March 15, 2011

For Immediate Release

Media Contact:
Beth Sorensen, Public Information Officer
503.823.5300; 503.823.6634 (cell)

- PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT -

Portland Parks & Recreation again closes trails in Oaks Bottom Wildlife Refuge due to downed tree and storm debris

(Portland, OR) – Portland Parks & Recreation closed several trails in Oaks Bottom Wildlife Refuge this afternoon after the recent wet and windy weather has again made the slopes above the trails unstable. For safety reasons, the trails are closed to all users until further notice.

Debris, including a downed tree, has closed the paved connector trail between the parking lot on SE Milwaukie and the Springwater on the Willamette. PP&R staff is working with city engineers to determine if the debris can be cleaned up immediately or if the slopes above the trails are still unstable.

Two other trail closures in Oaks Bottom include the Bluff Trail, which runs north/south through Oaks Bottom, and the North Branch of the Sellwood Park Trail. Both trails are also closed until further notice. The South Branch of the Sellwood Park Trail, which connects to the Springwater on the Willamette, is open, as is the Springwater on the Willamette.

All three trails had been closed on March 1 due to landslides, but the paved connector trail and the Bluff Trail had been reopened on Friday, March 11.

# # #