible, in a manner that is faithful to the original natural condition. Upland habitats of the St. Johns Landfill will be functionally linked to the wetlands area, adding diverse habitats that support a greater assemblage of wildlife. Only those recreational uses that are compatible with environmental objectives of the plan will be encouraged. Smith Lake and adjacent uplands will be the principal location for recreational activities. Bybee Lake will be less accessible. Its primary use will be as an environmental preserve. The development of this plan involved many people. Special effort was made by the Smith and Bybee Wetlands Advisory Committee. They set the course for the next steps over ten years to include:



- restoration of seven significant conservation target areas
- construction of the regional trail and bridge around St. Johns Landfill
- leveraging the Wetlands Fund with substantial grants to accomplish the goals of the plan
- continuing the strong partnership with St. Johns Landfill in the transformation from landfill to upland prairie.

Development of the plan



The planning process began in the summer of 2009 with a discussion of key topics and identification of who should be involved. The Smith and Bybee Advisory Committee provided the forum and direction for the planning process. Meetings were open to the public and a comprehensive selection of interested stakeholders were invited. Meetings were held approximately every other month through May 2011. A public open house and landfill tour was held in October 2010 and presentations were made to interested organizations throughout the planning process.



The process was based on a two-tiered approach to improve conservation and integrate meaningful human experiences through physical and visual access. The plan recognizes that the conservation of species, habitat and natural features must occur simultaneously with the provision for human access to these natural systems. Education and exposure are the cornerstones for protecting the natural area for decades to come. This two-tiered approach also recognized that conservation and access have different stakeholders, different funding sources and different strategic approaches.

Along with the technical discussions around conservation and recreation, the committee viewed and revised the management plan for the wetlands. In 1990 there were multiple landowners and the designated manager, Metro, had no experience managing natural areas. After 20 years, the projects in the plan have either been accomplished or were found unfeasible and the document no longer provides relevant guidance. A time-consuming legislative action is required to modify the 1990 plan. The 2011 Comprehensive Natural Resource Management Plan is adopted through a land use process and will be easier to keep current.

The plan is anticipated to be in effect for the next ten years during which actions and strategies will be carried out, measured and evaluated.

Conservation

Conservation targets are species, communities or ecosystems that, when conserved, ensure the protection of all native biodiversity at a site. They reflect local and regional conservation goals, and are viable or at least feasibly restorable. The complexity of habitats and species at Smith Bybee Wetlands can be characterized in many different ways at varying levels of details. In order to be manageable, seven targets were identified. Each habitat includes numerous species that depend on the health of the target. The conservation targets identified in the plan include upland prairie, emergent wetlands and open water, shrub wetlands, bottomland hardwood forests, riparian forests, and the Western painted turtle and streaked horned lark.

Key ecological attributes are used to measure the health or viability of the conservation targets.

They are:

- aspects of a target's biology or ecology that, if missing or altered, would lead to the loss of that target over time
- the biological or ecological components that most clearly define or characterize the conservation target, limit its distribution, or determine its variation over space and time
- the most critical components of biological composition, structure, interactions and processes, and landscape configuration that sustain a target's viability or ecological integrity.

The condition of the conservation targets was evaluated and approximately 1,134 acres were found to be in good condition. 720 acres were found to be in fair or poor condition. Based on this assessment, priorities were established for the next ten years. Priority one are actions that provide significant ecologic, education or visitor benefits. These priorities will be implemented in the first five years of the plan. Priority two are actions that are important and will be implemented during the second five years of the plan. The third level of priorities are unlikely to occur during the ten-year time frame of the plan.

