

# THE TRUST FOR PUBLIC LAND PERMANENTLY PROTECTS COMMUNITY FOREST NEAR ESTACADA

The property provides access to Eagle Fern Park

April 30, 2019

Clackamas County, OR

The Trust for Public Land, in partnership with the Clackamas Soil and Water Conservation District, today announced the protection and creation of a 319 acre community forest near Estacada. The property, known as the Eagle Creek Community Forest, will provide new public recreational opportunities, protect and improve habitat for fish and wildlife, and permit careful timber harvesting that protects natural resources and benefits the local community. The forest will be managed by the Clackamas Soil and Water Conservation District with guidance by a board of advisors that is comprised of local community members.

“The Trust for Public Land is thrilled to work with the Clackamas Soil and Water Conservation District to bring this awesome new community forest to the Clackamas community,” said Sam Plotkin Project Manager for The Trust for Public Land, “With the conservation district’s management and advisory board’s guidance, this forest will provide benefits to the region for generations to come.”

The community forest is located adjacent to the beloved Eagle Fern Park, which is home to an ancient forest, popular swimming hole, and a crucially important winter steelhead run. Creation of the community forest dramatically expands access to public land in this region in close proximity to the Portland metro area.

"The Clackamas SWCD is delighted to have this opportunity to improve fish and wildlife habitat and to provide additional access to public lands," said Tom Salzer, District Manager for the Clackamas Soil and Water Conservation District, "Over time, we will be able to illustrate how different forest management practices can affect private forest lands. None of this would be possible without the tremendous support we received from The Trust for Public Land."

The U.S. Forest Service Community Forest Program and the Clackamas Soil and Water Conservation District provided funding for this project. The Trust for Public Land purchased the land from Weyerhaeuser and then immediately sold it to the Conservation District at cost.