

working for clean rivers

California Subwatershed

Improvement Strategies

2009

California Subwatershed at a Glance

Subwatershed covers 267 acres

Purple martins have been spotted near Willamette Park.

A quarter mile of open stream channels

39 acres of parks and open space

46 acres of land in public ownership

Impervious area, mostly streets, covers about half the watershed

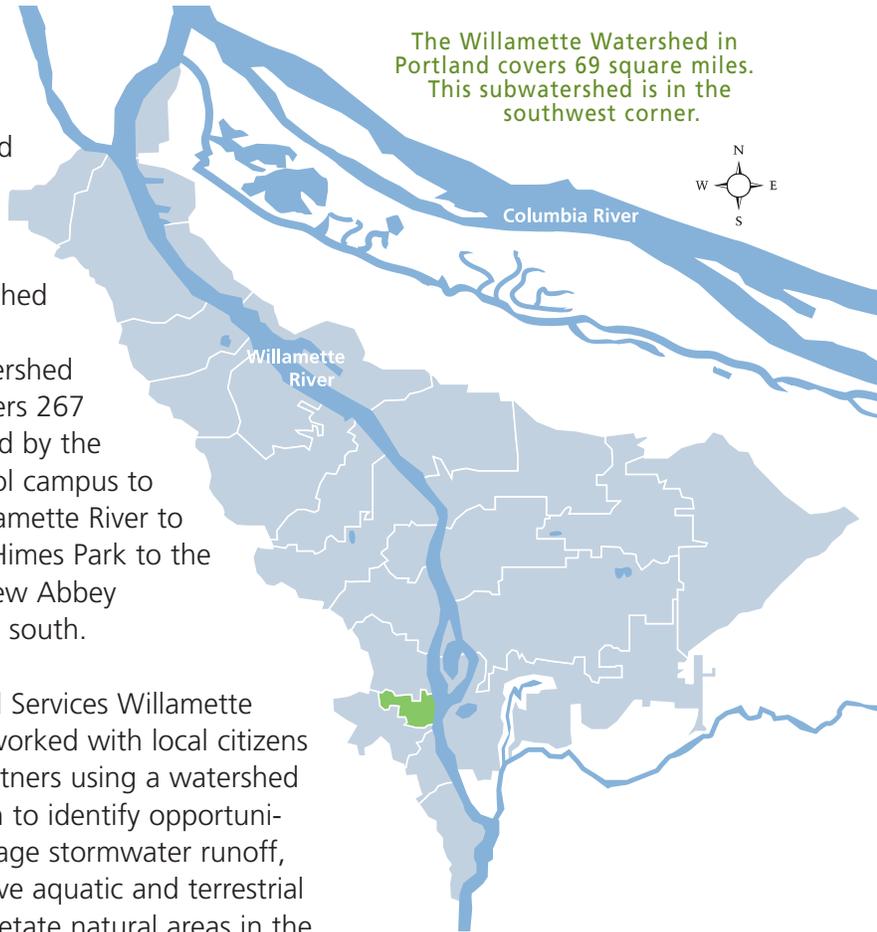
Osprey, hawks, herons and neo-tropical migratory birds use Willamette Park as stop-over habitat

The California Subwatershed is one of 27 subwatersheds that make up the Willamette Watershed in Portland. The California subwatershed drainage area covers 267 acres. It is bounded by the Wilson High School campus to the west, the Willamette River to the east, George Himes Park to the north, and Riverview Abbey Mausoleum to the south.

The Environmental Services Willamette Watershed team worked with local citizens and numerous partners using a watershed planning approach to identify opportunities to better manage stormwater runoff, protect and improve aquatic and terrestrial habitat, and revegetate natural areas in the California subwatershed.

Environmental Services has identified opportunities to improve watershed health in the California Subwatershed. The project opportunities are outlined in the California Subwatershed Improvement Strategies (IS) Report which will help guide the City of Portland's ongoing efforts to protect and improve watershed health. The report builds on the principles of the Portland Watershed Management Plan.

The Willamette Watershed in Portland covers 69 square miles. This subwatershed is in the southwest corner.



George Himes Park restoration



ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES
CITY OF PORTLAND
working for clean rivers

Dan Saltzman, Commissioner
Dean Marriott, Director

Implementation of potential projects will include collaboration and partnerships with other citybureaus, willing landowners, neighborhood groups, non-profits and local agencies to achieve the greatest overall watershed health benefits.

Priority areas highlighted in the California Subwatershed IS Report include the unique and valuable habitats associated with George Himes Park, the Terwilliger Corridor and Willamette Park. Environmental Services will develop opportunities for improvements in the California Subwatershed in the following areas:

- ✓ Implementation of ecoroofs, green streets, parking lot retrofits and other stormwater management opportunities throughout the subwatershed
- ✓ Expansion of revegetation projects underway along streams and in the uplands along the Terwilliger Corridor and in George Himes Park
- ✓ Improvements to aquatic habitats through stream daylighting and restoration



26-acre Willamette Park along the Willamette River



Willamette Park mudflats provide critical habitat for shore birds and fish

Get more project information and view the Subwatershed Improvement Strategies Reports at www.portlandonline.com/bes/subwatersheds. For more general watershed information, visit www.portlandonline.com/bes/watershed/willamette or call 503-823-7740.