

Elk Rock Island Natural Area

Management Plan

Final Draft

October 13, 1994

Prepared by
Portland Parks and Recreation
in cooperation with
City of Milwaukie
North Clackamas Parks District
Friends of Elk Rock Island Natural Area

Table of Contents

Chapter 1:	Background	
	Location and General Description	1
	Legal Description and Zoning	1
	Park History	3
	Development of Management Plan	3
Chapter 2:	Natural Resources	
	Geology	5
	Vegetation Communities and Habitat	6
	Rare and Unusual Plants	10
Chapter 3:	Public Use	
	Current Uses	11
	Current Facilities	13
	Appropriate Uses	14
Chapter 4:	Public Services	
	Parks and Recreation	18
	Police and Fire	20
Chapter 5:	Recommendations	
	Policies	23
	Implementation Plan	24

Chapter 1: Background

Location and General Description

Elk Rock Island Natural Area consists of three publicly owned parcels and adjacent private land located along the Willamette River in Clackamas and Multnomah Counties. Elk Rock Island and Spring Park are located on the east side of the main channel of the river. Elk Rock is on the west side of the river.

Elk Rock Island is owned by the City of Portland and managed by Portland Parks and Recreation. The island is fifteen acres in size and is managed as a natural area, available for appropriate passive recreation uses. The island lies within unincorporated Clackamas County, south of the city limits of Portland and abutting the City of Milwaukie. The island is accessible by boat and by foot from the Milwaukie side except during high water periods.

Spring Park is owned by the City of Milwaukie and is managed by the North Clackamas Park District (NCPD). Spring Park is 6.87 acres in size and, like Elk Rock Island, is currently managed as a natural area. Spring Park also lies within Clackamas County but is within Milwaukie city limits.

Elk Rock is a prominent feature on the lower Willamette directly west of Elk Rock Island. A steep rock face, Elk Rock rises from the river at about 10 feet above sea level to nearly 270 feet at SW Riverside Drive (State Highway 43). The park portion of this feature is 3.08 acres. Elk Rock is in unincorporated Multnomah County south of Portland city limits. The park is owned by the City of Portland and managed as a natural area. A substantial portion of a 1,200 foot long railroad tunnel built through Elk Rock is within the park ownership.

Legal Description and Zoning

Elk Rock Island

Legal description as found on deed to the City of Portland is as follows:

That certain island in the Willamette River above the town of Milwaukie, Oregon, formerly known as Whitcomb Island, now called Rock Island, lying near the Southwest corner of the Lot Whitcomb's Donation Land Claim No. 38 in Township one (1) South of Range One (1) East of Willamette Meridian, containing fifteen (15) acres of land more or less.

Elk Rock Island is shown on Clackamas County maps as: 1S 1E 35, 100.

***Elk Rock Island Natural Area
Management Plan
October 13, 1994***

Elk Rock Island is zoned **OSM** (Open Space Management) by Clackamas County. This zone is applied to parks, public and private recreation areas including golf courses and school playgrounds, cemeteries, and unique natural areas dedicated to the public or preserved by easement.

Spring Park

Spring Park is composed of all of blocks 24, 25, and 27 (Robertson Addition); portions of lots 2, 4, 6, and 8 of block 16 (Robertson Addition); certain adjoining vacated streets; and a lot partitioned from private property and added to the park's southwest corner. Also described as tax lots 5900, 6000, 6100, 6200, 6300, 6400, 6500, and 6601, quarter corner DD, section 35, 1S, 1E.

Spring Park is zoned **R5** with a **NR (natural resource)** overlay. In addition, the Milwaukie Comprehensive Plan includes Spring Park in the Willamette Greenway.

Elk Rock

Tax lot 10, Section 35, 1S, 1E. Quarter section map 4231. Tax account 99135-0100.

Elk Rock is zoned by Multnomah County as **R-30** (30,000 sq. ft. minimum single family residential) with **CS** (Community Service), **WRG** (Willamette River Greenway), and partial **FW** (Floodway) overlay zones.

Private Property

Adjacent private property to the north and south of Spring Park also have significant natural resource value. These areas are functionally part of the Elk Rock Island Natural Area. The property includes portions of tax lot 3100, quarter corner DA, section 35, 1S, 1E; portions of tax lots 2800, 2900, 3000, 3100, 3200, 3300, 6600, 6700, and 6800 (outside Milwaukie city limits), quarter corner DD, section 35, 1S, 1E. Of these lots that are inside Milwaukie city limits, all are zoned **R5** with a **NR** overlay.

***Elk Rock Island Natural Area
Management Plan
October 13, 1994***

Park History

The Peter Kerr family gave Elk Rock Island to the City of Portland in 1940, with the requirement that the island "be used solely as a public park or playground, or for public park or public playground purposes, for the use and enjoyment of the public generally". A deed transferring Elk Rock Island from the Kerr family to the City of Portland was executed on November 30, 1940. Portland City Council authorized the acceptance of the island by ordinance 74751, passed on December 27, 1940. Deed was recorded on January 8, 1941. Both the deed and the ordinance designated the island as Peter Kerr Park. The Kerr family formally dedicated the island on Peter Kerr's 93rd birthday, October 29, 1954.

A history of Elk Rock Island was written by Milwaukie resident Esther K. Watson in 1984. Ms. Watson's document provides a pre-park history for the island.

Spring Park was purchased by the City of Milwaukie from Hilda Keller in 1971. In 1980, the City of Milwaukie vacated much of Lark St. (aka 6th St.) on the south edge of Spring Park. In 1980, to correct an encroachment problem, Milwaukie traded a .25 acre portion of the vacated street to the property owner to the south, with the City acquiring approximately .36 acres adjacent to the Willamette River. The south boundary, as adjusted, was re-surveyed in 1988-89 (Gaylord) and iron rods were found at all corners.

Elk Rock, on the west side of the Willamette, was also given to the City of Portland by the Peter Kerr family. The deed transferring the property was executed on June 2, 1955, and recorded on June 28, 1955 (book 1730, pages 251-252). The deed conditioned that the property "shall be used solely as a public park... and that (it) shall be known as 'Peter Kerr Park'." The deed also references an earlier conveyance of a portion of Elk Rock to The Oregon and California Railroad Co. (recorded July 21, 1922; book 886, page 210).

Development of Management Plan

In 1989, an effort was made by interested citizens and by parks department staff from the cities of Portland and Milwaukie to develop a management plan for Spring Park and Elk Rock Island. The management plan was to address park problems and to establish policy direction ensuring adequate protection of natural resources. Public meetings were held in Milwaukie City Hall to collect citizen input, and a plan was drafted in early 1990. The draft management plan was submitted for review to the Milwaukie Planning Commission. Staffing shortages forced a delay in finalization and approval of the plan until 1994.

*Elk Rock Island Natural Area
Management Plan
October 13, 1994*

The management plan addresses important issues related to natural resource protection, public use, and provision of public safety services.

The draft plan was revised slightly in content and form in early 1994, and is scheduled for review by the North Clackamas Park District, the Milwaukie Planning Commission and City Council, and Portland City Council.

NOTE. To avoid confusion between the island and the steep rock escarpment on the west side of the river, both of which are officially named "Peter Kerr Park", this document generally refers to the island area as Elk Rock Island and the escarpment as "Elk Rock".

