



ENGINEERING . PLANNING . ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

Program Development

Policy Guidance

Mitigation and Conservation

Strategy Development

Stakeholder Facilitation

Credit/Currency Development

Development of Individual Banks

Habitat Restoration Analysis and Planning



Parametrix

Habitat Conservation, Restoration, and Mitigation

Parametrix provides client-centered, flexible and innovative services aimed at balancing the needs of built and natural environments. Our multi-disciplinary team of experts offers a holistic approach to conservation, restoration, and mitigation. The ultimate result is greater natural resource protection and more streamlined project delivery.

Project Examples

Programmatic Mitigation Feasibility Assessment – Ada County, ID

The Ada County Highway District (ACHD) builds and operates the transportation system in Ada County, Idaho and is responsible for environmental permitting and mitigation on highway and road projects within the County. Regulatory preferences and traditional mitigation approaches for on-site, in-kind mitigation have frequently resulted in mitigation that is costly and does not achieve desired environmental benefits. ACHD is evaluating the potential costs and benefits of implementing alternative mitigation approaches compared to the traditional project-specific, on-site, and in-kind mitigation. Parametrix is assisting in evaluating current and past ACHD mitigation practices and costs, estimating future mitigation need and costs, identifying potential alternative approaches to mitigation, and evaluating the relative feasibility, costs, and benefits of these alternatives. By using a combination of existing information review, GIS analysis, interviews and workshops, we are working collaboratively with ACHD to identify more cost effective and ecologically successful mitigation approaches.

Oregon Department of Transportation Comprehensive Mitigation and Conservation Program – OR

Parametrix worked with ODOT to develop a comprehensive mitigation/conservation strategy (CMCS), which uses an “ecoprovince priorities” approach to address regional ecological goals. We developed a habitat prioritization process that allows resource impacts to be evaluated and mitigated regionally, based on ecological values. The CMCS program will establish six to eight mitigation banks within the next two to three years to accommodate mitigation needs for ODOT’s Bridge Delivery Program as well as future ODOT transportation projects. This approach benefits natural resources through higher quality mitigation and species recovery while also providing infrastructure projects a more timely and cost effective permitting and mitigation process.

Flett Wetlands and Oak Restoration Plan and Mitigation Bank – Pierce County, WA

Parametrix is working closely with Habitat Bank and the Pierce Conservation District on the development of a restoration and mitigation banking plan for a 130-acre wetland and habitat mitigation bank. Our phased approach includes conducting ecological site assessments and bank feasibility studies, as well as developing restoration plans, evaluating watershed restoration priorities, and assessing feasibility and ecological benefits of developing an oak woodland conservation bank. This project combines the elements of habitat protection and restoration as a community benefit, and mitigation banking that can assist with successful mitigation of project impacts in a highly urban environment.

Habitat Restoration Analysis and Recommendations – Isleta and San Acacia Reaches of the Middle Rio Grande, NM

The Middle Rio Grande Endangered Species Collaborative Program (ESA-CP) is a partnership involving 20 signatories organized to protect and improve the status of 2 federally endangered species: the Southwestern Willow Flycatcher and the Rio Grande Silvery Minnow. Parametrix is developing scientifically-based restoration recommendations aimed at improving habitat for these species along an 88-mile reach of the Rio Grande downstream of Albuquerque. A century of water resources projects and concurrent introduction of exotic Tamarix (saltcedar) trees have drastically altered natural ecosystem processes and habitat for the silvery minnow and willow flycatcher. Parametrix is evaluating the project reach and developing recommendations for restoring ecosystem processes and habitat for these species.

Shoreline Master Program Update – Whatcom County, WA

Parametrix is working closely with County and Ecology staff to efficiently identify and assess stream, lake, and marine and shoreline conditions and determine areas of critical concern. A key component of the new Shoreline Master Program includes the development of a restoration plan which incorporates mitigation banking as a tool for resource protection and no net loss. Designed to be integrated with existing Salmon Recovery Plans, the plan will identify opportunities for restoration that will most benefit degraded ecological functions. Developing the framework for a mitigation banking program is intended to serve both project mitigation and longer-term restoration plans. The project is one of the first applications of the Department of Ecology Shoreline guidelines for watershed inventory and characterization on a countywide basis.

Sammamish River Habitat Restoration Project – King County, WA

The Sammamish River was channelized in the 1960s as a flood control measure, resulting in the loss of many miles of river meanders and the valuable fish and wildlife habitat associated with them. Parametrix developed an enhancement program and design that restores the river's structure, ecology, and associated wildlife and plant habitat, while welcoming the community to the banks of the river. The steep banks of the river were re-graded, creating gentler slopes that support a palette of native plant species, and allow people to make their way down to the water's edge. The Sammamish River Trail itself was re-aligned to fit comfortably into the restored landforms, and to allow for safe access to the river. Planning and design of the project actively embraced the idea that this would be a sustainable landscape: native plants species within the project will require no supplemental water when mature, and are irrigated by a low-cost temporary system that will be deactivated after the plants have become established. Recycled and salvaged construction materials were used extensively throughout the project.

Montana DNRC HCP and EIS – MT

This project includes preparation of a multi-species habitat conservation plan (HCP) and EIS. The objective is to develop conservation measures for protection of 12 federally listed and sensitive species on one million acres of Forested Trust lands within the State of Montana. Parametrix was responsible for assessing timber; threatened, endangered, and sensitive plants; socioeconomics and economics; water resources; geology; road management; cultural and archaeological resources; fisheries and aquatic resources; wildlife; recreation; air quality; grazing; and scenery. Reports include a scoping report, species accounts, HCP, EIS, comment analysis report, and GIS mapping products. HCP species include bull trout, cutthroat trout, Canada lynx, grizzly bear, wolverine, fisher, northern goshawk, pileated woodpecker, black-backed woodpecker, flammulated owl, bald eagle, and gray wolf.



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