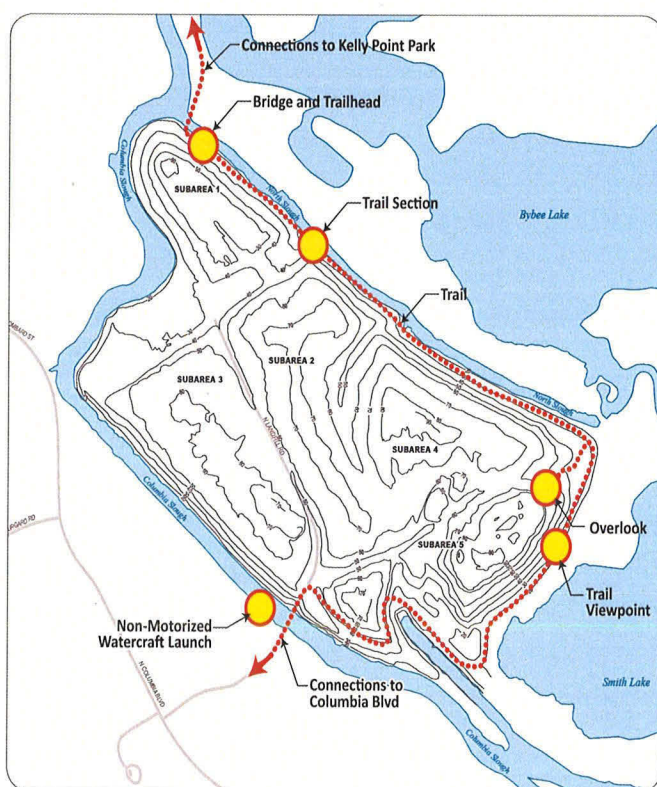
Conservation target	GOOD OR VERY GOOD CONDITION		POOR OR FAIR CONDITION	
	Acreage	Number of units	Acreage	Number of units
Open water/emergent wetland	778.5	14	45.2	13
Shrub wetland	177.6	13	185.6	14
Bottomland forest	0.0	0	259.9	13
Riparian forest	159.8	19	15.6	6
Upland prairie	18.1	6	213.5	2
Totals	1,134.0	52	719.8	48

Recreation and access

The opportunities for people to experience this rare remnant of the Columbia River and slough wetland system are limited but important. A goal of the plan is to create and maintain a delicate balance between increasing wildlife protection and providing opportunities for human interaction with nature. Proposed links and improvements to physical access at Smith and Bybee Wetlands are grouped into several major topic areas: the Interlakes Trail, viewing platforms, the 40-Mile Loop Trail at St. Johns Landfill, the development of viewpoints and a portage at the water control structure. The next ten years will bring a change in people's interaction with Smith and Bybee Wetlands.

The Intertwine at St. Johns Landfill

The Intertwine is the region's network of parks, trails and natural areas. One of the most exciting aspects of the plan is the development of a trail system with new access to Smith and Bybee Wetlands. With the creation of links to the 40-Mile Loop Trail and the North Portland Greenway Trail, the trail at the St. Johns Landfill will attract more people to and through the area. People from North Portland neighborhoods, as well as from neighborhoods with access to the regional trail system, will benefit from the healthy exercise and experience of nature at Smith and Bybee Wetlands. The trail will provide bicyclists, hikers, joggers and nature enthusiasts continuous, non-motorized access within the site with unmatched views from the St. Johns Landfill to the wetlands.



Monitoring

Monitoring at Smith and Bybee Wetlands is an integral part of an adaptive management approach to restoration and maintenance. Based on a plan developed by Metro, a feedback loop is created between monitoring and management decisions. Monitoring is done to evaluate habitat and population responses to management actions, as well as progress toward achieving objectives.

Funding

Smith and Bybee Wetlands Natural Area has a somewhat unusual arrangement of a dedicated endowment fund. The fund was established with the City of Portland's adoption of the St. Johns Landfill End Use Plan in 1987. Sources of income for the fund included a grant from the City of Portland's Refuse Disposal Fund, a portion of tipping fees collected by Metro at the St. Johns Landfill and Metro lease payments to the City of Portland.

The general practice has been to expend the interest on the fund and not touch the principal. Typical expenses include staff salaries and contract property services for restoration activities. In recent years the interest has not yielded sufficient funds to cover these expenses. The 2011 plan calls for higher levels of investment in both restoration and recreation projects. This approach was developed by Metro and the advisory committee and includes five key strategies.



The general approach for funding includes five key strategies

- Use the fund to attract significant grants over the next ten years. The aspiration for restoration is to match the fund one-to-one with grants. For recreation, the aspiration is to contribute to a match for the regional trail and other access-related projects.
- Bring additional resources to the project work. It is anticipated that the landfill fund will substantially contribute to restoration.
- Draw down the fund to achieve high priority goals of the plan. Bring the proposed project work and budget to the advisory committee annually for review and recommendations.
- Continue to fund the basic staff positions needed to manage the day-to-day work, as well as the restoration of Smith and Bybee Wetlands.
- Enlist the advisory committee's support for leveraging funds through grants.



Realization of the Comprehensive Natural Resource Management Plan's priorities relies on strong coordination between the advisory committee, regional partners, the community and Metro. The policies adopted here will help facilitate that coordination and be drawn upon as unexpected circumstances arise. The expectations in this plan are high. To fulfill those expectations, more targeted investment is needed.

