Legal Ecology: Urban Biodiversity and Natural Resources Management and Protection

#### Summer 2020: Prof. Dan Rohlf; 2 credits; May 26 - June 5, 2020

In recent years there has been a growing understanding and appreciation of the importance of protecting natural resources on urban landscapes in order to protect air quality, water quality and wildlife, promote environmental justice and provide landscape resilience in the face of climate change. This course provides an introduction to basic urban ecosystem function and a variety of legal regimes that are available to  address urban natural resource challenges. Topics the class covers include the intersection between science and law in formulating urban natural resource policy, local, state and national legal regimes governing natural resource conservation on urban landscapes, and the efficacy of regulatory versus non-regulatory strategies. Portland is renowned for having some of the most innovative urban natural resource programs in the country and will serve as our laboratory for exploring urban conservation issues. The course includes both classroom and field component and participants will have an opportunity to meet with practitioners and visit local natural resource sites to explore urban natural resource issues. Some field trips may require additional time, so scheduling flexibility will help participants get the most out of this class.  Transportation to field sites is provided.

 Bob Sallinger, Lewis & Clark Law School alum and Director of Conservation at the Portland Audubon Society, co-teaches the course.