

Moses Lake Wetland Mitigation Bank Columbia Basin, Grant County, WA

Overview

The 11.3-acre Moses Lake Wetland Mitigation Bank (Moses Lake Bank) is within the City of Moses Lake in Grant County, Washington. The Moses Lake Bank was WSDOT's first fully operational mitigation bank.

Planning for the Moses Lake Bank began in 1999, construction was completed in 2001, and the Mitigation Bank Instrument (MBI) was signed in June 2003. The site is owned by the City of Moses Lake, and is protected in perpetuity by a conservation easement obtained by WSDOT in 2002. The City assumed long-term management of the site in 2011, and in consultation with WSDOT, will continue to manage and maintain the site until at least 2018.

The text of the MBI is available at:

<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/NR/rdonlyres/C8D44A78-AD81-4A29-8C3F-C18B60006C00/0/MosesLakeMBI.pdf> (pdf 1.9 mb).



Viewing platform with educational sign.

Ecological Goals

The primary goals of the Moses Lake Bank are to restore and enhance a degraded urban wetland, improve wildlife habitat, and to provide educational opportunities to the local community. These goals were achieved by removing fill, enlarging open water habitat, establishing native plant communities, and installing a viewing platform and interpretive sign. The mitigation activities restored 0.5 acre of historical wetland and significantly improved functions on the remaining 10.8 acres of wetland.



Students help with planting the site.

Current Status

The Moses Lake Bank completed the 14th year of development in 2015, and is doing well in many respects. The interior buffer has developed into a dense screen of native shrubs between the wetland and the adjacent formal Japanese garden. The area of non-native Russian olive has been reduced to less than half of the original amount. Purple loosestrife and yellow flag iris continue to occur on the site, but are being controlled. WSDOT will continue to monitor the site through 2020, or until all of the mitigation credits have been used. For additional detail on how the Moses Lake Bank is doing, read the 2015 monitoring report available at:

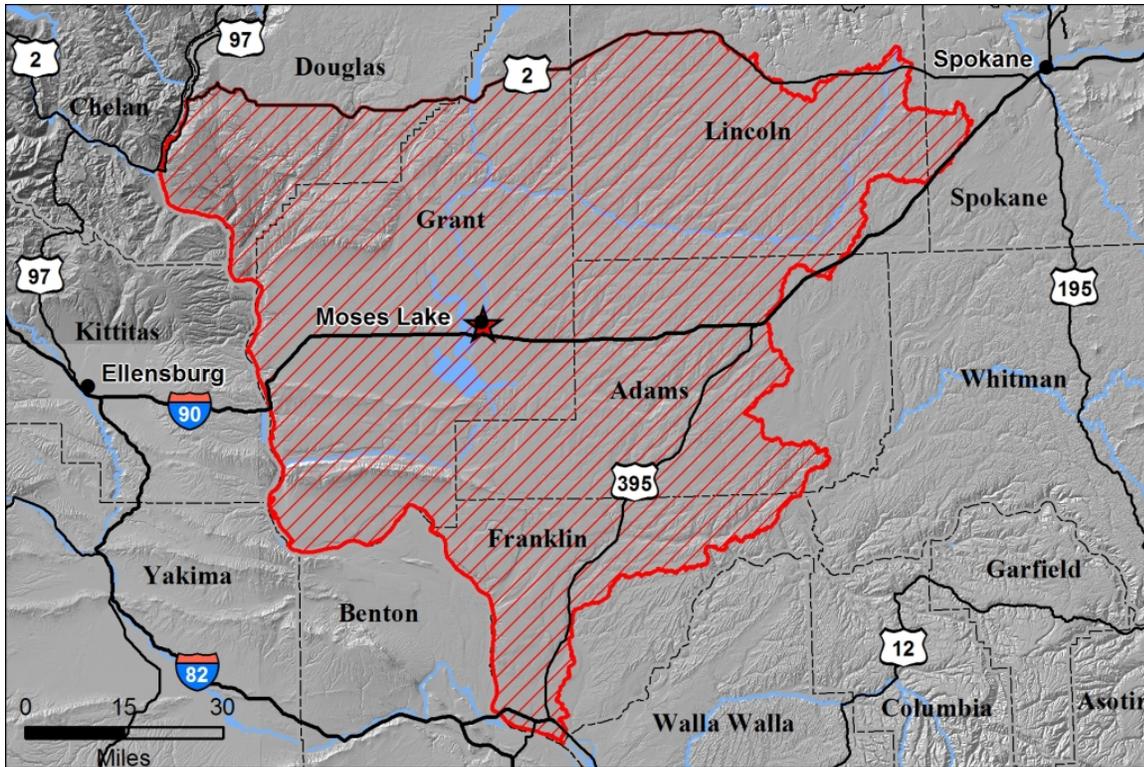
<http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/NR/rdonlyres/7543FFE8-F3CC-4EEE-826B-A8ED760D8089/0/2015MosesLakeBank841.pdf>



Cattails in the wetland (August 2013)

Expected Use

The Moses Lake Bank site was established to provide advance compensatory mitigation for unavoidable impacts to wetlands from transportation construction projects within the Columbia Basin. The service area includes portions of five Water Resource Inventory Areas (WRIAs 36, 41, 42, 43, and 44).



The table below summarizes the credits earned and used at the Moses Lake Bank.

Ledger Summary (As of May 2016)	Credits	Debits
Potential Bank Total	5	
Earned to Date	5	
Credits Used by Projects		
SR 26 E Southwest to Adam's County Line		(0.24)
SR 26 Vantage area to Royal City		(0.22)
SR 17 Pioneer Way to Stratford Park		(0.857)
SR 2/97 South of Orondo Passing Lanes		(0.05)
Grant County Public Works project		(0.042)
Total Credits Used		(1.409)
Credit Available	3.591	

If you have questions about this mitigation bank please contact [Claton Belmont](#), North Central Region Environmental Manager.

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