To review the complete Smith and Bybee Wetlands Natural Area Comprehensive Natural Resource Management Plan go to www.oregonmetro.gov/smithbybeeupdate.

For more information

contact Janet Bebb at 503-797-1876 or janet.bebb@oregonmetro.gov.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

SMITH AND BYBEE WETLANDS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Committee met regularly and made content decisions about the plan development process.

Dave Helzer, Chair, Portland Bureau of Environmental Services

Pam Arden, 40-Mile Loop Trust

Lynn Barlow, Portland Parks and Recreation

Susan Barnes, Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife

Troy Clark, Vice Chair, Audubon Society of Portland

Larry Devroy, Port of Portland

Sara Henderson, St. Johns Neighborhood Association

Dan Kromer and Dan Moeller, Metro

Patt Opdyke, North Portland Neighborhoods

Dale Svart, Friends of Smith & Bybee Lakes

METRO COUNCIL

Tom Hughes, Metro Council President

Rex Burkholder, Councilor

Carlotta Colette, Councilor

Shirley Craddick, Councilor

Kathryn Harrington, Councilor

Carl Hosticka, Councilor

Barbara Roberts, Councilor

METRO

Metro is the Smith and Bybee Wetlands Fund manager and convened the CNRP planning process.

Jim Desmond, Sustainability Center director

Jonathan Soll, science and stewardship manager

Elaine Stewart, senior regional planner

Janet Bebb, project manager

Paul Ehinger, Solid Waste and Recycling program manager

Paul Vandenberg, St. John's Landfill project manager

Heather Coston, communications associate

Resa Thomason, graphic design and production coordinator

CONSULTANT TEAM

Gill Williams, David Evans and Associates: Kevin O'Hara, Ethan Rosenthal, Brookley Duke, Bob Marshall, Suzanne Carey, and Christine Immroth, Kelly Rogers, Confluence Planning, LLC

CITY OF PORTLAND

The change from NRMP to CNRP was facilitated by Chris Scarzello and Roberta Jortner, City of Portland.

To volunteer at Smith and Bybee Wetlands or sponsor a work party, contact Metro at 503-797-1890 or parkvol@oregonmetro.gov.

184944

Moore-Love, Karla

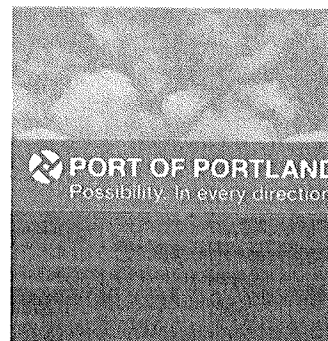
From: Devroy, Larry [Larry.Devroy@portofportland.com]
Sent: Wednesday, October 12, 2011 1:18 PM
To: Moore-Love, Karla; Parsons, Susan
Cc: 'Janet Bebb'; Bouillion, Tom
Subject: Port of Portland Letter of Support for Retirement of Smith and Bybee Lakes Natural Resource Management Plan
Attachments: SmithandBybeeSupportLetter.pdf

Karla and Susan: I am sending this to both of you just to be sure it gets through to the Council. Please let me know if there are any problems with the receipt of this letter. Thank you.

Larry Devroy
Mitigation Program Manager
Port of Portland
(503) 415-6527
larry.devroy@portofportland.com

10/12/2011

Mission: To enhance the region's economy and quality of life by providing efficient cargo and air passenger access to national and global markets.



October 12, 2011

Portland City Council

RE: Retirement of the 1990 Smith and Bybee Lakes Natural Resource Management Plan and Replacement with the new Smith and Bybee Wetlands Comprehensive Natural Resource Management Plan

Dear Mayor Adams and City Council Members:

As a past chairperson and present member of the Smith and Bybee Wetlands Advisory Committee (the "Committee"), representing the Port of Portland, I want to voice the Port's support for retirement of the 1990 Natural Resource Management Plan (NRMP) and the installation of the new Smith and Bybee Wetlands Comprehensive Natural Resource Plan (CNRP). The Port, as a major property owner in the area covered by the plan, has been actively involved in the activities of the Committee since the Plan was first approved in 1990.

