

**COUNCIL RESOLUTION No. 43-2022**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MILWAUKIE, OREGON, ADOPTING A 2023 WORK PLAN FOR ELK ROCK ISLAND.**

**WHEREAS** in April 2017 the City of Milwaukie agreed to accept transfer of ownership of Elk Rock Island from the City of Portland, and

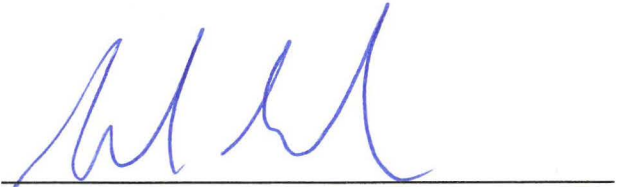
**WHEREAS** central to the transfer was the expectation that Elk Rock Island would be maintained consistent with the 2016 Management Plan for Elk Rock Natural Area, and

**WHEREAS** the City of Milwaukie agreed to provide Portland Parks and Recreation an annual report (Work Plan) detailing actions taken to implement the 2016 Management Plan.

**Now, Therefore, be it Resolved** that the City Council of the City of Milwaukie, Oregon, that the 2023 Elk Rock Island Work Plan, which demonstrates Milwaukie's commitment to operate and maintain Elk Rock Island, in partnership with North Clackamas Parks and Recreation District (NCPRD), as a regional natural area in perpetuity, is acknowledged and accepted.

Introduced and adopted by the City Council on **June 7, 2022**.

This resolution is effective immediately.



Mark F. Gamba, Mayor

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



Scott S. Stauffer, City Recorder



Justin D. Gericke, City Attorney

## Submitted to the City of Milwaukie by NCPRD Staff

This report was created for the sole purpose of the City of Milwaukie reporting to Portland Parks and Recreation (PP&R) regarding the City of Milwaukie and PP&R intergovernmental agreement (IGA) for the transfer of Elk Rock Island from PP&R to the City of Milwaukie. City of Milwaukie staff drafted this report template in 2018 and provided it to North Clackamas Parks and Recreation District (NCPRD) to enter a brief summary of tasks accomplished the prior fiscal year (FY) and proposed work plan for the next FY. This report does not get into the details about work performed at the site. This report contains field level data and tasks and no time or tasks associated with administration.

NCPRD's Contributions to the management of Elk Rock Island.

### **FY 2021/2022 Completed Actions:**

The actions related to Elk Rock Island during Fiscal Year 21/22 can be broken down into three groups:

1. **Collaboration for public safety.**
  - a. City of Milwaukie Police: In coordination with NCPRD, Fire District #1 and response to citizen complaints, the City of Milwaukie police visited the site numerous times to resolve issues.
2. **Strategic Actions from PP&R 2016 Management Plan:**
  - a. **Goal 1. Protect water quality**
    - i. NCPRD cleaned and replaced vandalized signage.
    - ii. Dog bags and signs that inform visitors to pick up their dog's waste are managed at several locations.
    - iii. NCPRD provided a portable restroom at the site for more months than past years.
    - iv. City police and NCPRD worked together to manage off trail impacts like vegetation trampling, soil erosion, trash, alcohol, campfires, etc. at the site.
    - v. NCPRD staff helped pick up trash weekly at the site during summer months and every other week the rest of the year (except when high water prevents walking access).
    - vi. Follow up work from the wildfire recovery including
      1. Monitoring soil stability
        - a. Monitoring native plant establishment
        - b. Controlling weeds within the planted and seeded areas
    - vii. Elements of the Management plan that involve Elk Rock Cliff are PP&R responsibility, not the City of Milwaukie/NCPRD.
  - b. **Goal 2. Establish resilient regenerative and diverse native vegetation communities (NCPRD staff spend the majority of their staff time working on this goal).**
    - i. NCPRD is collaborating to monitor and manage Early Detection and Rapid Response (EDRR) and invasive plant populations including garlic mustard, false brome, and others. For example, staff have visited the site weekly to monitor

and control garlic mustard and false brome at the effective time to implement Best Management Practices (BMP)'s for control.

- ii. Discuss survey and monitoring of plant populations with Portland Bureau of Environmental Services (BES) staff, Native Plant Society of Oregon Portland Chapter (NPSO) and other partners.
    - 1. Controlled weeds around some monitoring plots to allow the plant populations to thrive
    - 2. Working to make updates to the monitoring protocol and provide additional management recommendations
  - iii. NPSO is supporting the update of the island wide plant species list.
  - iv. NCPRD is a member of the Intertwine Oak Prairie Working Group and Cascadia Prairie Oak Partnership
  - v. NCPRD staff hand removed regenerating seedlings that pose competition for the Oak woodland.
  - vi. NCPRD staff attend trainings on invasive pest identification including forest insect and disease.
  - vii. Follow up work from the wildfire recovery included
    - 1. Re-seeded some areas of the moderate and high soil burn severity with native seed.
    - 2. Monitoring the germination of the seed and reestablishment of herbaceous layer and shrubs.
    - 3. Controlling weeds within the seeded areas of the burn unit.
- c. Goal 3. Create and maintain vertical and structural habitat complexity**
- i. When non-native trees are controlled, they are left as snags if they do not pose a risk.
  - ii. Trees and limbs that are damaged by storm events or die naturally will be left as snags if they do not pose a risk to visitors. Branches will be left on the site and may be piled to enhance wildlife habitat.
- d. Goal 4. Identify, establish, and protect healthy wildlife habitat**
- i. NCPRD conducts frequent monitoring and control of invasive weed populations, focusing on EDRR weeds, in addition to weed populations that compete with native plant establishment.
  - ii. Trees and limbs that are damaged by storm events or die naturally will be left as snags if they do not pose a risk to visitors. Branches are left on the site and may be piled to form wildlife habitat if they do not increase fire risk.
- e. Goal 5. Increase community engagement, education, stewardship, and awareness**
- i. NCPRD is actively working with the NPSO and has worked with Friends of ERI and Spring Park (FERISPark) to maintain or increase education and stewardship activities at the site.
    - 1. NPSO has supported the update of the island wide plant species list, monitoring rare plants, weed control, and wildfire recovery.
    - 2. FERISPark conducted tabling events to educate visitors before and on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July to decrease visitor impacts and increase ownership and value. Fewer trash pickup events were coordinated during the summer

2021 due to COVID-19. Those events are proposed to re-start in the summer of 2022.

