



CITY OF PORTLAND  
ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES



1120 SW Fifth Avenue, Room 1000, Portland, Oregon 97204 ■ Nick Fish, Commissioner ■ Dean Marriott, Director

## Memorandum

**Date:** Sept 6, 2013

**To:** Maureen Minister, Port of Portland  
Carrie Butler, Port of Portland  
Sean Loughran, Port of Portland

**From:** Nancy Hendrickson, City of Portland Bureau of Environmental Services

**CC:** Dave Helzer, City of Portland Bureau of Environmental Services  
Dominic Maze, City of Portland Bureau of Environmental Services

**RE:** Government Island Grassland Mitigation 2012 Annual Report and Project Success Measures

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Through recent coordination, the City and the Port have worked to clarify habitat targets (metrics/measures of success) for Phase 1 of the Government Island Grassland Mitigation project. This work occurred as part of the review process for the project's first annual report (2012 Annual Report). The Port responded to input from experts and City staff by adding vegetation height monitoring to its overall monitoring plan. The City and the Port have also come to agreement on a revised set of habitat metrics for Phase 1, which is considered a field trial for the larger 300 acre project. The complete set of metrics now captures the intent of the project as outlined in the City/ Port IGA.

City staff agree with the changes in metrics outlined in the Port's recent memorandum to the City [dated September 4, 2013]. These include the addition of a vegetation height metric for optimal Western meadowlark habitat. Meadowlarks are considered an "umbrella" species for the grassland bird element of the 300 acre project. The changes also include some refinement and clarification of other habitat targets.

The City accepts and approves the 2012 Annual Report (July 2013 Revision). This approval is with the agreed understanding that the revised metrics as outlined in the September 4, 2013 memo will be included and reported in the 2013 Annual Report (due January 2014). The final September 4 revised metric Table 1 provided by the Port is attached to this memo for ease of reference.

The City looks forward to continued collaboration with the Port on this important project.

Sincerely,

Nancy Hendrickson  
Columbia Slough Watershed Manager  
City of Portland Bureau of Environmental Services

**Table 1**

<b>Success Measure</b>	<b>Target</b>	<b>Monitoring Date</b>	
		<b>Overall</b>	<b>Native Species</b>
Relative % cover of native species	50% or more	NA	
Relative % cover of woody vegetation	Less than 15%		
Relative % cover by forbs	Approximately 10-30%		
Relative % cover of bare ground	Greater than 5%, but no more than 20%		NA
Number of single non-native plants with more than 50% cover	No single non-native plant will have more than 50% cover on site		NA
Relative % cover of invasive non-native species	Less than 25% overall cover		NA
Plant species richness	At least 10 native species		
Number of grass species	3 species of native grasses		
Number of bunch-type grass species	At least 1 native species of bunch grass		
Number of forb species	Preferably 10 native species of forbs but no less than 7 native forb species		
Mean height (inches) of vegetation	12 – 24 inches		NA
Vegetation between 6-12"	Less than 25%		NA
Vegetation between 12-24"	Greater than 50%		NA
Vegetation greater than 24"	Less than 25%		NA