Chapter 2: Natural Resources

Natural resources existing in the Elk Rock Island natural area are significant. This chapter provides an overview of natural resources and identifies issues related to each resource area. Chapter 2 reviews geology, vegetation communities and habitat, and rare and unusual plant resources.

Geology

The predominant bedrock geology of the Elk Rock Island and Spring Park consists of Waverly Heights Basalt which is describe fully on the *Geologic Map of the Lake Oswego Quadrangle* (GMS-59, Oregon State Dept. of Geology).

Waverly Heights Basalt is particularly interesting due to its age. Formed in the mid and late Eocene Period (between 36.6 and 52 million years ago), the rock substantially predates the more common Columbia River Basalts of the Miocene Period (10 to 25 million years ago). Elk Rock Island is of particular interest to geologist because the Waverly Heights Basalt is well exposed. It should be noted that Waverly Heights Basalt does exist in a substantial way in the Lake Oswego/Tryon Creek area, but there it is largely overtopped with mineral soils.

The relative hardness of the Waverly Heights Basalt explains why Elk Rock Island exists. The later and softer basalts were more easily eroded by the Willamette River, leaving the intrusion of Waverly Heights Basalt in the line of the river, creating the island and the narrows to the west.

Spring Park is part Waverly Heights Basalt and part mixed alluvium deposits of a relatively recent period.

The Elk Rock escarpment is composed of two mid-Miocene Period basalts.

Management Implications

The geology is unique in the Portland area and offers a significant opportunity for interpretation and education. Because of its unique character, the exposed rock areas should be protected from undue human impacts. Public information produced for the site and for distribution should include, at minimum, geological highlights and suggestions for use that avoid impacts.

Soils overtopping the bedrock are relatively thin. Erosion problems should be prevented or controlled as soon as they appear.

Vegetation Communities and Habitat

Vegetative community and structural diversity are the key to Elk Rock Island's importance as a wildlife habitat area. Seven habitat associations (vegetative communities) have been identified.

1. **Basalt Floodplain.**
2. **Emergent Wetland.** *An area inundated or saturated by surface or ground water that under normal conditions supports wetland obligate vegetation dominated by grasses and forbs.*
3. **Mesic Upland Forest.** *A forest dominated by upland plants requiring moderate soil moisture, being poorly adapted to either drought or waterlogged conditions.*
4. **Riparian.** *The "interface (zone) between terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems". Also, of or pertaining to riverbanks, streambanks, or lakeshore.*
5. **Rock Face.**
6. **Willamette Valley Grassland.**
7. **Xeric Upland Forest.** *A forest dominated by upland plants with some drought tolerance.*

Each of these associations provide food, cover, roosting, wintering, and summer breeding habitat for numerous species of birds, mammals, reptiles, amphibians, and invertebrates. It is the combination of these communities (habitat types) in addition to proximity to the Willamette River, adjacent riparian areas along the river, Lake Oswego uplands, and isolation from major development, that contribute to the richness and diversity of plant and animal species. Monthly bird surveys have been conducted since August of 1985; 61 different species of birds have been observed. (Michael Kay, 1985-89, Appendix A). Plant surveys have been conducted for the past ten years (Mart Hughes). Several endemic (*generally found in a certain geographic area*) and threatened plant species are known to grow on the island.

The vegetation communities are located on the Vegetation Community Map, figure 1.

- **Basalt Floodplain**

This large expanse of Waverly basalt is seasonally flooded, with little to no vegetation present during the dry times of the year. However, small wet season pools provide habitat for some aquatic plants and invertebrates. The exposed rocks provide habitat for killdeer and other shorebird species.

**Elk Rock Island Natural Area
Management Plan
October 13, 1994**

- **Emergent Wetland**

The portions of Spring Park north of the trail form a wetland basin surrounded by a riparian forest. The soils have been heavily compacted and adjacent land use has probably altered the hydrology, limiting water level fluctuations. *Phalaris arundinacea* (reed canarygrass), an exotic species, is the dominant plant species. It out-competes many of the native wetland plant species such as *Iris sp.* (water iris), *Typha latifolia* (cattail), *Juncus spp.* (rushes) *Carex spp.* (sedges), and *Salix lasiandra* (willow). *Lythrum salicaria* (purple loosestrife), determined to be a noxious weed by the Oregon Department of Agriculture, is starting to establish within the wetland basin. Because it quickly dominates native emergent vegetation communities, and substantially reduces habitat diversity, it is considered very detrimental.

The emergent wetland, particularly the reed canarygrass, is excellent mosquito habitat.

There are two wetland areas on the west side of Elk Rock Island. The larger of the two, to the south, adjacent to the old boat slip, is vegetated with *Juncus effusus* (soft rush), *Mentha sp.* (pennyroyal), *Bidens repens* (beggar's tick), and *Chenopodium sp.* (lamb's quarters) along the river silt littoral, with *Salix lasiandra* (willow) and *Phalaris arundinacea* (reed canarygrass) occupying the higher slopes. *Lythrum salicaria* (purple loosestrife), an invasive exotic plant, is a problem in this area.

- **Mesic Upland Forest**

The interior of Elk Rock Island is dominated by *Pseudotsuga menziesii* (Douglas fir) and *Acer macrophyllum* (bigleaf maple) with an understory of *Symphoricarpos albus* (snowberry), *Gaultheria shallon* (salal), and *Berberis aquifolium* (tall Oregon grape). *Lilium columbianum* (Columbia lily), *Trillium ovatum* (trillium), and *Smilacina racemosa* (false solomon's seal) are typical groundcover species of the forested area.

There are five major exotic plants that grow within the forested interior of Elk Rock Island that warrant mention: *Hedera helix* (English ivy), *Rubus discolor* (Himalayan blackberry), *Ilex aquafolium* (English holly), *Vinca major* (periwinkle) and *Clematis* (Virgin's bower). All five are in great density, especially the English ivy, and warrant special management, as they appear to be replacing native vegetation.

**Elk Rock Island Natural Area
Management Plan
October 13, 1994**

The forest composition on the northeastern end of Elk Rock Island changes slightly from that of the interior. *Populus trichocarpa* (black cottonwood), *Fraxinus latifolia* (Oregon white ash), *Crataegus douglasii* (Douglas hawthorn), and *Rosa sp.* (rose) are the dominant plant species.

- **Riparian**

This is a *Populus trichocarpa* (black cottonwood) dominated community with *Salix lasiandra* (willow) and *Fraxinus latifolia* (Oregon ash) of secondary importance. *Rubus discolor* (Himalayan blackberry), *Equisetum spp.* (horsetail), *Urtica dioica* (stinging nettle), and *Symphoricarpos albus* (common snowberry) are the major components of the understory.

- **Rock Face**

The rock faces of Elk Rock on the west side of the Willamette River and the northwest corner and south end of Elk Rock Island are sparsely vegetated with a combination of mosses, lichens, ferns, and other shallow-rooted plant species. Here, *Sedum spathulifolium* (stonecrop) and *Spiraea betulifolia* (birch-leaf spirea), plants that generally grow in warm, dry habitats, are found growing with *Polypodium glycyrrhiza* (polypody) and several moss species indicative of moister shadier environments. This combination of plants is unusual within the Portland Metropolitan area. *Cytisus scoparius* (Scot's broom) and *Populus trichocarpa* (black cottonwood) are establishing.

