Fanno Creek



Hall Boulevard to Ash Avenue	Englewood	OES Marsh	Greenway Park	
	Forested Wetland,	Emergent Marsh, Ripari-	Emergent Marsh, For-	
Riparian Forest, Forested Wetland	Emergent Marsh	an Forest, Scrub Shrub	ested Wetland, Ripariar	
	First planting:	First planting:	Forest, Scrub Shrub	
First planting:	2007	2007	First planting:	
2006	First monitoring:	First monitoring:	2008	
First monitoring:	2007	2011	First monitoring:	
2007	43 native plant species	53 native plant species	2007	
49 native plant species	Plant cover change:*	Plant cover change:*	53 native plant species	
Plant cover change:*	• Native shrub/tree:	• Native shrub/tree:	Plant cover change:*	
Native shrub/tree:	+82%	+27%	• Native shrub/tree:	
+128%	Native herbaceous:	Native herbaceous:	+80%	
· Native herbaceous:	insufficient data	-12%	• Native herbaceous:	
insufficient data	• Invasive: +29%	• Invasive: -20%	insufficient data	
Invasive: +33%			• Invasive: +12%	

On the nearer horizon, the transformation at Fanno Creek continues to unfold in 2017. The US Geological Service has begun to report the results of its beaversand-hydrology study. In the heart of Tigard, the City of Tigard and Clean Water Services are preparing to restore the portion of the creek closest to Ash Street. Further north, with funding from Metro's

Nature in Neighborhoods program, partners—including THPRD, Clean Water Services, Friends of Trees and local residents—are embarking on a "Fanno Floodplain Fix." Both projects will involve remeandering segments of the creek; enhancing habitat through revegetation; and adding or improving amenities for cyclists and pedestrians. And in May 2017,

* Includes statistics for all the portions of the project for which data is currently available. Figures measure increase/decrease since monitoring

began. Shrub/tree and herbaceous cover are measured only in plant communities appropriate to those species.

the Rose Festival Half-Marathon traditionally held in Portland takes place instead in Beaverton, including a stretch of the Fanno Creek Trail.

By bringing best practices to bear, Tree for All partners continue to transform Fanno Creek in ways that benefit our economy, community and ecology.

Key Partners













Tree for All engages communities large and small in conservation projects throughout the Tualatin River Watershed in Oregon.

JOINTREEFORALL.ORG

Urban Stream Welcomes Beaver, Heron, Oak—and Disc Golf

FANNO CREEK is an urban stream that begins in Portland's southwest hills and meanders 15 miles through neighborhoods in Portland, Beaverton, Tigard and Durham, where it meets the Tualatin River. The creek and its tributaries cross private residential, industrial and commercial properties, as well as parklands and natural areas owned by Clean Water Services, Metro, Tualatin Hills Park & Recreation District and the cities of Beaverton, Tigard and Durham. For more than a decade, Tree for All partners have collaborated to transform Fanno Creek into a place where people, plants and wildlife flourish.



The Site

152 acres	FIRST PLANTING	2006

STREAM 20,082 feet TOTAL 248,708 plants

PLANT COMMUNITIES

Emergent Marsh, Forested Wetland, Riparian Forest Scrub Shrub

The Challenge

Historically, the body of water we now know as Fanno Creek wound through a dense forest abundant with bear, deer, beaver and cutthroat trout. Water that flowed to the creek was naturally slowed and filtered through trees and vegetation. A meandering channel connected to the floodplain across the landscape.

In 1847, Augustus Fanno made the first land claim in Washington County and began a creekside onion farm. During the rapid growth that followed, the creek was channelized, forest was cleared and roads were built. Trees and shrubs were removed; in their absence, non-native vegetation invaded. The consequences for Fanno Creek were severe: higher and faster flow, increased pollutants from water running off the altered landscape, and accelerated bank erosion.

To enhance the health of this once-vibrant watershed, a coordinated effort across multiple jurisdictions and private parties would be crucial. Planning and on-the-ground efforts date back to the 1980s and 1990s, with the contemporary approach—which emphasizes partnership and landscape-scale restoration—beginning to gain momentum in the early 2000s.

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Today, more than seven miles of streamside and 150 acres of greenways have been transformed into a healthy resource for people and wildlife through partnerships with THPRD.





The Transformation

Since 2004, Tree for All partners have transformed more than seven miles of Fanno Creek stream-side and 150 acres of greenways into a healthy resource for people and wildlife. Strategies include streambank stabilization; floodplain reconnection; and enhancement of amenities for recreation and active transportation.

On the revegetation front, volunteers, partners and reforestation contractors have planted native trees and shrubs by the hundreds of thousands, greatly increasing stream shade, improving air quality and enhancing wildlife habitat.

Today, the network of natural areas along Fanno Creek boasts a diversity of forests and wetlands, from spreading Oregon oaks and tall mature ponderosa pines to wetlands full of sedges, rushes and Oregon ash trees. Fish and amphibians have returned, along with birds, including

wood ducks, hooded merganser, great blue herons and white egrets. Beaver activity has further increased wildlife habitat by providing access to water to dozens of wildlife species throughout the long dry summer.

As the pieces of a streamside regional trail have come together, Fanno Creek has become a go-to natural area for these growing communities just west of Portland. In Beaverton, THPRD reports that the Fanno Creek Trail—which features a popular disc golf course and miles of

biking and walking trails--is one of its most-used trail systems. For the City of Tigard, the trail is a key element in the revitalization of downtown and its aspirations to become "the most walkable city in the Pacific Northwest." Regional plans, led by Metro, call for the Fanno Creek Trail to be part of an active transportation corridor allowing car-free travel from the banks of the Willamette River in downtown Portland, to the Tualatin River as it flows through the small city of Durham.

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