

Fairhaven Park Trail & Wetland Boardwalk Interpretive Signs Project Overview

[Interpretive Signs Project Overview](#)

Section 1: Background

A. Project Overview:

Recreation Northwest (RN) is planning to install **two interpretive signs** that tell the story that began in 2014 of Bellingham Parks collaborative efforts with Recreation Northwest for the **Fairhaven Park Wetland Trail & Boardwalk** project (*"The Project"*).

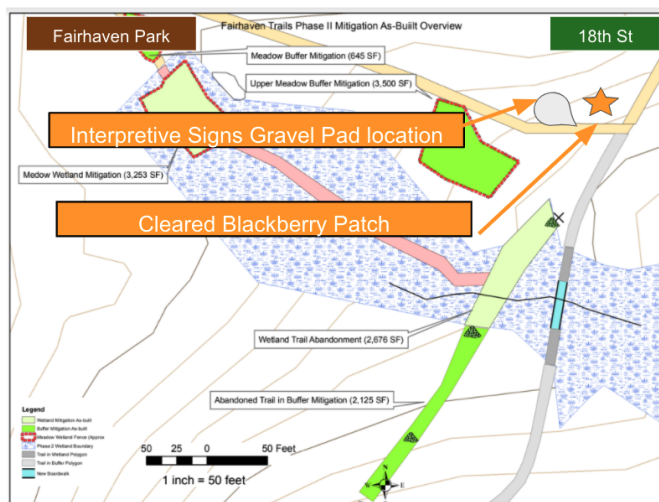
The project has increased public recreation access into the urban forest and improved the ecological habitat in Fairhaven Park. Over the course of the years, the project site has expanded and evolved from mitigation monitoring areas to become a public **Native Plant garden**, with a bench and artistic garden gate to enter the area. The work was orchestrated by RN staff and performed by individual and corporate volunteers in coordination with Bellingham Parks.

The stewardship project has also merged with the organizations' complimentary program, titled **Parkscriptions**, that encourages people to **Get Your Dose of Nature!** The expansion of the mitigation zones to remove invasives and create more public space has been received well with the outdoor community of locals.

B. Sign Locations:

The signs will be displayed together adjacent to the Fairhaven Park - 18th Street Connector trail in the recently cleared blackberry patch space identified on the map included below. The signs would be installed on the edge of the gravel pad, anchored into the ground.

Project Map: [View Slides](#) click for larger view!



Section 2: Project Purpose and Goals



The purpose of these signs is to educate the public about the collaborative community effort of “The Project”. The signs will identify this area as Bellingham Park property, reference the relation with the CCFPD purchase that allows for the forest to be OPEN to the public. The Outline Recreation Northwest’s timeline of work through Phases 1,2 and “3”.

The goal of the signs is to create engagement with the public and appreciation of the space around them.

Sign ONE: Illustrative Map of “The Project” Area that identifies the abandoned trails, new trails and boardwalk, wetland boundaries, mitigation monitoring areas, rock bench, the Native Plant ID garden & Garden Gate.

Sign TWO: Timeline Narrative to support Sign ONE with descriptive text and photos.

Section 4: Scope of Work & Budget

The scope of work is to install 2 signs in Fairhaven Park interpreting RN’s Stewardship projects. 2 Bellingham Parks standard interpretive signs to be installed in clearing at the intersection of the Fairhaven Park Trails (phases 1 & 2).

Bellingham Parks staff has editorial and graphic review authority for sign content. We are working with Katrina Lyon as our graphic designer for the project.

The custom fabricated steel signs have already been purchased and the standard of detail for [Bellingham Parks Design Standards for Trailhead/Interpretive Signs](#) (PDF) will be used for installation of the hardware in the desired location. [Park Design Standards](#) (source)

Permits:

City of Bellingham.

Kim Weil. Approved via email, no permit needed.

Project Budget:

Katrina, design

BPR&C, copywriting

RN time

Native Plant ID signs, TBD

Interpretive Signs, PAID

Section 5: Milestones & Project Schedule

Spring - Sign content created, reviewed and approved.

Gravel pad & signposts

Summer - Signs installed

Section 6: Project Team

Project Team:

Recreation Northwest

Bellingham Parks*

Katrina Lyon Design

Bellingham PR & Communications, Patti Rowlson

*Bellingham Parks Staff:

Nicole Oliver: director

Josh Neyman: coordinate with RN staff

Steve, Gina Austin, Laine: review signs

Phil Evans: install gravel pad and sign bases.