NATURAL RESOURCES BOND PROJECT SUMMARY SHEET:
Tadpole Ponds Restoration

Project Time Period: January 2011 – July 2016
Project Manager: Sarah Skelly
Today's Date: 12/01/2010

OVERVIEW

The Tadpole Ponds cover a 3.7 acre area in the northeast section of the Tualatin Hills Nature Park. The area consists of five seasonal ponds and the surrounding vegetation, which contains a mix of native and non-native plants. To improve native habitat, contractors will conduct extensive invasive species removal and install native plants.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

History

The Tadpole Ponds consist of five shallow seasonal ponds with a mix of native and non-native vegetation. Ponds typically fill with winter rain and dry up by August. They are of high value to wildlife and are breeding grounds for red-legged frogs, Pacific tree frogs, and salamanders. Aquatic vegetation, inundated shrubs, and woody debris supply anchors for amphibian egg masses. This site is located under PGE power lines and is dissected by a natural gas line that runs under a berm. The Tadpole Ponds restoration area was a PGE mitigation site until 2010. Since 2002, two other major native plantings, combined with invasive species control, have supplemented the mitigation project. However, vegetation is still not thriving around or in the ponds. Many environmental education programs utilize these ponds year round, making it a prime candidate for additional restoration work.

Project Concerns and Strategy

The target invasive species is non-native reed canary grass, which currently covers approximately 90% of the restoration area. Other targeted invasive species include Himalayan blackberry, tansy ragwort, Canada and bull thistle, and English hawthorn. Native plant cover is approximately five percent of vegetation at this site.

Restoration goals include the removal of the target invasive weeds by mechanical and chemical control, then replanting with native species. The focus will be to establish 25% native coverage within the restoration site, primarily around the perimeter of the five ponds, for the benefit of wildlife and water quality. By the end of the establishment period in 2016, the goal is to have native plants growing densely enough to help prevent non-native species from taking up more than 20% cover.

Stakeholder Issues

Neighbors	None
User Conflicts	Education programs in this area will be restricted during certain phases of the restoration project.
Regulatory Agencies	Clean Water Services
Easements	Bonneville Power, NW Natural Gas

OBJECTIVES (INDICATORS OF PROJECT SUCCESS)

- 25% native plant coverage across the entire 3.7 acre restoration site and 80% native plant coverage within a 15 foot perimeter of all five ponds.
- 80 % survival of installed plants at the end of the establishment period.
- A maximum of 20% cover of targeted invasive species throughout restoration site by the end of the establishment period.
- Public support of this project throughout the public meeting process and outreach.
- Completion of this project within projected staff time and budget.

PROJECT SCHEDULE

Task	Start Date	End Date
Planning	December 2009	December 2010
Restoration	July 2011	April 2013
Site Prep	May 2011	November 2012
Planting	February 2013	March 2013
Establishment	April 2013	July 2016

BUDGET

Total Approved Budget	$30,000
Contractors	$15,391.40
Materials	$8,461.25
Permits	0
Contingency (15%)	$4,500
Total	$28,352.65