

**GREENSPACES RESTORATION PROJECT  
FINAL REPORT**

**May 23, 2000**

**PROJECT NAME: EAST DELTA POND**

**FUNDING YEAR: 1999 – 2000**

**PARTNERS: METRO AND PORTLAND PARKS & RECREATION**

**CONTRACT # 921045**

## 1: Project Description

This project was proposed and carried out by Portland Parks & Recreation with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service funding distributed through Portland Metropolitan Parks and Greenspaces Program (METRO). It included removal of undesirable plants, mostly blackberry on approximately 400 feet of pond bank. Planting with native plants was completed along this section with a width of about 50 feet. The pond is located on the west edge of East Delta Park adjacent to our Urban Forestry Division headquarters and the I-5 freeway.

The pond is fed by ground water, freeway runoff and drainage from East Delta Park. It acts as a floodwater containment facility, and has been filling with silt rapidly.

## 2. Goals and Benefits

This project offers an opportunity to restore an urban pond to a more natural condition. It is adjacent to a new sports complex, so may increase public awareness of this type of project. Due to the location, the site can easily be used as an interpretive center by Portland Parks & Recreation. We are also restoring habitat for both resident and migratory birds and other animal species. Last year I mentioned good results of sediment tests and this year ODOT and the Army Corps of Engineers will be increasing the depth of the pond from it's present 6" to 5'.

## 3. Work Tasks and Timelines

Aug. 1999	Site prep and blackberry removal
Sept. 1999	same
Oct. 1999	mulching of planted area
Nov. 1999	same
Dec. 1999	planting of native trees and shrubs
Jan. 2000	same
Feb. 2000	no activity
Mar. 2000	more mulch and planting of emergent wetland plants
Apr. 2000	same
May 2000	blackberry control and planting plus irrigation

## 4. Project Budget

METRO		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$10,076.76</b>
	Envirocorps Services	\$5200	
	Plant Material	\$2000	
	Supplies (irrigation)	\$ 676.76	
	Supplies (mulch)	\$2200	

MATCH		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$10,745.15</b>
	Plant material	\$2000	
	Staff labor	\$8522.40	
	Equipment	\$223.15	

## 5. Project Staff / Workers / Volunteers

Urban Forestry Division staff and Northwest Service Academy (Envirocorps) worked together on this project. Portland Parks Horticultural Services grew and supplied the plant material.

## 6. What Worked and What Didn't

This year we planted a large number of trees and shrubs in the hope of suppressing re-growth of blackberry. As of mid May there has been some regeneration. A thick layer of mulch was installed, up to 10 inches deep, at the time of planting. The blackberries that recurred are much easier to remove from this mulch layer. I am hoping that the same will be true of morning glory which will surely try to invade the site.

## 7. Monitoring and Maintenance

The pond is located at our Urban Forestry Division headquarters so monitoring will be done on a daily basis. The main things we will monitor are soil moisture and invasive weeds. Portland Parks & Recreation staff will maintain the site.

## 8. Next Steps

This summer the depth of the pond will be increased to 5 feet at the center. Nesting mounds will be created as islands for safe refuge for waterfowl. At this time the only fish present are carp. If approval from the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife can be obtained, bass, bluegill and crappie will be reintroduced. About half of our pond has been completed with METRO grants and we hope to continue this partnership until the whole pond is restored. Our relationship with Envirocorps has grown stronger over the years and we also hope to continue this.

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