- **Willamette Valley Grassland**

The grasslands located on the western portion of Spring Park and the south and southwest portions of Elk Rock Island are remnants of the once common Willamette Valley Grassland. *Bromus carinatus*, *Festuca magulana*, and *Agrostis alba* are native grass species found growing within the Park. Human disturbance has impacted the vegetative community, affecting the plant species composition. Plant species are predominantly exotic (not originally from this area, often out-competing native plants) rather than native. Exotics are frequently indicative of disturbance. *Senecio jacobaea* (tansy ragwort) and *Daucus carota* (Queen Anne's Lace) are exotics found here.

***Elk Rock Island Natural Area
Management Plan
October 13, 1994***

- **Xeric Upland Forest**

The xeric upland forest, found on the southern and northwestern portions of the island, is dominated by *Quercus garryana* (Oregon white oak) and *Arbutus menziesii* (Pacific madrone) with some *Acer macrophyllum* (big leaf maple), and *Rhus diversiloba* (poison oak). *Brodiaea congesta* and *Brodiaea hyacinthina* (brodiaea), *Iris tenax* (iris) are flowering plants found in the understory. Some *Cytisus scoparius* (Scot's broom) an exotic species is beginning to establish. This vegetative community is uncommon in the Portland Metropolitan area, more commonly found in Southwestern Oregon.

Rare and Unusual Plants

Several plants rare or unusual in the Portland metropolitan area can be found in the Elk Rock Island Natural Area. In particular, several native wildflower species grow on Elk Rock Island. Little is known about vegetation on the Elk Rock escarpment on the west side of the river. What has been observed is discussed below.

Several plants not rare or threatened, but no longer commonly seen in the Portland-Vancouver landscape, grow on the island. These include *Taxus brevifolia* (Western or Pacific yew), *Lilium columbianum* (Tiger lily), *Brodiaea* sp. (cluster lily), *Goodyera oblongifolia* (Rattlesnake plantain).

Delphinium leucophaeum, the White Rock Larkspur, was reported to have been observed on the Elk Rock escarpment on the west side of the Willamette River. This species is considered threatened throughout its range and is a candidate for federal and state protection. Currently it has "Category 2" status with for federal listing which means more information is needed by US Fish & Wildlife. Its preferred habitat is on moist rocky cliffs.

The above delphinium was also reported to possibly be *Delphinium pavonaceum*, a Willamette Valley species and also a candidate species for federal and state protection. It has "Category 1" status, meaning there is sufficient information for the federal list.

A plant of the Saxifrage Family has also been reportedly observed on Elk Rock Island. It is described as having yellow flowers. It is not known if it is a *Saxifraga* species or if it is a related genera. Possibilities include *Sullivantia oregana* and *Bolandra oregana*. Both are yellow flowering members of the Saxifrage Family. *Sullivantia* has "Category 2" status for the federal list, and both are candidate for the state list.

One *Pinus ponderosa* (Ponderosa pine) has been observed on the island. It is unknown whether it occurred naturally or if it was planted.

The unusual and rare wildflower species found on the island are relatively small populations and are exposed to human impacts (e.g., trampling, digging, picking). English ivy also poses a threat as it is approaching the south end of the island where the Tiger lilies and *Goodyera* are located. The northwest corner of the island provides a rock face which should be protected for its plant habitat value.

Because of its inaccessibility and unique conditions, the Elk Rock escarpment on the west side of the river may have value for growing managed populations of rare plant species.

Chapter 3: Public Use

Chapter 3 consists of a description of the existing uses and facilities of Elk Rock Island Natural Area, a discussion about what types and levels of use are appropriate, and an itemization of opportunities and needs which help define what could be done to facilitate appropriate public use.

Current Uses

Existing uses include hiking, exploration and play, observation of nature, bicycling, camping, dog exercising, fishing, picnicking, relaxation or escape from the urban environment, enjoyment of river related scenery, pleasure boating, and social gatherings (parties).

All uses are very evident during the spring and summer months and decrease by varying degrees during fall and winter. Hiking, observation of nature, dog exercising, fishing, and escape from the urban environment tend to be more year-round in nature.

Organized or programmed use is relatively light. The site is used for adult education by the Portland Parks Bureau (summer tours only), Portland Audubon Society, the John Inskeep Environmental Learning Center, and the Washington Park Zoo.

There is also some use of the island by elementary and secondary education programs. Notable in this regard are classroom tours by the North Clackamas School District and tours and work parties by Catlin Gable Middle School.

Regular non-programmed users tend to come from the immediate neighborhood. Occasionally visitors come from elsewhere in the Portland-Vancouver region to enjoy the river setting or to appreciate the island's natural resources. Some visitors from outside the immediate neighborhood adopt the island as their favorite place to escape the urban environment and make relatively frequent return visits.

Current Use Issues

Uses that degrade or threaten natural resources, that conflict with more appropriate uses, or that conflict with the surrounding neighborhood include the following:

*Elk Rock Island Natural Area
Management Plan
October 13, 1994*

- **Bicycling.** A problem both in Spring Park and on Elk Rock Island due to the resulting trail system damage and erosion. Mountain bikes have also been observed off trails and pose a serious threat to exposed rocky areas and vegetation.
- **Camping.** As observed at Peter Kerr Park (island), the problems associated with camping include litter, public health due to lack of toilet facilities, threat from fire, negative visual impacts, concern for personal safety, and damaged vegetation.
- **Child's Play.** The island is attractive to youngsters of upper elementary and middle school age as a place to explore and play on an unsupervised basis. Many play activities can impact natural resources. For example, off-trail traffic may cause erosion, disturb wildlife, or damage vegetation; fort building often involves cutting or breaking of woody vegetation. Occasionally impact from play is substantial. In 1994, several sizable trees were cut down for no apparent reason. The majority of child's play likely originates from the local neighborhood.
- **Dogs.** The park area is used as an exercise area for dogs to some extent. Uncontrolled or unleashed dogs are a significant threat to wildlife. This form of use should be discouraged.
- **Gang Activity.** Gang activity has been observed since 1991. It has been sporadic but it has serious effects. Gang presence has been marked by graffiti which is unsightly and frequently includes anti-social or racial-cultural bias. Evidence or reputation of gang activity, even on a sporadic basis, makes most other visitors uncomfortable. Gang activity can easily displace other more appropriate uses. Already mentioned as a problem associated with social gatherings, graffiti has been and is potentially a very serious problem on the island. Efforts by volunteers since 1988-89 to remove graffiti have thus far successfully dealt with this problem.
- **Gunfire.** Gunfire occurs on a sporadic basis. This activity is threatening to other visitors, is unsafe due to proximity of development, and disturbs wildlife.
- **Horses.** Horses are sometimes ridden to Elk Rock Island. The trail system is too easily damaged by horses and the natural area is too small for horseback riding. Horses often go off trail and when this happens vegetation damage can occur.
- **Off-Trail Traffic.** Off-trail use by pedestrians and bicyclists is evident by visible impacts to the exposed rock areas. This impact is gradual but quite serious in that once damaged, exposed rock outcroppings will not recover. In addition, an increasing number

*Elk Rock Island Natural Area
Management Plan
October 13, 1994*

of small trails are developing in the forested area. This results in additional erosion and additional disturbance to wildlife.

