

Asset Management for Green Infrastructure.

Case study title: Urban Natural Area Condition Assessment

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Who / Where?

In Portland, Oregon, USA, the Parks and Recreation Asset Management Team.

Why?

The City passed a new asset management policy in 2021 (linked below) that encompasses required practices for both natural and built assets. While we had been consistently reporting and using condition data for built assets, our maturity for natural asset, specifically natural areas was lower. We embarked on this program to close that gap.

<https://www.portland.gov/policies/finance/comprehensive-financial-management-policies/fin-219-asset-management-policy>

What?

Through a collaborative process, we tailored and applied an assessment methodology for urban natural areas. In 2024, we assessed 22% of our 8,500 acre portfolio.

Learnings and future plans?

This process went through several iterations before stabilizing to the current methodology. We intend to cycle through the remainder of our portfolio, implement a risk-based investment prioritization framework akin to what we do for built assets, and revise/repeat.

Photo:

Figure 8: Assessment Unit Scores by Asset Class as a Percent of Total Acres Assessed

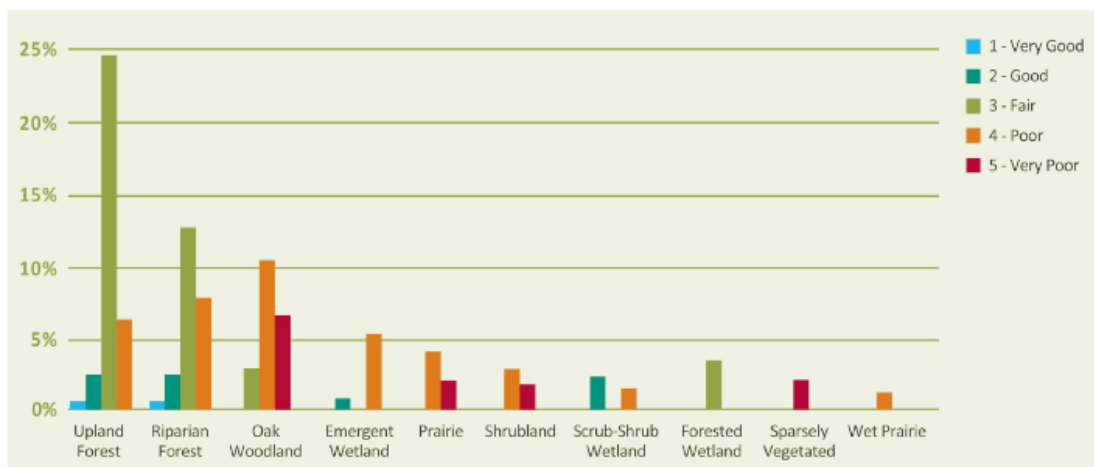


Photo extracted from written report of assessment results. There is also an online dashboard: [Natural Area Assessments Dashboard](#)