The Port recognizes the importance of managing large natural resources such as the Smith and Bybee Wetlands as one unit, despite multiple ownership. Metro has done a great job of implementing the original plan which was certainly a rare and forward thinking document, but it has become outdated as would be expected over a 30-year period. It does not fully address the challenges that the Smith and Bybee Wetlands system faces in the 21st century and it is not as focused on protection of natural resources and the enhancement of passive recreation as the new CNRP is.

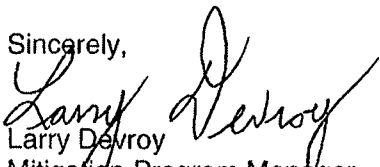
The Port values the new CNRP over the old NRMP because it more fully addresses threats to the Plan area, envisions continued restoration based on conservation targets, and recognizes the necessity of monitoring to determine if those conservation targets are being met. It also recognizes the need to complete the 40 Mile Loop trail segment through the St. Johns Landfill so that the Smith and Bybee Wetlands can be viewed in a way that has less disturbance to wildlife use.

However, the Port sees the need to address two important issues in the CNRP before it is implemented

1. A policy must be included that acknowledges existing physical infrastructure, such as electrical transmission powerlines, other utilities roads and railroads, and the likelihood that those uses will change over time with appropriate levels of review under City of Portland code,
2. A list of known and potential future physical infrastructure projects within the boundary of the CNRP must be included and
3. The boundaries of the Plan area must be corrected to follow taxlot lines of all entities who are willingly included within it. Boundary adjustments are necessary because the initial plan boundary was apparently drawn by hand and not along actual property boundaries.

In the meantime, the Port encourages the repeal of the 1990 Smith and Bybee NRMP and thanks to the Bureau of Planning and Sustainability staff who have worked closely with the Advisory Committee.

Sincerely,



Larry Devroy
Mitigation Program Manager
Marine and Industrial Development
Port of Portland

cc: Susie Lahsene and Tom Bouillion, Port of Portland

184944

Moore-Love, Karla

From: Sara Henderson [kentuckysara@gmail.com]
Sent: Tuesday, October 11, 2011 4:03 PM
To: Moore-Love, Karla; Parsons, Susan
Cc: Janet Bebb
Subject: Letter for support of Repealing NRMP For City Council Tomorrow
Attachments: Letter of Support for NRMP Repeal.pdf

Hi there,

Janet Bebb from metro gave me your contact information. I am the St. Johns Neighborhood Association's representative for the Smith and Bybee Wetlands Advisory Council. I am unable to personally attend the meeting tomorrow so I wanted to send a letter of support to be given to all council members for review. I'm unfamiliar with the process and I hope I have handled this appropriately. Attached is a pdf of the letter. Please let me know if I need to do anything further.

Thank you,

--

Sara Henderson
sara2@pdx.edu
859.420.5865

10/11/2011

Sara Henderson

10128 n hudson street
Portland, OR 97203

T 859 420 5865
sara2@pdx.edu

October 8, 2011

Mayor Sam Adams
Commissioner Dan Saltzman
Commissioner Randy Leonard
Commissioner Amanda Fritz
Commissioner Nick Fish

Dear Mayor Adams and Members of the Portland City Council,

I am on the Smith and Bybee Wetlands Advisory Committee representing the St. Johns Neighborhood Association.

The Smith and Bybee wetlands are an important component of both our neighborhood and our region. The wetlands support a diverse array of plants and animals essential to the environmental health of this area and provide a vital link between human and nature. Because the Smith and Bybee Wetlands are located within Portland, they allow us an opportunity to experience nature within a short distance, reminding us of our place within the environment and the impacts we have on it.

I joined the Advisory Committee in October of 2010. While my experience has been short, it is clear to me how useful joint management and these partnerships have become, providing high quality management to the Smith and Bybee wetlands over the past 20 years. Before becoming a member of the council, I visited the St. Johns landfill open house as a birthday outing last year. I fell in love with the passion and expertise of those involved, as well as the amazing sights of bald eagles, turkey vultures, beavers, painted turtles, and deer within a mile of my house. After joining the committee and attending the meetings, I quickly learned how helpful a tool it is to have diverse backgrounds and perspectives when planning the future of an area which is important to many stakeholders: environmentalists, hikers, boaters, bikers, nature enthusiasts and surrounding business owners to name a few.