- **Parties.** A problem especially during the summer months beginning in evenings and continuing late at night, parties create problems with litter, broken glass, graffiti, and disturbance of wildlife and nearby residents. Typically, underage consumption of alcohol occurs. Related is a fire threat problem due to bonfires and use of fireworks.
- **River Litter.** Actually a "given" with the site rather than a problem created by park users, substantial amounts of river-borne litter are regularly deposited onto riverbanks and beaches. Plastics, styrofoam, and natural and dimension wood are major components of the river-borne litter.
- **Trespass.** More a potential problem than a reported one at this stage. No information is available and no fences are present to let park visitors know when they are on public property rather than private.

Current Facilities

Provided at Spring Park and Elk Rock Island is a largely unimproved trail system which provides access to and through Spring Park from S.E. 19th and Sparrow and to and around Elk Rock Island.

Parking consists of available street-side parking near the 19th and Sparrow St. entrance. A "no parking/tow zone" has been established immediately next to the entrance.

The entrance itself is undeveloped and marked only by a rough sign, a garbage can, and bollards and chain to deter horses, bicycles, and motorized vehicles.

On the west side of Elk Rock Island there is an inlet suitable for boat landing. Concrete steps provide convenient access to the island from watercraft, but the facility is otherwise unimproved.

There are no benches, rest-rooms, or other improvements of any kind. No on-site interpretive information is provided.

Current Facility Issues

- **Trail System.** The trail system through Spring Park is wet and steep in places making access difficult. This alignment also impacts the wetland area in Spring Park. The route across the basalt floodplain between Spring Park and Elk Rock Island is unclear and difficult which results in impacts over a wider than needed portion of this crossing area. Although improved in 1989, some sensitive rock and vegetation areas at Elk Rock Island are impacted by existing trail routes. Several unofficial routes stem from the main trail system to beach areas, to overlooks, and to fishing spots. These unofficial routes are not maintained and are not well defined, resulting in a wider area of impact.
- **Overhead Powerlines.** An easement for overhead utility lines crosses through Spring Park and creates what may be an avoidable aesthetic detraction. An alternate route should be found which would provide the needed utility service and eliminate what is primarily an aesthetic liability.

Appropriate Uses

The physical, biological, and scenic resources at Elk Rock Island Natural Area are exceptional. These are the assets that offer the greatest opportunity for appropriate recreational and educational uses. Only those uses that do not conflict with or degrade these resources should be allowed. Generally this means that uses should be passive, causing little impact to sensitive resources and requiring few facilities.

Examples of appropriate use at Elk Rock Island Natural Area are escaping the urban environment, enjoying scenic views, observing nature, hiking, fishing, informal picnicking, and education. Given the site's limited size and facilities provided, these forms of use are appropriate for individuals and small groups. The area is not well suited to large groups due to parking limitations and the condition of the trail system.

Some canoeing occurs in the vicinity. Although impacts are acceptable and light, canoeing should not be encouraged at this location, nor should facilities for canoeing be developed. River traffic (commercial and recreational) is heavy and canoeists should be encouraged to recreate elsewhere.

A significant issue for the area is level of use. Even if all occurring uses were appropriately passive, high numbers of users could degrade natural resources. How much use is too much is

*Elk Rock Island Natural Area
Management Plan
October 13, 1994*

difficult to define. For this reason it is important to determine and monitor types and levels of use, and to monitor sensitive resources that may be impacted by use. If a relationship between unacceptable impact and type or level of use is found, then use should be controlled or curtailed.

An exception to the above is the upland area at east end of Spring Park. This area is adjacent to a residential area and would be suitable for development for neighborhood park uses. For example, a neighborhood park landscape and small playground could be developed. Such development should be supportive of management objectives for the adjoining natural area. A native plant buffer should be planted between the upland and wetland areas. A trailhead with an interpretive sign and trail improvements into the natural area should be part of the development plan.

Appropriate Use Opportunities

The location is quickly accessible from all of Milwaukie, from southeast and much of southwest Portland, and from northern Clackamas County. Except for intermittent high water in late winter and early spring, one can walk to the island at any time. It is clear that there are opportunities to attract more users and to better accommodate desired uses while protecting natural resources.

It should be noted that the promotion of appropriate use is a helpful strategy for the discouragement of other, more destructive, uses. Opportunities for increasing uses with little or no impact on resources are discussed below.

- **Active Recreation.** An earlier assessment done by the City of Milwaukie had determined that there was a local neighborhood need for a children's playground at Spring Park. A small playground could be developed at the east end of Spring Park without negatively impacting natural resource values. If developed, the playground should be easily visible from the right-of-way, should be separated by a fence from the railroad, and should be designed to blend with the site using natural materials (e.g., boulders, timbers). This area is not large enough to support active sports, nor would such use be compatible with the education and passive recreation opportunities noted above. It is recommended that North Clackamas Park District consider this opportunity, perhaps within the context of a new Master Plan for Spring Park.
- **Botanical Resource Sanctuary.** The unique plant habitat offered by the Elk Rock escarpment on the west side of the Willamette provides an opportunity for the development of a botanical sanctuary for appropriate threatened and endangered plant

***Elk Rock Island Natural Area
Management Plan
October 13, 1994***

species. The inaccessible nature of the site is a significant supportive factor due to the low probability of human disturbance. The Berry Botanic Garden is a participating organization in the Center for Plant Conservation, and is responsible for developing and carrying out strategies for the preservation of threatened and endangered (T & E) plant species in the Pacific Northwest. These strategies include managing cultivated populations of T & E species and reintroduction of species to the wild. Since the Berry Botanic Garden is located in Dunthorpe not far from the escarpment, the development of a sanctuary for managed populations or as a reintroduction site may be feasible.

- **Environmental Education.** The quality, diversity, and unique character of the natural resources present a significant opportunity for environmental education. Other possibilities include the interesting historic aspects of the island and the scarcity of high quality natural resource sites in the region due to their elimination and degradation.

The distinct vegetation communities, the range of topography, and the wetland and riparian resources, provide one of the most varied wildlife habitats on a single site in the Portland metropolitan region.

The relatively small size of the site would support presentation of interpretive information similar to constructed displays at zoos and botanic gardens. A significant amount and broad range of interpretive information could be developed to support the use of the site as an outdoor classroom.

- **Passive Recreation.** To date the levels of use from passive forms of recreation have not been problematic and it is believed that the area could support additional passive use. Hiking, observing nature, scenic viewing, and fishing are generally very low impact uses. Participants are at least somewhat aware of impacts they may be creating and generally take care to minimize those impacts. Even these low impact forms of recreation should be monitored.

The site provides an outstanding opportunity for interpretation of natural resources. Resource interpretation could be done in a variety of non-intrusive ways and could substantially enrich the passive recreation experience.

Appropriate Use Needs

The following list of needs has been developed to identify what could be done to encourage appropriate uses (and to discourage inappropriate uses). Generally these are ideas for improvements in public information, facilities, services, and citizen involvement.

- **Consistent regulations.** Enforcement of a consistent set of codes for both Elk Rock Island and Spring Park.
- **Citizen Involvement.** Active citizen involvement through the Friends of Elk Rock Island Natural Area and through other means.
- **Curriculum Development.** Curriculum development for featuring important natural resource elements.
- **Facilities and Furnishings.** Carefully designed and well placed park facilities and furnishings (e.g., trails, signs, benches, bicycle racks, parking). Facilities that support inappropriate uses or inappropriate levels of use should not be provided (e.g., picnic tables, highway signs).
- **Interpretive Tours.** Regular organized tours which introduce the public to the parks' functions and values.
- **On Site Information.** On-site interpretive information that provides orientation, explains natural resources, and encourages appropriate use.
- **Outreach.** Regular outreach to local school districts, community colleges, universities, and environmental education providers within the Portland metro region.
- **Printed Information.** Publications featuring information on the natural resource assets (brochures, interpretive guides).

