

1 In the streamside planting area, emergent native wetland vegetation (planted and volunteer) will
2 provide at least 50 percent cover. Gravel stream bed areas will not be included in the cover
3 assessment.

4 ***Year 7***

5 Aerial cover of native, wetland (facultative and wetter) woody species will be at least 50 percent
6 in the scrub-shrub and forested communities of the rehabilitated wetland. Desirable native
7 species colonizing portions of the site will be included in the aerial cover.

8 In the streamside planting area, emergent native wetland vegetation (planted and volunteer) will
9 provide at least 50 percent cover. Gravel stream bed areas will not be included in the cover
10 assessment.

11 ***All years***

12 Washington State and King County listed Class A Noxious Weeds identified on the site shall be
13 eradicated.

14 King County listed Class B and C Weeds identified on the site shall be controlled. Control of
15 noxious weeds means to prevent all seed production and to prevent the dispersal of all
16 propagative parts capable of forming new plants.

17 Noxious Weeds listed by King County as Non-Designate including reed canarygrass, non-native
18 blackberries and Scot's broom will not exceed 25 percent aerial cover in rehabilitated wetlands
19 and riparian uplands.

20 **Performance Standard**

21 ***Year 10***

22 Aerial cover of native woody species will be at least 70 percent in the scrub-shrub and forested
23 communities in the rehabilitated wetland. Desirable native species colonizing portions of the site
24 will be included in the aerial cover.

25 In the streamside planting area, emergent native wetland vegetation (planted and volunteer) will
26 provide at least 50 percent cover. Gravel stream bed areas will not be included in the cover
27 assessment.

7.3.3. Buffer Vegetation Performance

The buffer vegetation performance criteria documents the establishment of a plant community that: 1) provides habitat for native wildlife; 2) screens wetland wildlife from human activity; and 3) provides vegetative roughness to slow floodwaters and allow the deposition of sediment and associated pollutants. The buffer woody vegetation performance criteria directly relate to Objectives KE1, KE2, KE3, YB1, and YB2.

Performance Measures

Year 1 and Year 3

Native woody species (planted and volunteer) will achieve an average density of at least four plants per 100 square feet in the upland buffer.

Year 5

Aerial cover of native woody species (planted and volunteer) will be at least 30 percent in the upland buffer.

Year 7

Aerial cover of native woody species (planted and volunteer) will be at least 40 percent in the upland buffer.

All years

Washington State and King County listed Class A Noxious Weeds identified on the site shall be eradicated.

King County listed Class B and C Weeds identified on the site shall be controlled. Control of noxious weeds means to prevent all seed production and to prevent the dispersal of all propagative parts capable of forming new plants.

Noxious Weeds listed by King County as Non-Designate including reed canarygrass, non-native blackberries and Scot's broom will not exceed 25 percent aerial cover in buffers.

1 plantings and structures should be expected to occur and, with exceptions, it may be
2 necessary to accept the situation and allow the vegetation to mature under these
3 conditions. Occasionally it may be necessary to dissuade or exclude destructive wildlife
4 species.

5 Native species such as beaver may initially create a perception of damaging effects on the
6 expected outcome of a mitigation site; however, the site modifications that result from
7 their activities can create functions and habitats suited to several other species. The
8 following additional measures are proposed as potential contingencies for beaver-induced
9 failure to meet vegetation performance standards:

- 10 ▪ Replace plants.
- 11 ▪ Plant less preferable species.
- 12 ▪ Adjust plant species and/or communities.
- 13 ▪ Install temporary fenced enclosures around some of the forested and/or shrub
14 communities.
- 15 ▪ Control and reduce the cover of reed canarygrass and non-native blackberry in
16 order to enhance establishment of native plant species.
- 17 • Vandalism – To prevent vegetation disturbance from vandalism, fence installation and
18 sensitive area signage will be installed.

19 **7.5.3. Wildlife Structures**

20 Wildlife structures will be installed during construction activities and will be monitored to verify
21 presence or absence. The contingency for wildlife structures is to replace or repair missing or
22 damaged structures. If habitat structures become vandalized, are missing, or are functionally
23 damaged, they will be repaired or replaced as necessary.

24 **7.6 Site Management**

25 WSDOT (or their designated representatives) will manage the site annually for the first 10 years.
26 Site management activities shall include noxious weed control and may include mulching,
27 fertilizing, supplemental watering, maintaining access, repairing damage from vandals,
28 correcting erosion or sedimentation problems, or litter pickup. During the first year,
29 supplemental watering of buffers and seasonally saturated wetland areas will occur during July,
30 August, and September to assure, at a minimum, the equivalent of normal rainfall levels and no
31 periods of drought (no rainfall or watering) longer than three weeks.

1 Reed canarygrass dominates the watershed and suppression/control of this invasive plant will
2 require careful site preparation and active site management. While complete elimination of reed
3 canarygrass from the mitigation site may not be possible, it should be managed sufficiently to
4 ensure survival of the native planted species until they can effectively compete.

5 If Japanese knotweed is found at the mitigation site during monitoring, WSDOT (or their
6 designated representatives) will promptly remove the stems above ground and chemically treat it
7 to facilitate elimination of roots and rhizomes below ground.

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