

Project Update

Sodom and Shearer Dam Removal Projects

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The project to remove Sodom and Shearer Dams and provide channel restoration is on schedule for implementation Summer 2011. The project's final design documents are available to download from the Council's webpage at: <http://www.calapooia.org/projects/sodom-dam-fish-passage-improvement-and-flow-management/preferred-alternative-design/>

Permitting

The project's permitting is inching forward. We have received our DSL permit, but are waiting on our FERC approval, USACE permit, and Linn County floodplain permit. Each of these has several components and most are satisfied. The details of what has been approved and what is pending are provided below.

Permit Updates:

- Engineered drawings for dam removal design and site restoration plan. Submittal to USACE and DSL with 404 permit application. Submitted mid-December 2010. Still awaiting permit issuance. Pending DEQ 401 certification.
- Submittal of License Surrender Application (LSA) to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). Submitted August 2010 – awaiting approval from FERC. Expected by early May 2011.
- Archaeology field investigation and report. Submittal to US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) mid-December 2010. Approved in late March 2011.
- Hydraulic modeling for Letter of No-Rise Certification, for submission to Linn County Planning Department. Submitted to Linn County early March 2011. County requested additional information. Re-submitted to Linn County April 2011. Hydraulic report will be available to download from Council website by April 18, 2011.
- Sediment Evaluation Framework report underway. Submittal to US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) mid-November 2010. SEF clearance received in January 2011.
- Biological Assessment to comply with ESA consultation. Submittal to NOAA Restoration Center in mid-December. NOAA's Restoration Center issued the BiOp in February 2011.

Other Components

- Secure landowner agreements. By end of April 2011.
- Develop RFP for project construction. RFP complete by end of April – ready to distribute early May 2011.
- Prepare construction permit for OPRD. By end of April 2011.
- Secure ODFW written fish passage approval from ODFW's Fish Passage Coordinator. By end of May 2011.
- Prepare Quality Control and Inspection Plan (QCIP) and submit to FERC. May 2011 (prior to construction).
- Prepare Temporary Emergency Action Plan (TEAP) and submit to FERC. May 2011 (prior to construction).

- Coordinate pre-construction monitoring to document pre-project conditions. OSU, RDG and OPRD will complete in May/June 2011 (prior to construction).

Upcoming Meetings

Oregon Parks and Recreation Department has contracted with River Design Group to develop a set of alternatives for managing water at the Mills and in the mill pond. OPRD is hosting a public meeting to review these alternatives on **April 19, 2011 from 10 am to noon at the Halsey Pioneer Villa.**

Construction Update

The Council is working with River Design Group to prepare a bid package that will be sent out to the construction firms who have contacted the Council and expressed an interest in bidding on the project. Additionally, the project will be advertised on the Council's webpage. RDG has several contacts with local (within 25 miles of the watershed) contractors with the skills to implement the project that will receive notice of the project. The Council's Management Committee can discuss whether to advertise the project even more broadly. Bid pack will be available early May.

Access Agreements

Construction access for Shearer and Sodom is being discussed with the affected landowners. Several private landowners are impacted by the construction activity and will need to enter into MOUs with the Council and construction firm prior to on-the-ground activities. All MOUs will be in place by early May.

Odds and Ends

Local nurseries (Native Grounds and Seven Oaks) are growing out willow cuttings for the Sodom Channel restoration. We are working to contract with an expert on planting planning to assist us with developing the vegetation restoration plan on the Sodom Channel for the area directly affected by the project's construction of the engineered riffles. Dennis O'Connor with Habitat Concepts out of Portland has extensive experience in re-vegetating challenging riparian sites. He has visited the Sodom Channel and provided some preliminary concepts.

Please contact me with any questions or concerns,

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