Specific recommendations are included in Chapter 5.

Chapter 4: Public Services

Chapter 4 analyzes services provided by North Clackamas Parks District and by Portland Parks and Recreation, and services provided by Police and Fire agencies from Portland, Milwaukie, Oak Grove, and Clackamas County.

Parks and Recreation

- **Current Parks and Recreation Services**

The North Clackamas Parks District has limited staff time available for management of Spring Park. The Parks District provides custodial maintenance (e.g., litter removal) through a scheduled "route stop" during the spring and summer and on a request basis at other times of the year.

The Portland Parks and Recreation also has limited staff time available for management of Peter Kerr Park. The park is included as a "route stop" by personnel assigned to the Westmoreland District in Southeast Portland. Frequency of visits increase during the summer when the Westmoreland District has more personnel available. Duties are limited to litter and garbage removal and some vegetation control. In addition, Natural Resources Program staff address specific problems and work with volunteers on organized work parties that do thorough clean-ups or remove invasive exotic vegetation (e.g., English ivy, Scot's broom, purple loosestrife, and English holly).

During recent years, an Oregon Youth Conservation Corps (OYCC) crew has worked part time at Peter Kerr Park. The crew removed litter, reconstructed trails, and worked at controlling unwanted vegetation (English ivy and purple loosestrife). The OYCC crews have been supervised by Portland Parks.

Both parks agencies have also taken good advantage of Alternative Community Service labor available to public agencies from local court systems.

Volunteers have provided assistance since the summer of 1988. Work parties draw a small crew for 2 to 4 hour periods. Typical tasks are litter removal, graffiti removal, and vegetation control. An informal citizen volunteer group known as "The Friends of Elk Rock Island Natural Area" has been active since 1988, and has been responsible for organizing volunteer work parties.

***Elk Rock Island Natural Area
Management Plan
October 13, 1994***

With the current level of assistance from neighborhood volunteers, parks staff is able to provide adequate routine property and resource management services.

- **Parks and Recreation Service Issues**

Management areas not well addressed by parks agencies are inter-agency coordination, natural resource monitoring, natural resource enhancement, and environmental education and resource interpretation.

Interagency Coordination and Public Involvement. The management of Spring Park and Peter Kerr Park should be guided by an adopted management plan. The plan should be kept current. The Natural Resource Program at the Portland Parks and Recreation and the North Clackamas Parks District should share the lead in subsequent revisions of the Plan.

The management process should continue as an open process where policies and specific management actions are deliberated with public input. Both parks agencies should recognize and support the activities of the Friends of Elk Rock Island Natural Area.

Monitoring. A comprehensive monitoring program should be developed which establishes base line information on the status (well-being) of the natural resource inventory. The monitoring program would periodically check the condition of those resources, providing a means for identifying problems and a basis for future management recommendations.

Special attention should be given to the impacts noted on the natural resources resulting from human use of the parks. Identification of problems and recommendations for their correction should be made quickly through the monitoring program.

Resource Enhancement. An active program of natural resource enhancement program should be established. This program should be guided by resource enhancement recommendation made by the management plan.

In recent years, matching grants for resource enhancement projects have been available from the US Fish and Wildlife Service through Metro Greenspaces. This source can be combined with summer youth employment programs to accomplish small scale restoration efforts.

***Elk Rock Island Natural Area
Management Plan
October 13, 1994***

When technical advice is needed, the Wetlands Technical Advisory Committee (WTAC), a volunteer committee made up of natural resource technicians and specialists, could advise on resource management issues, and could assist with the location of funding sources to accomplish resource enhancement projects.

Environmental Education/Resource Interpretation. An interpretive program should be supported by the parks agencies with assistance from small grants and volunteers. For example, interpretive signs can be placed if funding is shared among parks agencies and grant or gift sources. With encouragement and support from parks agencies, guided walks could be lead by volunteers. Organizations such as Portland Audubon should be encouraged to continue to provide guided tours.

Generally, environmental education programs should be facilitated rather than delivered directly by parks agencies. Local schools should be provided basic information about natural resources at the park, and teachers should be invited to use the site as an outdoor classroom.

Park Facility Planning. Even though park facilities needs are relatively modest, there is no plan or program to make improvements. A facility improvement plan is especially needed at Spring Park. An updated master plan, consistent with management plan recommendations, is needed to specify improvements and spur implementation.

Police and Fire

- **Current Police and Fire Services**

Milwaukie Police and Fire provide adequate services to Spring Park which is located within the City of Milwaukie. Nearby residents simply call "911" to access these services.

Elk Rock Island, since it is in unincorporated Clackamas County, is outside the service area of the City of Milwaukie. In addition, since the City of Portland owns the island, the City of Milwaukie expects that Portland Police should provide police services. Oregon Revised Statute 226.010 provides that Portland Police may enforce Portland City Codes on Portland Park property outside Portland City Limits.

***Elk Rock Island Natural Area
Management Plan
October 13, 1994***

As a practical matter, 911 calls for police from the local neighborhood go to Milwaukie's 911. Callers are then referred to a Portland Police number. When callers honestly report typical problems (e.g., a teenage party on the island) as a non-emergency, service is not provided within a reasonable time-frame. Generally, service response time from Portland for this kind of call is a matter of hours. There have been instances of no response at all. At other times, Milwaukie Police have responded after checking with Portland. Sometimes both Portland and Milwaukie respond. Clackamas County River Patrol will respond if requested by either Milwaukie or Portland Police.

Delays in police response are a serious problem. Late responses made after darkness are more hazardous and less effective. Late response to situations involving alcohol provide an opportunity for problems to become more difficult to deal with.

Fire protection services to Spring Park are provided by Milwaukie. Fire protection to Elk Rock Island are provided by both Milwaukie and Portland. The Portland fire boat and the Oak Grove Fire District fire boat are available to respond to Elk Rock Island, and to portions of Spring Park.

- **Police and Fire Service Issues**

Police Response to Elk Rock Island. Police services are adequate for Spring Park, but are very inadequate for Elk Rock Island. Police response to Elk Rock Island needs to be quicker and more reliable. Neighboring residents need a single 911 service number that works for both Spring Park and Elk Rock Island.

Jurisdiction problems aside, Elk Rock Island is a difficult location to provide police services. The island can only be reached on foot and the walk is nearly 1/4 mile in length. After dark, police service is hazardous and less effective. Back-up from nearby police agencies should be available and provided when needed.

Consistent Regulations. Park regulations established for use in Clackamas County and approved by North Clackamas Park District and the City of Milwaukie should apply at both Spring Park and Elk Rock Island. Portland Parks and Recreation should continue to be involved in park regulation issues involving Elk Rock Island. Police agencies should not need to be familiar with differing regulations.

***Elk Rock Island Natural Area
Management Plan
October 13, 1994***

Fire Protection. Fire protection services appear to be adequate for both Spring Park and for Elk Rock Island. However, response plans or memos of understanding among agencies should be developed and kept current at all times.

