

memorandum

date July 29, 2010
to Betty B. Sanders, City of Redmond Parks & Recreation
from Cathie Conolly
subject Smith Property - Revised Wetland Assessment

At the request of the City of Redmond, ESA Adolfson performed a wetland assessment for the Smith Property, located between NE 122nd Street and NE 124th Street in Redmond, Washington. The five-acre Smith Property is located adjacent to a parcel owned by the City and planned for development as the Northeast Redmond Neighborhood Park.

ESA Adolfson previously delineated streams and wetlands on the Northeast Redmond Neighborhood Park site and prepared a critical areas report (April 2009). The Neighborhood Park site includes two wetlands: Wetland A on the eastern portion of the site, and Wetland B on the western portion. A stream runs north-south through Wetland A. Wetland A was determined to extend off-site to the east (onto the Smith Property), and Wetland B extends off-site to the west.

ESA Adolfson biologists Cathie Conolly and Sara Noland visited the Smith Property on May 4, 2010. Cathie Conolly visited the site again on July 12, 2010 with the daughter of the owner, Ms. Kathy Curry, who provided some additional site information. Cathie Conolly again visited the site again on July 22, 2010, and adjusted the wetland boundary in two locations, due to new information (described below).

On May 4, 2010 ESA delineated the remaining portion of Wetland A that extends east from the Neighborhood Park site onto the Smith Property. The wetland boundary was flagged in the field and mapped using a Trimble XT GPS (see attached figure). The GPS points were differentially corrected in the office; following the correction, the points had an average precision of 1.8 feet (range 0.7 to 7.5 feet). The wetland boundary flags have not been surveyed. Portions of the boundary were adjusted on July 22, 2010, and those new GPS points were differentially corrected and mapped on the attached figure. The location of the stream included on the figure was previously surveyed by Pace Engineering in 2009 for the Northeast Neighborhood Park delineation (ESA Adolfson, 2009).

A portion of the wetland identified in May 2010 has been removed from the delineated wetland boundary, based upon information from Ms. Curry that an irrigation pipe in this former garden area has been leaking for a number of years and had recently been disconnected. The area of Wetland A on the Smith property is 0.26 acre (11,462 square feet). The total area of Wetland A, including areas on both the Neighborhood Park site and the Smith Property, is 1.6 acres (67,732 square feet) (see attached figure and data sheets). Vegetation types in Wetland A include palustrine forested and palustrine emergent; the wetland encompasses an excavated pond. Consistent with the April 2009 critical areas report, Wetland A is a Category III wetland using the Washington State Wetland Rating System for Western Washington as required by City code, and is protected by a 75-foot buffer.

A second wetland, Wetland C, was identified on the subject site. This wetland is a small depression formerly identified as a portion of Wetland A in May 2010. An area of upland soil, apparently excavated from the area of the adjacent pond, separates Wetland C from Wetland A. Wetland C is 1,669 square feet in size. According to Ms. Curry, this depression was excavated by her father. The City code has an exemption for artificially created wetlands (RCDG 20D.140-10-030 (1)[b]), which exempts this wetland from City regulation.