



NATURAL RESOURCES BOND PROJECT PLAN: Hazeldale Habitat Restoration

Project Time Period: Q1 2012 – Q4 2015
Project Manager: Scott Hinderman
Date Plan Written: May 2012

OVERVIEW

The Hazeldale Park covers 16.7 acres in the SW quadrant of the park district. It consists of two prior properties, Rosa Park and Hazeldale Park. The area is dominated by Celebrity Creek's riparian corridor and floodplain. Hazeldale Park has many patron amenities, including a tennis court, playgrounds, sports fields, paved trails, and a THPRD managed dog-park. The paved trail through the creek corridor starts at Rosa Road and connects neighborhoods to the north to Farmington Road. To improve habitat diversity, improve water quality, and reduce maintenance costs, 1.3 acres of mowed turf will be replanted with native trees and shrubs and an additional .5 acres will have non-native plants removed and replanted with native trees and shrubs.

PARK DESCRIPTION

Hazeldale Park is generally linear in fashion, running north/south along Celebrity Creek. Developed areas are along Rosa Road to the north and access from SW Prospect via SW 192nd in the south. A paved trail runs the length of the park, allowing access to Farmington Road to the south and SW 197th to the west. Playgrounds, athletic fields, a THPRD managed dog park, and tennis courts onsite are all well utilized by park patrons, and the trail system is used extensively for recreation and as a transportation corridor to Farmington Road.

Through the park, Celebrity Creek has the character of a waterway that has been channelized to drain a property for agriculture: a well-defined, incised channel in a historic wild floodplain. The riparian corridor generally has a healthy tree and shrub component, but several areas are maintained as mowed turf despite their seasonal inundation. Through volunteer efforts and a Clean Water Services restoration project, non-native vegetation such as blackberry and reed canarygrass have been reduced to a manageable level in the northern half of the park.

HISTORY

Volunteer efforts at Hazeldale Park have provided significant benefit to the natural area. Friends of Rosa Park, SOLV, and Clean Water Services have all partnered to remove non-native vegetation and plant native trees and shrubs.

RESTORATION PLAN

The restoration has been broken up into four prioritized areas. (See map below.) Two areas (R1 and R2) are mowed turf and designated as Non-Natural habitat types. R1 and R2 will be converted from mowed turf to native trees and shrubs. The third (R3) is a Palustrine Forest in need of non-native removal and the fourth (R4) area is previous mitigation site that could benefit from a planting of native wetland grasses. Restoring these areas will improve habitat diversity, improve water quality, and reduce maintenance costs.

Project Concerns and Strategy

This project builds on the strong support of volunteers to restore Hazeldale Park. Volunteers will be utilized in the restoration planting, mulching, and the installation of a split rail fence. We are using site preparation, planting, and establishment activities that are tried and true.

Stakeholder Issues

Neighbors	Several homes back up onto R1, and landowners may have concerns about a new management pattern. R2 is an area in close proximity to a highly used field complex and a dog park.
User Conflicts	None
Regulatory Agencies	Clean Water Services, Oregon Division of State Lands, Army Corps of Engineers. No activities are scheduled that would trigger consultation with any of these agencies.
Easements	A sanitary sewer runs through the project area.

OVERALL OBJECTIVES (INDICATORS OF PROJECT SUCCESS)

- A maximum of 10% cover by targeted non-native species throughout restoration sites.
- A minimum of 2,700 native trees/shrubs per acre in the restoration sites.
- Public support of this project throughout the public meeting process.
- Completion of this project within projected staff time and budget