Chapter 5: Recommendations

Implementation Schedule

This chapter consolidates management recommendations that protect and enhance natural resources with recommendations that ensure and support appropriate use. The recommendations are provided in two forms. First, policies are recommended that, if approved by Milwaukie, Portland, and NCPD, will provide consistent and efficient management. The policies will also protect natural resources, reduce conflicts between user groups, and between users and the local neighborhood. Second, specific management actions are recommended that will protect and enhance natural resources. Other recommended actions will support appropriate uses. Finally, the recommended policies and actions are summarized in an implementation plan that indicates one or more responsible parties and relative priority.

The management plan recognizes that before policies or actions can be implemented, adoption is required by City of Milwaukie, North Clackamas Parks District, and by City of Portland.

Policies

The following policies are recommended for all of Elk Rock Island Natural Area, defined as Spring Park, Elk Rock Island, and Elk Rock on the west side of the Willamette River.

Policy 1. Elk Rock Island Natural Area. In order to readily and obviously communicate an essential part of the overall goal and to promote appropriate uses, Spring Park and Peter Kerr Park shall retain their names but, together with Elk Rock on the west side of the Willamette River, shall be collectively known as and promoted as "Elk Rock Island Natural Area". The names Spring Park, Peter Kerr Park, and Elk Rock may continue to be used on park maps and other published information, and should be used when referring to discrete areas within Elk Rock Island Natural Area.

Policy 2. Prohibited Traffic. Horses, bicycles, and motorized vehicles (except as needed by parks maintenance and emergency services personnel) shall not be permitted within Elk Rock Island Natural Area except at designated

Implementation Schedule

parking areas. A possible exception could be made for horses and bicycles on a Willamette Greenway Trail located on or through Elk Rock on the west side of the Willamette River.

Policy 3.

Fires and Fireworks. Fireworks and unauthorized fires shall not be permitted in the Elk Rock Island Natural Area.

Policy 4.

Alcohol. Possession and/or consumption of alcoholic beverages shall not be permitted in Elk Rock Island Natural Area.

Policy 5.

Pets. Pets should be discouraged, but when present must be leashed at all times. Pet wastes must be removed.

Policy 6.

Park Hours. Hours for public use of Elk Rock Island Natural Area shall be from 5 a.m. to dusk.

Policy 7.

Park Development. All development (including trails, signs) in the Elk Rock Island Natural Area shall be constrained by appropriate local land use regulations which provide an appropriate and adequate level of protection for natural resources and natural resource values identified at Spring Park, Peter Kerr Park (Elk Rock Island), and Elk Rock (on the west side of the Willamette River). Additional development should not occur in wetland areas and in the sensitive area on the southwest corner of Peter Kerr Park (Elk Rock Island). With the possible exception of a Willamette Greenway Trail (through the railroad tunnel), development should not occur on Elk Rock. The upland portion at the east end of Spring Park may be developed, but a 50 foot buffer is needed at the west end of the upland to protect the adjacent wetland to the west.

Policy 8.

Incorporation of Elk Rock Island. Elk Rock Island (Peter Kerr Park) should be incorporated into the City of Milwaukie in order to provide efficient Police and Fire protection services. City of Portland shall continue to own and manage Peter Kerr Park. Until a more appropriate "open space" or "community use" base zone is developed by the City of Milwaukie, the **R10** base zone should be applied with a **nr** (natural resource) overlay zone. The Milwaukie comprehensive plan should indicate that Elk Rock Island is within the Willamette Greenway.

Implementation Schedule

Management Actions

Upon adoption of the Management Plan, the following recommended actions should be pursued by City of Milwaukie, City of Portland Parks and Recreation, and the North Clackamas Parks District. Due to financial and staffing limitations, the parks agencies should be assisted by citizen volunteers and by grant sources.

Recommended management actions are organized in the following way:

- Natural Resource
- Public Facilities
- Public Information
- Public Service

Natural Resource Management Actions

General and specific management actions are recommended to protect and enhance natural resources. Specific recommendations are organized by area and habitat type.

- **General Recommendations**

NR-1. Resource Monitoring. A comprehensive inventory of natural resources and natural resource values should be developed and maintained. Tracking quantity and quality of resources provides critical information needed for development of effective policies and actions intended to protect and enhance resources.

NR-2. Geographic Information System (GIS). Computerized mapping and information systems are in place at Metro and under development in Portland. GIS should be used to record and track information related to property ownership, land use, topography, vegetation, and other natural resources.

Implementation Schedule

- Elk Rock Island (Peter Kerr Park)

Emergent Wetland

- NR-3. **Plant native plants and eradicate loosestrife.** Introduce *Sagittaria latifolia* (wapato) at the two wetlands adjacent to the Willamette River. These areas are good potential wapato habitat. Introduce other wetland plant species (rush and sedge species) to promote diversification of wetland system. Eradicate *Lythrum salicaria* (purple loosestrife).

Mesic Forest

- NR-4. **Burn understory.** Burning the understory of this forest component will remove or repress English ivy, blackberry, English holly, clematis, and other weedy growth, and promote growth of native understory currently being suppressed by these weedy species. Vines on trees will have to be hand cut near the base of trees. Native shrubs and trees will need to be planted in the understory after burning.

Riparian

- NR-5. **Remove blackberries.** Remove Himalayan blackberries from riparian areas and promote growth of native plants having higher wildlife habitat value (e.g., Douglas hawthorne, rose).

Rockface

- NR-6. **Eradicate Scot's broom and reduce cottonwood.** Eradicate (by hand) Scot's broom and reduce cottonwood along west end of Elk Rock Island. Some cottonwood are okay, but too many will shade out more xeric species growing on the rocks.

Implementation Schedule

Willamette Valley Grassland

NR-7. Burn grassland. A controlled burn will suppress shrub growth in grassland. Maintaining the grassland community promotes structural and species diversity in conjunction with other vegetative communities and open space values. Until burn program is established, Scot's broom and Himalayan blackberries should be controlled by other methods.

NR-8. Seed with native grasses and forbs. Plant a "butterfly meadow" to enhance invertebrate and butterfly populations that will, in turn, provide feeding opportunities for higher organisms (e.g., birds and mammals). This will also increase aesthetic value of this area. (Seeding must be coordinated with controlled burning recommended above.)

Xeric Forest

NR-9. Reroute Elk Rock Island trail. Reroute Elk Island trail to avoid the southwestern point where large Pacific madrone is growing. Obliterate small, unauthorized trails. Trail system of island is otherwise adequate, spreading out visitors and impacts.

NR-10. Eradicate Scot's broom. Eradicate (by hand) Scot's broom from the xeric forest area.

Implementation Schedule

- Spring Park

Emergent Wetland

NR-11. Eradicate reed canarygrass and purple loosestrife in wetland area. Purple loosestrife is listed by the Oregon Department of Agriculture as a noxious weed. It is known to form dense stands within wetlands, limiting native species diversity. While the purple loosestrife population is small, manual removal would be feasible, but delay may require other methods of eradication. Several methods of eradication are being researched (burning, flooding, black plastic, hand application of water soluble Rodeo).

NR-12. Fluctuate water levels in wetland area. Seasonal fluctuations of water levels may be a method to discourage growth and dominance of reed canarygrass, purple loosestrife, and other undesirable exotic plant species, and encourage native plant and animal diversity. If compatible with aforementioned objectives, managed water level fluctuation could also suppress mosquito populations. Fluctuations in water levels may be achieved by creating and maintaining a hole in the berm between the channel and the wetland area. Tidal fluctuations within the Willamette River and the channel need to be checked to determine whether there is sufficient water.

NR-13. Plant native wetland species. After eradication of undesired species within wetland, re-vegetate with native wetland grass, sedge, and forb species.

