

RGP-7

APPENDIX D – PLANTING PLAN REQUIREMENTS

General Requirements

Provide a site plan drawing of the planting area showing location and layout of the plants in relation to the bank stabilization work. The planting plan should include a written description of the planting area(s) (dimensions and locations). List the species to be planted and the number you will plant of each species. The planting plot(s) shall be planted (cuttings, burlapped roots or 1 – 5 gallon pots) with native shrubs and trees suitable for existing habitat conditions. The plantings must be located within 15 feet landward of the ordinary high water mark (OHWM), parallel to the bank. We recommend planting immediately at the OHWM. Typically, the shrubs will be planted at intervals of 3-feet on center, and the trees will be planted at intervals of 10-feet on center. We encourage you to provide additional details about irrigation, control of weeds and predators, etc. The Corps must approve a planting plan submitted by the prospective permittee prior to issuance of a RGP-7 verification letter to the permittee.

Timing

Plantings must be installed during the appropriate time of year for the selected species and within one year of project construction. A report, as-built drawing, and photographs demonstrating that the plants have been installed will be submitted to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Seattle District, Regulatory Branch, within 12 months from the date of permit issuance. You can meet this reporting requirement by completing and submitting the *Status Report for Planting Plan Completion* form located in Appendix D.

Planting Performance Standards

One hundred percent survival of all planted trees and shrubs is required during the first and second years after planting the plots. During the third through fifth years after planting, 80 percent survival is required. The permittee must protect the planting plots against predation (e.g., beavers) – the Corps recommends fencing. Individual plants that die must be replaced with native plant species approved by the Corps. Maintenance of the mitigation area includes removal and replacement of dead or dying plants and removal of invasive and noxious weeds. Maintenance does not include trimming or mowing of the plants. The plants must be allowed to develop naturally. During the 5 years of monitoring, the permittee must implement any Corps required contingency plans (e.g., additional plantings, planting different species) if the performance standards are not met.

Monitoring Reports

Mitigation planting monitoring reports will be submitted by the permittee annually for 5 years from the date the Corps accepts the as-built drawings. The mitigation monitoring report will include written and photographic documentation on plant mortality and replanting efforts. Photographs must be taken between June – August (the best time of year to show plant growth). Photographs must show a panoramic view of the entire mitigation planting area. A set point from where photos are taken must be established and used repeatedly for each monitoring year. The date of the photos must be noted on the monitoring report. The permittee can meet this reporting requirement by submitting a completed *Planting Monitoring Report*, located in Appendix D, to the Corps.

Duration of Plantings

The permittee is required to establish and preserve the planting plots at the project site for the duration that the overwater structure is in place.

Status Report for Planting Plan Completion

Within one (1) year of the date your RGP verification was issued, submit this completed form to: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Regulatory Branch, P.O. Box 3755, Seattle, WA 98124-3755. You must submit a new form annually until the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) accepts your as-built drawings of the mitigation construction.

Corps Reference Number: _____

Date the Corps Issued Your Permit: _____

Date this Report is Due: _____

Your Name: _____

Your Address: _____

Your City/State/Zip Code: _____

Location of Mitigation: _____

You must attach to this form: As-built drawing(s) of planting areas (if installed), and
 Photographs of the mitigation area.

Describe mitigation activity performed:

Date completed: _____

Name of Species You Planted	Number Planted
Total Planted:	

Please expand the table and attach additional pages as needed.

Planting Monitoring Report

Submit this completed form to: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Regulatory Branch, P.O. Box 3755, Seattle, WA 98124-3755. A completed form must be submitted 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 years after the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) accepts your as-built drawing of the mitigation planting area.

Corps Reference Number: _____

Date Your As-Built's Were Accepted by the Corps: _____

Date This Report Is Due: _____

Your Name: _____

Your Address: _____

Your City/State/Zip Code: _____

Briefly describe the conditions of the compensatory mitigation project:

You must attach to this form: Photographs of the mitigation area (preferably taken during June-August). Photographs must show a panoramic view of the entire mitigation planting area. A set point from where photos are taken must be established and used repeatedly for each monitoring year. The date of the photos must be noted.

Conditions of your Corps permit require 100% survival of all planted trees and shrubs during the first and second years after planting. During the third through fifth years after planting, 80% survival is required. Individual plants that die must be replaced with native species approved by the Corps. You must protect your mitigation area—fencing is recommended.

Date of Inspection	Species name of Dead Plants	Number of Dead Plants	Name of Species Replanted	Number Replanted

Please expand the table and attach additional pages as needed to describe condition of the site, issues, correspondence with the Corps regarding site conditions, and corrective or maintenance activities conducted or recommended. If performance standards are not being met, a brief explanation of the difficulties and potential remedial actions proposed by the permittee, including a timetable, must be provided.