

White Oak Bayou Wetland Management Plan

5/27/14 . Steering Committee Meeting Minutes

1. Rick Scott (Chairman) opens meeting
2. Introductions . Bill
3. Rick turns it over to Scott and Bill
4. Mitigation Bank and Prospectus
 - a. Prospectus will be going to ANRC soon.
 - b. Defined mitigation bank and how it works- Someone will sell their land to the bank, and a developer who needs the credits will buy those credits.
 - c. ANRC has the authority to establish mitigation banks. There are already 2 existing banks in Arkansas.
 - d. We now have ANRC permission to begin developing a mitigation bank in White Oak Bayou. ANRC will provide seed money and handle administrative work.
 - e. How the White Oak Bayou mitigation bank will be different
 - i. The bank will begin by buying pieces of land that will, hopefully, eventually form a contiguous piece of land.
 - ii. The Army Corps of Engineers is a partner in this endeavor.
 - f. The bank will likely begin with approximately 60 acres of land in the Marche portion of the watershed.
 - g. Question from Joe Gubanski: Will the bank outright buy land? Or will the property owner retain some control over it?
 - i. Answer from Bill Richardson: It can be bought outright or the landowner can sell an easement with deed restrictions.
 - ii. Gubanski asks about liability for public injury on property. Mayor* responds that there are legal ways to keep the landowner legally immune.
5. General Permit update
 - a. Not ranking individual wetlands (nearly impossible).
 - b. TAC came up with guidelines where General permit would apply.
 - i. General permit only applies to up to 2 acres and can only be used within 200 meters of wetland boundaries, and cannot be within 200 feet of floodway.
 - ii. Good for individual landowners- will be useful while still protecting %outs+of the wetlands.
6. Handout- Social and Economic Factors impacting the WOB WMP
 - a. Public services- WMP needs to allow for 3rd entrance, recognize it, as well as utility line from NLR up WOB.
 - b. Education- Proximity to schools/trails
 - c. Recreation- Public access (canoe trail potential- need better access)
 - d. Economic development- Green belt acreage is valuable
 - e. Flooding- Water storage capacity.
 - f. Aesthetics- Green belt/development. Canoe trail
 - g. Can still map a key goal area (between interstates 30 and 430).
7. Field testing for datasheets
 - a. Important to know what wetland types are out there and their condition.
 - b. Information for the future (what did we start with?)
 - c. Information for mitigation targets.
 - d. Observation-based.
8. UCA and MMS involvement
 - a. UCA students presented their projects, did not find many difference between pre-and post-impact sites.

- b. MMS students presented their projects. Great introduction to graphing and analyzing data. Jim Narey and Jack Stowe were at the presentations and the students gave them plans for a viewing station they designed.
9. EPA update
- a. We are a featured EPA project
 - b. Richard Praither is retiring in June 2015, wants to come visit and see how the project is going firsthand and bring his successor.
 - c. Grant cycle changing from 1 to 2 years.
 - d. Further educational opportunities: Maumelle High School and charter school.
 - e. Trails- get grant to build more trails.
10. Next meeting will be set by email, no summer meetings.
11. Meeting concludes

WOB = White Oak Bayou
(ch) = Chairman