Riparian

NR-14. Remove blackberries. Remove Himalayan blackberries from alongside trail to Elk Rock Island and replace with native plants (e.g., Douglas hawthorne, rose).

NR-15. Reroute or boardwalk the trail to Elk Rock Island. Reroute trail to avoid passing through wetland area. Or, construct a boardwalk across the edge of the wetland. The current trail through the wetland significantly impacts the wetland community.

Implementation Schedule

Public Facilities Management Actions

To accommodate appropriate uses at desired levels, some facility improvements would be appropriate. The importance and relatively fragile nature of the natural resources at Spring Park and Elk Rock Island require that facility improvements have low resource impact. Since many of the recommendations are for Spring Park, the development of a *Spring Park Master Plan* is recommended. It is envisioned that the Master Plan will provide more precise guidance regarding the exact number and location of facilities suggested by this management plan.

PF-1. Spring Park Master Plan. A *Spring Park Master Plan* should be developed prior to making any of the following permanent improvements at Spring Park. The Master Plan process should allow additional public input. The Master Plan should conform with the general recommendations of this Management Plan which are intended to protect natural resources. The Master Plan should be jointly funded by NCPD, Milwaukie, and

Portland.

PF-2. Access. Improvements to enable appropriate access to Spring Park and Elk Rock Island are needed. No improvements for public access to the Elk Rock escarpment on the west side of the Willamette River are proposed, but access for its use as a botanical sanctuary would need to be arranged.

PF-3. Parking. Parking is needed to accommodate typical high season use levels and to avoid impacts to the residential neighborhood. Parking should include accommodation for visitors in wheelchairs. Parking should be situated to accommodate enforcement.

PF-4. Entrance. An entrance that is attractive and informative is needed to invite visitors onto the site and encourage them to use the park area in an appropriate manner. Should be unambiguous for the first-time visitor and visible from the parking area or right-of-way.

PF-5. Trails. A trail system that enables visitors to use the park in the appropriate manner except during high water is needed. Trails at Spring Park should be of sufficient width and easy grade (5% maximum) to accommodate

Implementation Schedule

visitors confined to wheelchairs. Trails at Peter Kerr Park should be no greater than moderate grade (12% maximum). Re-routing or redesign of trails to minimize impacts to sensitive areas (wetlands, exposed rock face, and xeric forest) should be completed. No bridge is needed between Spring Park and Elk Rock Island.

PF-6. Park Furnishings. Park furnishings such as benches and garbage cans should be available in minimal numbers and in appropriate locations at Spring Park. Public rest-rooms, picnic tables and drinking fountains are not needed.

PF-7. Playground. An earlier assessment done by the City of Milwaukee had determined that there was a local neighborhood need for a children's playground at Spring Park. If alternate locations cannot be found, a small playground could be developed at the east end of Spring Park without negatively impacting natural resource values. If developed, the playground should be easily visible from the right-of-way, should be separated by a fence from the railroad, and should be designed to blend with the site using natural materials (e.g., boulders, timbers).

PF-8. Fencing/Screening. Fencing along the south edge of Spring Park is needed to indicate the property line between park and adjoining private property. To minimize visual impact, the western portion of the south property line should be indicated by a post-and-cable system rather than fencing. And as just mentioned, fencing would be needed between Spring Park and the railroad line if a playground is developed. Native plants should be planted next to fencing to screen fences from view.

Implementation Schedule

Public Information Management Actions

As with the needed facility improvements, information about the site is recommended to encourage appropriate uses. Information provided should assist with orientation, provide positive cues for appropriate use, and provide natural resource information including information on wildlife, wildlife habitat, geology, plants, and riparian factors. Information on the Willamette River Greenway is also recommended.

Information presented should be consistent with information that is presented for other Portland area natural resource sites. This can be accomplished through the use of similar graphic styles and materials. Where possible maps should be used that provide a greater context and a connection with other resources.

Some on-site information should be developed which will enrich visitors who may not have encountered any other information about the site.

- PI-1. Kiosk.** A general information kiosk should be located near the entrance to the natural resource area. Should include a map, cues for behavior, greenway information, and general information about the natural resources at the site.
- PI-2. Trail Signs.** Small directional signs at some trail junctions should be provided which indicate the name of the trail and/or a destination. Trail signs might also remind users that trails are for pedestrians only.
- PF-3. Points of Interest.** Signs at key points of interest could be provided which call the visitors attention to significant natural resource features. These signs could also be related to other information available about the resource.

In addition to on-site information, other information pieces could be developed for distribution. This would provide the means for more in-depth information and the means for reaching potential park users.

Implementation Schedule

PI-4.

Brochure. A brochure could be developed which describes Spring Park and Peter Kerr Park, provides access information, and a map. It could also provide information about the Friends organization and volunteer opportunities.

PI-5.

Map. A map should be developed which clearly indicates the access points, trails (with length and accessibility noted), and major points of interest.

PI-6.

Self-Guided Tour. A self-guided tour could be developed which would enrich the experience of the unaccompanied visitor. The self-guided tour could take the form of either a booklet or a tape or both. Tapes could be available from the local library.

PI-7.

Study Guide. Study guides could be developed for Spring Park and Peter Kerr Park to assist teachers as the site is used for outdoor classroom purposes.

Implementation Schedule

Public Service Management Actions

- PS-1. Park Agency Cooperation.** Continued cooperation between NCPD and Portland Parks and Recreation is recommended. The management plan should be used by both agencies to provide consistent policies and efficient services. The management plan's implementation schedule should be updated annually and the plan itself should be reviewed on a periodic basis.
- PS-2. Volunteer Participation.** Citizen participation should be encouraged as a means to accomplish many of the recommendations included in the management plan. Appropriate roles for volunteer and related non-profit organizations such as the Friends of Elk Rock Island Natural Area, the Portland Audubon Society, and scouting and school groups should continue and, if possible, expand. Volunteers should be encouraged to provide interpretive services; to assist with clean-ups, trail maintenance, and vegetation management; to assist with resource monitoring; and, if possible, to assist with fundraising for improvements recommended by the management plan.
- PS-3. Police Response.** Improved response by police agencies is recommended. Until Elk Rock Island is incorporated into the City of Milwaukie, a memo of understanding among Portland, Milwaukie, and Clackamas County police and 911 agencies should be developed to increase the speed and certainty of response. Should Elk Rock Island be incorporated into Milwaukie, cooperation among agencies should continue by memo of understanding.
- PS-4. Fire Protection.** Continued cooperation among fire protection agencies is encouraged. Response plans should be reviewed to ensure that all of Elk Rock Island Natural Area is adequately covered. The feasibility of prescribed burns should be pursued in conjunction with natural resource management recommendations.
- PS-5. Park Codes.** A park code system that can be efficiently enforced is recommended. Park rules established for use in Clackamas County and adopted by NCPD and City of Milwaukie should be applied to both Spring Park and Elk Rock Island. If feasible, a schedule of fines or bail system should be considered and implemented in order to avoid the costly and ineffective current system requiring arraignment and charge by the District Attorney in the District Court.

Implementation Schedule

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

(Unless otherwise noted Portland means Portland Parks and Recreation. NCPD means North Clackamas Park District. Friends means Friends of Elk Rock Island and Spring Park. OYCC means Oregon Youth Conservation Corp or other summer youth program.)

