



NATURAL RESOURCES BOND PROJECT SUMMARY SHEET: Jenkins Estate Restoration & Trail Improvements

Project Time Period: January 2009 – December 2015
Project Manager: John Gaddis
Today's Date: 06/30/10

OVERVIEW

Jenkins Estate is nestled in the foothills of Cooper Mountain and covers 65.95 acres. Approximately 65% of the park is natural area dominated by evergreen and deciduous forests, with a small portion of mixed forest. Two unnamed, intermittent streams flow through the park. Activities at Jenkins Estate include a variety of both active and passive recreational uses, as well as opportunities for using a variety of rental facilities and specialized gardens. Currently, about 2.8 miles of neighborhood trails wind through the natural areas and provide access to the various parking areas throughout the park. Redundant trails and non-native vegetation throughout the park negatively impact the forest habitat. Efforts to improve native habitat will include removal of unnecessary trails, non-native species removal, and native plant installation. The project will also implement a number of trail improvements, including the installation of directional signage and drainage, where necessary.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

History

The area was logged between 60 and 100 years ago and remnants of the original stumps are present throughout the forests. The previous owners of the estate, Belle Ainsworth Jenkins and Ralph Jenkins, created numerous English gardens in the early 1900s. These gardens still exist within the central eastern section of the park, near the Main House, Stables, Gate House, Greenhouse, and other structures.¹ The gardens have a wide variety of both native and non-native species. Some of these non-native species will be managed so that they do not adversely impact the nearby natural areas.

All of the natural areas of Jenkins Estate are forested. Mature deciduous and evergreen trees, with a diverse shrub and herbaceous layer of both native and non-native plants, dominate the natural areas of Jenkins Estate. Two unnamed, intermittent streams flow through the park. One stream is the headwaters of an unnamed tributary of Butternut Creek that originates near the highest elevation of the park's southern edge. The second stream is a continuation of a storm water ditch along SW Grabhorn Road that crosses through the park from the northeastern edge. This parcel provides valuable habitat for western gray squirrels² and is home to plant species targeted for conservation, including Oregon white oak, Pacific madrone and fairy slipper orchids.

Non-native plants present the greatest threat to the integrity of the natural areas. Species present throughout the park include English ivy, periwinkle, English holly, Japanese knotweed, cherry laurel, privet, Himalayan blackberry, English hawthorn, Amur honeysuckle, cultivated plum and sweet cherry are scattered throughout the forests. Efforts to remove English ivy, periwinkle, English holly and Himalayan blackberry have been made throughout the southern end of the natural areas, surrounding Camp Rivendale.

¹ Tualatin Hills Park and Recreation District, Jenkins Estate History, (Beaverton, Tualatin Hills Park and Recreation District, 2006) 1-2.

² Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, Sensitive Species, (State of Oregon, 1997) 8.

The public has created several unauthorized trails throughout the natural areas. There are also a handful of repetitive trails in the park that are not necessary, as they go through the same habitats as nearby trails or create additional unnecessary access points. Unauthorized and excessive trails will be decommissioned to maintain safe conditions throughout the existing trail system and minimize impacts to the natural areas. Other improvements to the trails include creating well-defined entrances, the installation of drainage, improved surfaces, directional and map signage, garbage cans and dog bag dispensers at specific locations.

Poison-oak is dense in many areas of the park, especially along the western and northern edges. While this is a native plant that benefits wildlife, it will be removed along trails to reduce risks to park users.

Work will include removal of non-native plant cover, predominantly Himalayan blackberry (*Rubus armeniacus*), English ivy (*Hedera helix*), periwinkle (*Vinca spp.*) and traveler's joy (*Clematis vitalba*). English holly (*Ilex aquifolium*), English hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*), privet (*Ligustrum spp.*), Amur honeysuckle (*Lonicera mackii*), cultivated plum (*Prunus cerasifera*) and laurel species (*Prunus lusitanica* or *Prunus laurocerasus*) will also be removed from these areas when found. Native plants will be installed where necessary. Native willow cuttings will be densely installed in riparian areas to increase bank stability.

Specified trails will be decommissioned through the establishment of a duff layer, overstory trees and an understory shrub layer. In order to ensure the establishment of vegetation in these areas, temporary (barrier fencing and small woody debris) and permanent (large woody debris) physical barriers will be placed along and, more specifically, at the mouth of these trails.

The remaining trails in the park will also receive a number of improvements, including:

- creation of well-defined entrances that could include the installation of directional and map signage, split-rail fencing, garbage cans and dog bag dispensers;
- re-grading of uneven trails;
- installation of drainage;
- resurfacing of washed out trails where necessary; and
- rerouting steep portions of trails to improve safety and usability.

Stakeholder Issues

Neighbors	Dog kennel & rock quarry
User Conflicts	Dogs off-leash, poison-oak along trails, facility rentals
Regulatory Agencies	CWS & Washington County
Easements	None

OBJECTIVES (INDICATORS OF PROJECT SUCCESS)

- A maximum of 10% cover by targeted non-native species throughout restoration sites.
- Complete closure of decommissioned trails, allowing native plants to become established throughout these areas.
- Complete trail improvements noted in the project plan.
- Public support of this project throughout the public meeting process.
- Completion of this project within projected staff time and budget.

PROJECT SCHEDULE

Task	Start Date	End Date
Planning	December 2009	September 2011
Site Prep	September 2011	January 2013
Planting	January 2013	February 2013
Maintenance/Monitoring	February 2013	December 2015

BUDGET

Total Approved Restoration Budget	\$135,200
Contractors	\$78,000
Materials	\$35,000
Contingency (15%)	\$20,280
Total	\$133,280

Total Approved Trails Budget	\$16,200
Contractors	\$8,000
Materials	\$6,200
Contingency (15%)	\$2,000
Total	\$18,200