The NRMP needs to be repealed:

While the NRMP was visionary 20 years ago, bringing together the council and making important movements to protect the Smith and Bybee Wetlands for the future, it is out of date. Portland's population has grown dramatically and this growth has had a

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dramatic impact on the Smith and Bybee Wetlands. With the installation of the water control facility and the efforts to restore the area to its historical state, the area is quite different from the area considered under the NRMP. Also, environmental management has greatly evolved over the past 20 years and we have better tools to assess and manage natural areas. With the repeal of the NRMP and adoption of the new plan, the CNRP, we can move forward with managing the wetlands using up to date methods and motivations.

The CNRP should be adopted:

For the past year and a half we have been hard at work revising and updating a management plan for the Smith and Bybee Wetlands which reflects the new vision with the key tenets of the NRMP still intact. Repealing the NRMP will set the stage in adopting the CNRP and effectively move us forward into a new generation of environmental management.

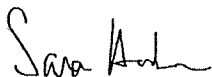
Over the next 10 years we look forward to continuing restoration based on conservation targets and using adaptive management techniques to ensure the most effective restoration results. Construction of the St. Johns Landfill trail and pedestrian bridge will create key connections in between the Willamette River Greenway and the Columbia River. These connections are significant both regionally and locally and they will directly benefit the St Johns Neighborhood, where I live.

Pulling together the expertise of Portland BES, Portland Parks, Metro, and the Port with the interests of the community and advocates is a practical and useful way to ensure the best stewardship of the wetlands. The Advisory Council has been dedicated to the health of this habitat and its wildlife for the past 20 years and we will continue our dedication for this important community asset.

Thank you to Bureau of Planning and Sustainability Center staff who have worked closely with the Advisory Committee.

I encourage you to support the repeal of the 1990 NRMP.

Sincerely yours,



Sara Henderson
Smith and Bybee Wetlands Advisory Council
St. Johns Neighborhood Association



184944

Staff**Mike Houck**, Executive Director**Officers****M J Cody**, Chair**Goody Cable**, Vice-chair**Bob Wilson**, Secretary/Treasurer**Board****Mike Fahs****Steffeni Mendoza Gray****Mel Huie****Tom Liptan****Janet Oliver****Kelly Puntenev****Jim Rapp****Ruth Roth****Judy BlueHorse Skelton****Advisory Board****Bill Blosser**,

Bill Blosser Consulting

Janet Cobb,

California Oak Foundation

Patrick Condon,

University of British Columbia

John Fregonese, President,

Fregonese Associates, Inc.

Randy Gragg, Editor, Portland

Spaces Magazine,

Dan Heagerty, Sr. VP/Strategic

Officer, David Evans Enterprises

Steve Johnson, Public

Involvement Consultant

Charles Jordan,

The Conservation Fund

Jon Kusler, Association of

Wetland Managers

Peg Malloy, Director,

Portland Housing Center

Dr. Rud Platt, Ecological Cities

Project

Dr. Joseph Poracsky

PSU Geography

Rodolpho Ramina, Sustainability

Consultant, Curitiba, Brazil

Ann Riley, California Department

of Water Resources

Geoff Roach, Oregon Field

Director, Trust For Public Land

Jennifer Thompson,

U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Paddy Tillett, Architect, ZGF,

Portland

Ethan Seltzer, Director, PSU

School of Urban Studies and

Planning

David Yamashita,

Senior Planner, Long Range Planning,

Maui, Hawaii

Dr. Alan Yeakley, PSU

Environmental Sciences and

Resources

Lynn Youngbar, Organizational

Development Consultant

September 21, 2011

Sam Adams, Mayor
City Council
1220 SW Fourth Avenue
Portland, OR 97204

Dear Mayor Adams and Commissioners,

I am writing in support of repealing the Smith and Bybee Lakes Natural Resources Management Plan (NRMP) that you will consider on October 12th. I am, unfortunately, unable to attend the hearing and wanted you to know that, as a long time supporter of protection and restoration of 2,000-acre Smith and Bybee Lakes, that the NRMP has served its purpose and it's now time to move on to a more flexible, adaptive management regime for one of the region's iconic landscapes.

It was my good fortune to have been involved in early efforts to protect Smith and Bybee Lakes in the early 1980s and to have taken an active role in development of the original NRMP. I am fully confident that Metro and the City of Portland, in cooperation with the Smith and Bybee Lakes management group, will continue to manage the lakes first and foremost for their regionally significant ecological values.

I urge you to put the NRMP to rest, which will allow Metro and the city to move forward with sound ecological management and, where appropriate, low impact nature-based recreational uses of the wetland system.

Respectfully,

Mike Houck