<u>Item</u>	<u>Responsible Party</u>	<u>Priority</u>
-------------	--------------------------	-----------------

PROBLEMS (INAPPROPRIATE USE)

- | | | |
|----------------------------------|--|----------|
| 1. Consistent policies and rules | Portland, Milwaukie NCPD | high (1) |
| 2. Enforcement of park rules | Portland Police, Milwaukie, Friends, neighbors | high |

PROBLEMS and NEEDS (PHYSICAL)

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------|------------------|----------|
| 3. Fencing (Spring Park) | NCPD | medium |
| 4. Trail re-routing (Spring Park) | NCPD
OYCC | high (2) |
| 5. Trail re-routing (Elk Rock Island) | Portland
OYCC | high (2) |

Implementation Schedule

6.	Addition of amenities	NCPD	medium (2)
7.	Overhead powerline removal request	Milwaukie, NCPD	medium
8.	Parking, Entrance, & access improvements	NCPD, Portland Friends (grants)	medium (2)
PROGRAM NEEDS			
9.	Monitoring program	Portland, NCPD Friends	high
10.	Management Plan (review, update)	Portland, NCPD	high
11.	Interpretive program	Friends, NCPD & Portland through other established programs (ELC, Zoo, Audubon, etc.)	high

INFORMATION NEEDS

12.	On-site information	Portland, NCPD Audubon, Friends, PSU Geology, River City Program	high (2)
-----	---------------------	--	----------

Implementation Schedule

- | | | | |
|-----|------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------|
| 13. | Information for Distribution | Portland, NCPD
Audubon, Friends | high (2) |
|-----|------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------|

BIOLOGICAL/ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT NEEDS

- | | | | |
|-----|---|--|--------|
| 14. | Habitat enhancement, (bat houses, etc.) | Audubon, Friends, other volunteers, OYCC | medium |
|-----|---|--|--------|

- | | | | |
|-----|--------------------------|----------------------|----------|
| 15. | Erosion control & repair | Portland, NCPD, OYCC | high (2) |
|-----|--------------------------|----------------------|----------|

- | | | | |
|-----|---------------------------------------|----------|--------|
| 16. | Wetland enhancement (Elk Rock Island) | Portland | medium |
|-----|---------------------------------------|----------|--------|

- | | | | |
|-----|--|------|------|
| 17. | Wetland enhancement feasibility study & permit (Spring Park) | NCPD | high |
|-----|--|------|------|

- | | | | |
|-----|---|---|------------|
| 18. | Burn & reseed grassland (Elk Rock Island) | Portland, Milwaukie & Portland Fire Dept., Oregon DEQ | medium (3) |
|-----|---|---|------------|

Implementation Schedule

19.	Burn mesic forest for vegetation control; replace with natives (Elk Rock Island)	Portland Milwaukie & Portland Fire Dept., Oregon DEQ	medium (3)
20.	Eradicate Scot's broom from Xeric Forest. (Elk Rock Island)	Portland, Friends	high
21.	Eradicate Scot's broom & reduce cottonwoods from rockface area (Elk Rock Island)	Portland, Friends	high
22.	Remove blackberries; replace with natives. (Spring Park)	NCPD, OYCC Friends	medium
23.	Eradicate Reed Canary-grass in wetland; replace with natives. (Spring Park)	NCPD, OYCC Friends	medium
24.	Eradicate Purple Loose-strife in wetland; replace with natives. (Spring Park)	NCPD, OYCC, Friends	high

Implementation Schedule

25.	Survey rock face areas for rare plants (Elk Rock Island)	Portland	high
OPPORTUNITIES			
26.	Botanical Sanctuary	Portland, Berry Botanic Garden	medium
27.	Passive Recreation (supporting policies)	Portland, NCPD	high (1)
28.	Passive Recreation (programs, citizen involvement, supportive facilities)	Portland, NCPD Friends	high (2)
29.	Environmental Education (develop program plan)	Portland	high
30.	Playground need assessment	NCPD	low

(1) Item is implemented through the Management Plan adoption process.

Implementation Schedule

- (2) Item can only be implemented when needed funding is secured.
- (3) Item is subject to securing needed permits.

Poli cy No.	POLICIES	Responsible Party	Priori ty	Schedule
-------------------	----------	----------------------	--------------	----------

1	Elk Rock Island Natural Area	Portland Parks, Milwaukie, NCPD	High	Effective upon plan adoption
2	Prohibited Traffic	"	"	"
3	Fire and Fireworks	"	"	"
4	Alcohol	"	"	"
5	Pets	"	"	"
6	Park Hours	"	"	"
7	Park Development	"	"	"
8	Incorporation of Elk Rock Island	Portland Parks, Milwaukie	"	1994-95

Implementation Schedule

Acti on No.	NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ACTIONS	Responsible Party	Priori ty	Schedule
-------------------	--	----------------------	--------------	----------

General Recommendations				
NR-1	Resource Monitoring	Portland Parks, NCPD	High	1995 and ongoing
NR-2	Geographic Information System (GIS)	Portland Parks, NCPD, Metro	High	1995

Elk Rock Island (Peter Kerr Park)				
EMERGENT WETLAND				
NR-3	Plant Native Plants & Eradicate Loosestrife.	Portland Parks	High	
MESIC FOREST				
NR-4	Burn Understory	P Parks, Milwaukie Fire Dept.	Med.	
RIPARIAN				
NR-5	Remove Blackberries	Portland Parks	Med.	
ROCKFACE				
NR-6	Eradicate Scot's Broom & Reduce Cottonwood	Portland Parks	High	
WILLAMETTE VALLEY GRASSLAND				

Implementation Schedule

Acti on No.	NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ACTIONS	Responsible Party	Priori ty	Schedule
-------------------	--	----------------------	--------------	----------

NR-7	Burn Grassland	P Parks, Milwaukie Fire Dept.	Med.	June 1995, 98, 01
NR-8	Seed with Native Grasses and Forbs	Portland Parks	Med.	Fall 1995, 98, 01

Elk Rock Island (Continued)

XERIC FOREST				
NR-9	Reroute Elk Rock Island Trail	Portland Parks	Med.	
NR-10	Eradicate Scot's Broom	Portland Parks, Friends	High	1995 and ongoing

Spring Park

EMERGENT WETLAND				
NR-11	Eradicate reed canarygrass and purple loosestrife in wetland area	NCPD	High	
NR-12	Fluctuate water levels in wetland area	NCPD	Med.	
NR-13	Plant native wetland species	NCPD	Med.	
RIPARIAN				

Implementation Schedule

Acti on No.	NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ACTIONS	Responsible Party	Priori ty	Schedule
NR-14	Remove blackberries	NCPD	Med.	
NR-15	Reroute or boardwalk the trail to Elk Rock Island	NCPD	High	After Spring Park Master Plan

Implementation Schedule

Acti on No.	PUBLIC FACILITIES MANAGEMENT ACTIONS	Responsible Party	Priorit y	Schedule
PF-1	Spring Park Master Plan	NCPD	High	1995-97
PF-2	Access	NCPD	Medium	After completion of Master Plan and within 10 years.
PF-3	Parking	NCPD, Portland Parks	Medium	"
PF-4	Entrance	NCPD	Medium	"
PF-5	Trails	NCPD, Portland Parks	Medium	"
PF-6	Park Furnishings	NCPD	Medium	"
PF-7	Playground	NCPD	Medium	"
PF-8	Fencing/Screening	NCPD	Medium	"