

Online Comment by User: mawilloughby1

Submitted on: 10/31/2006 7:56:00 AM

Comment Category: Comment on all alternatives

Comment Location: Chapter-1, Page-1

Address: , Seattle, WA 98103

Comment:

Hello 520 Decision Makers-

I-0725-001

Because the area around the Montlake Bridge, Foster/Marsh Island and the Arboretum is so important to me, I was compelled to write to you concerning the 520 rebuild.

I understand the need to repair and/or rebuild 520 to make it safe for drivers. I simply urge you to do so with the least amount of negative impact on the precious wetlands surrounding the west side of the bridge.

Just last weekend (10/28/06), I took a long walk through the Arboretum to look at the fall colors. Amazing yellows, reds, oranges and sunshine made for a spectacular walk.

The peak of my loop walk was the wetland area just north of the Arboretum visitor center. I stood by the waters edge on the trail and saw the following within just a 10 minute timeframe:

Four breeding pairs of Wood Ducks (not many places to easily view them in Seattle)
Heard Pine Siskins (winter visitor)
Saw a Red Breasted Nuthatch
Saw a flock of American Goldfinches fly over head
Saw a perched Sharp-Shinned Hawk take off in a flash to chase the goldfinches (exciting to see)
Two adult Bald Eagles fly overhead, one carrying a large stick (nest material)
Several pair of Mallard, Gadwall, American Coots, Green-winged Teals and other ducks

To see such a variety of songbirds, raptors and ducks in a beautiful wetland unique to our area, is a treat not to be taken for granted. There were many, many people walking around the area enjoying its beauty. There's no guarantee the area will recover or rebuild itself to ever be the same.

Please do your best to protect this urban gem and vital wetland habitat.

Sincerely,

Melissa Willoughby
4121 Linden Ave N #201
Seattle, WA 98103
Seattle resident since 1992

206-399-4239

I-0725-001

Comment Summary:

Arboretum (Concerns)

Response:

See Section 9.3 of the 2006 Draft EIS Comment Response Report.

I-0725-001

Seattle resident since 1992

Comment Category: Ecosystems

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