

NATURAL RESOURCES BOND PROJECT SUMMARY SHEET: Winkelman Park Restoration

Project Time Period:	November 2010 – April 2015
Project Manager:	John Gaddis
Today's Date:	12/9/10

OVERVIEW

Winkelman Park is located in the southwest quadrant of the Park District, to the east of Cooper Mountain Nature Park, and is approximately 20 acres in size. The proposed natural area on the property would consist of approximately 1.08 acres of an uncultivated area in the southwestern corner of the property. Currently the habitat consists of an open meadow with a few large trees and a natural spring that seeps out of the hillside. Native trees and shrubs will be planted throughout the site, with a focus on creating a native oak woodland habitat, which is a regionally rare habitat and targeted for conservation throughout the Park District. The park has unique topographic characteristics that are considered an asset and could be utilized with a loop trail paralleling proposed natural areas.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

History

Paul & Verna Winkelman donated this property to the Park District in 1998. The 20-acres originally functioned as a homestead and farm for the Winkelman family. It appears, from previous aerial photographs of the park, the former owner farmed the majority of the property but left the southwestern corner intact. A Master Plan for the park was completed in 2010 and outlines a number of amenities, including a multi-use field, restrooms, picnic shelters, community gardens, adequate parking and a loop trail around the park that will connect with a future regional trail heading to Cooper Mtn Nature Park just around the corner.

The topography throughout this portion of the site suggests that the surrounding uplands drain downslope into this corner of the property. In addition, a natural spring is located in this area. Vegetation currently along the perimeter of the site consists mainly of evergreen forest with some Oregon white oak and a number of Pacific madrone. Oregon white oak is a regionally rare species and targeted for conservation throughout the Park District. Keeping this in mind, the ideal vegetation for a buffer around the property would consist of Oregon white oak, ponderosa pine, Pacific madrone, Douglas spiraea, common snowberry and slough sedge.

All areas planted will be mulched to maximize survival rates through the first year of establishment. A split-rail fence will also be installed along the eastern and northern edges of this natural area to protect the vegetation until it is well established.

In its current state, the park provides a diversity of terrain for patrons interested in passive recreation. By maintaining the topographic character of the southwestern portion of the site, the park could provide opportunities for passive recreation, as well as some of the active uses planned for the site.

Project Concerns and Strategy

The natural area of Winkelman Park has one area for restoration, including Restoration Zone 1 (R1), which is located in the southwestern corner of the park. Work in this area will include native vegetation installation, which in the long-term will create an oak woodland habitat. In order to give the native vegetation a leg up through the establishment period, mulch will be placed and grasses will be

maintained around the plantings. A split-rail fence will also be installed along the eastern and northern edges of this restoration zone, which will help to protect plantings through the establishment period.

Stakeholder Issues	
Neighbors	Neighbors to the west would like to maintain their mountain view.
User Conflicts	Dogs off-leash.
Regulatory Agencies	CWS.
Easements	None.

OBJECTIVES (INDICATORS OF PROJECT SUCCESS)

- A minimum survival rate of 80% of installed native vegetation.
- A maximum of 10% cover by non-native invaders, including Himalayan blackberry, field bindweed, bittersweet nightshade and English hawthorn.
- Public support of this project throughout the public meeting process.
- Completion of this project within projected staff time and budget.

PROJECT SCHEDULE

Task	Start Date	End Date
Planning	November 2009	July 2011
Construction	March 2012	September 2012
Site Prep	April 2011	December 2011
Planting	February 2012	February 2013
Maintenance/Monitoring	May 2012	July 2013

BUDGET

Total Approved Budget	\$10,300
Contractors	3,302.40
Materials	5,355.00
Contingency (15%)	\$1,545.00
Total	\$10,202.40