3. NCPRD partnered with the North Clackamas Watersheds Council to sponsor an annual restoration focused service event in the winter of 2022 (that event had need cancelled in 2021 due to COVID 19).
4. NCPRD partnered with SOLVE to sponsor trash pickup service events in 2021.

### 3. Volunteer and Education events

- a. **June 26-27, 2021** **Tabling focused on Wildfire closure, Education and No Fireworks**
- b. **July 3-4, 2021** **Tabling focused on Wildfire closure, Education and No Fireworks**
- c. **Nov 20, 2021** **No Ivy Day Volunteer Service**
- d. **Jan 29, 2022** **Volunteer Service with NCWC controlling weeds and trash pick-up.**
- e. **April-May 2022** **Partnering with NPSO to conduct monitoring and weed control**

### FY 2022/2023 Proposed Work Plan

The work plan presented below is a starting point for capturing the management of Elk Rock Island.

The work plan incorporates key intervention actions from the Portland Parks and Recreation September 2016 Management Plan for Elk Rock Island. The work plan below addresses the proposed efforts for the remaining part of the fiscal year and the new fiscal year beginning July 1, 2022. Due to COVID impacts on social gathering, NCPRD and volunteer support groups have had a difficult time determining a work plan for the next FY. This is our best guess at what might be possible for the next FY.

#### 1. Strategic Actions from PP&R 2016 Management Plan:

##### a. Goal 1. Protect water quality

- i. Manage signage at the site to educate and encourage visitors to follow rules and protect habitat.
- ii. Maintain dog bags dispensary and signs that encourages visitors to pick up dog waste.
- iii. NCPRD to provide a portable restroom at the site over 9 months of the year.
- iv. NCPRD will collaborate with City police to manage off trail impacts, trash and other types of dumping, fires, alcohol, etc. at the site.
- v. NCPRD staff will collaborate with volunteers to pick up trash weekly at the site during summer months and once every other week when access to island is available during winter.
- vi. Continue follow up on work tasks connected to wildfire recovery.
- vii. Monitor the stabilization of the soil and if needed seeding with native seed both in the fall of 2022 and spring of 2023
- viii. Monitor and ensure that the trail re-routes have stabilize tread and are not contributing to soil erosion.
- ix. Monitor and make recommendations about the social trails and off trail impacts to sensitive habitat
- x. Elements of the Management plan that involve Elk Rock Cliff are PP&R responsibility, not City of Milwaukie/NCPRD.

##### 2. Goal 2. Establish resilient regenerative and diverse native vegetation communities.

- i. Continue to collaborate to monitor and manage EDRR and invasive plant populations.

- ii. Survey and monitoring of plant populations with Native Plant Society of Oregon Portland Chapter (NPSO) and other partners.
    - i. Control weeds around additional monitoring plots to allow the plant population to thrive
    - ii. Partner to make updates to the monitoring protocol and provide additional management recommendations
    - iii. Partner with NPSO to the update of the island wide plant species list.
  - iii. Continue participation in the Intertwine Oak Prairie Working Group and Cascadia Prairie Oak Partnership.
  - iv. Train staff on invasive pest identification including forest insect and disease.
  - v. Follow up work from the wildfire recovery included
    - i. Sow additional native seed as needed in the moderate and high soil burn severity areas.
    - ii. Monitor the germination of the seed and reestablishment of herbaceous layer and shrubs.
- 3. Goal 3. Create and maintain vertical and structural habitat complexity**
- i. When non-native trees are controlled, they are left as snags if they do not pose a risk.
  - ii. NCPRD will control non-native trees on the island. Bole of the tree will either be left on site to add LWD on the ground or will be left standing to increase vertical complexity.
  - iii. Monitor for potential hazard trees within the wildfire burn units
- 4. Goal 4. Identify, establish, and protect healthy wildlife habitat**
- i. Trees and limbs that are damaged by storm events or die naturally will be left as snags if they do not pose a risk to visitors. Branches will be left on the site and may be piled to form wildlife habitat if they do not increase fire risk.
  - ii. Continue to build partnerships with volunteers to assist with wildlife monitoring.
- 5. Goal 5. Increase community engagement, education, stewardship, and awareness**
- iii. Continue to work with volunteers and volunteer groups to promote stewardship and conservation education, and value at the site.
  - iv. Collaborate to control weeds at the site both in the wildfire burn units and outside of the burn units.
  - v. Collaborate to remove trash from the site
  - vi. Partner to provide education to visitors to increase knowledge, ownership, and value of site.
- 3. Proposed Volunteer events 22-23**
- vii. Spring work with volunteers to control weeds and monitor native plants.
  - viii. Partner to sponsor two summer trash pickups and an educational event
  - ix. October 2022 – No Ivy Day: Volunteers pulled ivy on Elk Rock Island and the adjacent Spring Park.
  - x. Winter 2023 – volunteer service event to remove trash and control weeds.