Intensive Monitoring Site: Fanno Creek at Greenway Park

Fanno Creek at Greenway Park is managed by Tualatin Hills Park and Recreation Department. The recreation park and a golf course attract many visitors each day. Beavers in recent years have built at least four dams, including the tall dam at the southern end of the site and long dam creating the south pond.

Estimated Beaver Dam Capacity in the Tualatin River Basin with the Beaver Restoration Analysis Tool (BRAT)

BRAT was developed by McGee and others (2015) to estimate beaver dam density throughout a watershed and help the resource community identify areas where there are, or may have been, target beaver restoration strategies. BRAT combines hydrologic, vegetation, and geographic data with beaver activity indices to compute beaver dam density using a fuzzy inference system. This study, in collaboration with Clean Water Services, aims to estimate beaver dam distributions and quantify the effects that beaver activity has on hydrology, water quality, and geomorphology in the urban streams of the Tualatin River basin.

Initial Results

This work is ongoing and future analyses may include assessing potential dam buildout in specific sub-watersheds or reaches, identifying areas of change between the: (1) Upper and middle sites where the deep channel is shaded, confined, and protected by a vegetative canopy; (2) Middle and lower sites where the deep channel runs through the south pond and dam becomes confined and shaded because of the long ancillary dams.

Related Publications


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Figure 6. Water temperature and dissolved oxygen measurements made in main channel at Fanno Creek Greenway Park on August 11, 2016.

Figure 7. Longitudinal profiles of water temperature and dissolved oxygen measured along the main channel at Fanno Creek Greenway Park on August 11, 2016.

Figure 8. Intensive monitoring site for Fanno Creek at Greenway Park at a range of flow conditions.