



meeting notes

project River View Natural Area Management Plan

date 10/15/2013

time 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm

present See below

location: Springwater Conference Room, Portland Parks & Recreation

subject TAC Meeting #2 (First Indoor Meeting)

Meeting Attendees, Including Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)	
Shannah Anderson, Land Acquisition Specialist, BES (TAC)	Susie Mattke-Robinson, Landscape Architecture Staff, ESA VA
Rachel Felice, Stewardship Coordinator, PP&R (TAC)	Kendra Petersen-Morgan, Natural Resources Ecologist, PP&R (TAC)
Greg Hawley, Trail Program Coordinator, PP&R (TAC)	Steve Roelof, Project Manager, ESA VA
Kate Holleran, Natural Resources Scientist, Metro (TAC)	Emily Roth, Project Manager, Natural Resource Planner, PP&R (TAC)
Sage Jensen, Natural Resource Ecologist, Sage Environmental Services	Maija Spencer, Public Involvement Specialist, PP&R
Paul Ketcham, Willamette Watershed Manager, BES (filling in for TAC member Mary Bushman)	Doug Zenn, Public Involvement Facilitator, Zenn Associates

1. Introductions

Emily Roth, Project Manager at Portland Parks & Recreation (PP&R) commenced the second meeting for the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) by welcoming attendees, who gave brief introductions. Emily reviewed upcoming deliverable dates from the consultant team. Zach Jarrett, Bureau of Land Management was not in attendance.

2. Site Analysis

The consultant group reviewed initial concepts for the upcoming Site Analysis deliverable, seeking feedback from the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC). Steve Roelof, project manager at

ESA Vigil-Agrimis, and Susie Mattke-Robinson reviewed a series of GIS layers to gather TAC input for priorities on site analysis figures. The figures will be presented to the public at the first community meeting on November 12, 2013.

Steve discussed Stormwater Management Opportunity Areas that ESA Vigil-Agrimis identified from city stormwater line outlets. The Opportunity Areas are those areas from which urban stormwater is collected and discharged into the streams of RVNA. The areas could be good locations for stormwater management features to provide on-site infiltration. The group noted feature retrofit areas may have been identified in the BES sub watershed plan. A TAC member noted the need for stormwater infiltration areas that control the hydrologic pulse (quantity and rate of flow). A TAC member will investigate whether the Portland Downspout Disconnection Program includes parts of the neighborhood identified in the Stormwater Management Opportunity Area. Additionally, Highway 43 should be included as a Stormwater Management Opportunity Area, as it contributes heavy metal inputs that are detrimental to fish downstream of the site.

Steve next reviewed transportation layers and led a discussion on parking priorities. A TAC member stated showing parking inside RVNA would be in conflict with the conservation easement. Emily noted the natural area is not required to have parking. The group will investigate the right of way width of Palatine Hill Road. A TAC member suggested a public survey may help the group understand anticipated parking demands. The transportation plan should include nearby bus stops. Bike parking locations may be considered in the future. A TAC member noted that the PAC member affiliated with Lewis & Clark stated the college may be open to sharing parking lots in summer and after primary class/school hours.

The group next discussed water quality priority areas in RVNA to determine extents. The environmental protection zone (P-zone) developed by the City of Portland is one possible boundary for water quality priority areas. Steve noted that using the P-zone data may not be sufficient, as the overlay was broadly mapped and does not include all stream sections. A TAC member suggested using the site potential of native trees to guide the stream buffer widths. The site potential for forest stands in this area of southwest Portland is typically 100 to 150 feet. The group also suggested investigating 50-foot, 100-foot, and 200-foot buffers on streams. Slope classes could additionally help identify water quality areas around streams.

To address interior habitat extents, the group noted the NRI (Natural Resource Inventory) document that may describe function for species and defines edge distances as 200' wide. A TAC member noted the criteria for interior habitat size is a minimum of 30 acres. A TAC member noted important wildlife connection areas are from RVNA to Tryon Creek State Natural Area and from stream six in RVNA to Powers Marine Park. The group reiterated that the highest priority for the site (and criteria for planning) is protecting key resources of wetland and perennial streams for water quality. Another priority is protection of wildlife corridors.

The group discussed priorities for showing existing trails and public access to RVNA. Showing slope classes with trails may indicate locations for best management practices, such as trails avoiding steepest slopes. Soil information should be presented based on levels of erosiveness (slight, moderate, high) for clarity. No standards exist for PP&R trail density, and a potential reference could be U.S. Forest Service standards for wilderness and other recreation areas.

3. Plan Goals and Objectives

Steve next led the discussion of establishing the TAC members' goals and objectives for RVNA. While discussing draft goals, a TAC member noted the need to consider measuring biological systems for uplift through function and process goals. Group members noted the Watershed Health Index, Habitat Inventory, and IBI surveys may be suitable metrics to measure biological health on site. The group established the following draft *Goals* and *Function Based Goals*:

- 1) *Goal:* Protect and enhance water quality and hydrologic function
Function Based Goal: Restore normative* stream processes (e.g. sediment flows, flow, transport, energy movement)
- 2) *Goal:* Enhance and protect wildlife corridors and habitat
Function Based Goal: Foster connectivity for wildlife/birds/fish/amphibians
- 3) *Goal:* Provide compatible recreation and access
Function Based Goal: Provide safe and sustainable access to nature consistent with natural resource functions
- 4) *Goal:* Provide opportunities for environmental education, research, and stewardship
- 5) *Goal:* Improve forest health and structural diversity

As the meeting time was coming to a close, Emily suggested refining function based goals via email.

The team also listed the following Guiding Principles for the RVNA Management Plan:

- Improve ecological health
- Directing future management priorities by a science-based approach
- Provide access to nature

A TAC member noted that several trails at RVNA have recently been altered by unknown parties. Two berms have been constructed on Trail Six, a berm has been constructed on Trail Three on a closed fall line trail, and Trail Seven A has been altered. Signs will be posted shortly noting trail alterations by non-PP&R staff are considered vandalism per ORS code.

Emily adjourned the meeting, stating she will request further input from TAC members via email for additional project goals.