

Oregon Parks and Recreation Commission

February 24, 2016

Agenda Item: 10a

Information

Topic: Bandon State Natural Area

Presented by: Chris Havel, Associate Director

Park and natural resource staff have been working to repair ground disturbed in the Bandon State Natural Area since autumn. They have made progress in all three key areas: invasive plant control, native plant restoration, and well removal.

Staff applied the first treatment of herbicides to attack invasive gorse seedlings. Several additional treatments over the next few years will likely be needed to ensure control. Gorse thrives on disturbed ground, so chemical and mechanical removal must work in lockstep with restoration of native ground cover to be effective.

To re-establish a native plant community to disturbed areas, we've purchased five disease-resistant Port Orford cedar trees, are searching for a source for a hundred kinnikinnick shrubs for planting next spring, and have permission from the Oregon Department of Agriculture to collect seeds from the rare silvery phacelia forb (see photo below) in hopes of propagating new plants.

A contract has been signed with a qualified local business to remove the well in accordance with state rules and best practices. By the time this brief is presented, the well removal work may have been completed.

Treating the invasives and purchasing plants has cost a little more than \$1,000 in staff time and materials so far. Removing the well is expected to cost about \$3,000, an expense that will be split with Bandon Biota, as described in our separation agreement. Bandon Biota continues to cooperate with staff, providing access through their adjacent property to the disturbed site.



Prior Action by Commission: None

Action Requested: None

Attachment: None

Prepared by: Chris Havel