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May 25, 2009

Mr. Rick Pratt
US Army Corps of Engineers Seattle District
Regulatory Branch CENWS OD RG
PO Box 3755
Seattle, WA 98124-3755

RE: SR 18: 180th Avenue to Maple Valley (SR 18 Wetland KA)
USACE Permit Number 1999-4-00171

Dear Mr. Pratt,

The Washington State Department of Transportation completed qualitative monitoring of the site on July 21, 2008 to address Year-7 (2010) performance measures. Monitoring activities included an assessment of wetland hydrology, vegetation observations and photo documentation. This Year-6 report is being issued for compliance with the USACE Permit Number 1999-4-00171 reporting requirements.

General Site Information	
USACE IP Number	1999-4-00171
Restoration Location	SE corner SR 18 at the Jenkins Creek Bridge, King County
Construction Date	2003
Monitoring Period	2004-2013
Year of Monitoring	6 of 10
Area of Project Impact	0.14 acre
Type of Mitigation	Wetland Restoration
Area of Mitigation	0.18 acre

Summary of Monitoring Results and Management Activities

Performance Measures	2008 Results	Management Activities
Hydrology	Present	
Control King County Class A, B and County-selected noxious weeds across entire site	None observed on site	Weed control
Less than 25% cover <i>Phalaris arundinacea</i> (reed canarygrass) across entire site	Less than 5%	Weed control
25% cover of 3 or more facultative or wetter native species in forested wetland	40% cover	

How is the Site Developing?

Vegetation on-site continues to develop, with well-established plantings averaging 3 meters in height. Effective weed control combined with time and favorable site conditions appear to have resulted in an overall increase of woody cover. It appears that cover of woody species is greater on the south end of the site than the north end.

Results for Performance Standard 1

(Wetland creation and restoration areas demonstrate wetland hydrology):

Wetland hydrology was present in all intended wetland creation areas. A majority of the site contained standing water up to nine inches and water-stained leaves were observed along the edges of the site.

Results for Performance Standard 2

(King County Class A, B and County-selected weeds controlled across entire site):

No King County Class A, B or County-selected priority noxious weeds were observed on-site, meeting the standard for Year-7. However, King County Non-designated Noxious weeds, *Hypericum perforatum* (common St. Johnswort) and *Phalaris arundinacea* (reed canarygrass), were observed in isolated patches throughout the site. King County Noxious Weeds of Concern observed on-site include: *Rubus armeniacus* (Himalayan blackberry) and *Rubus laciniatus* (cutleaf blackberry).

Results for Performance Standard 3

(Less than 25% cover *Phalaris arundinacea* (reed canarygrass) across entire site):

Cover of *P. arundinacea* is less than five percent across the entire site, meeting the standard for Year-7. This is a great improvement over conditions observed in 2007. Continued weed control efforts would be beneficial.

Results for Performance Standard 5
(25% cover 3 or more native woody species
in forested wetland):

Cover in the forested wetland is 40 percent.
This exceeds the standard for Year-7. More
than three facultative and wetter woody
species were observed in this area.
Dominants include *Populus balsamifera*
(black cottonwood), *Salix* species
(willows), *Spiraea douglasii* (hardhack),
and *Picea sitchensis* (Sitka spruce).



Photo 1 – Woody cover in forested
wetland

For questions about this report or the mitigation site please contact me at 360-570-6640 or by e-mail at busht@wsdot.wa.gov.

Sincerely,

Tony Bush
Wetland Assessment and Monitoring Program

