



WASHINGTON STATE DEPT OF
**NATURAL
RESOURCES**
PETER GOLDMARK
COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC LANDS



KENNEDY CREEK PROPOSED NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION AREA

Mason & Thurston Counties, Washington



The proposed Kennedy Creek Natural Resources Conservation Area (NRCA) will protect nearly all of the Kennedy Creek stream corridor, from its headwaters in the Capitol State Forest and Summit Lake, to the Kennedy Creek Natural Area Preserve (NAP) in Totten Inlet. Washington State Department of Natural Resources, along with our partners the Squaxin Island Tribe, Green Diamond Resources Company, Western Rivers Conservancy, Taylor Shellfish, Capitol Land Trust and the South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group, is proposing the 1,007 acre NRCA to ensure that the Kennedy Creek habitat remains healthy for future generations of people, fish and wildlife.

Only ten miles northwest of Olympia, Kennedy Creek is one of the most productive chum salmon spawning streams in Washington, with average fall runs of 30,000 fish. Kennedy Creek also supports runs of Coho salmon, coastal and resident cutthroat trout and winter steelhead. After spawning, the salmon carcasses provide important marine-derived nutrients to the surrounding riparian and estuarine ecosystems. These nutrients supplement the diets of 120 different wildlife species, including northern river otter, bobcat and red-tailed hawk.



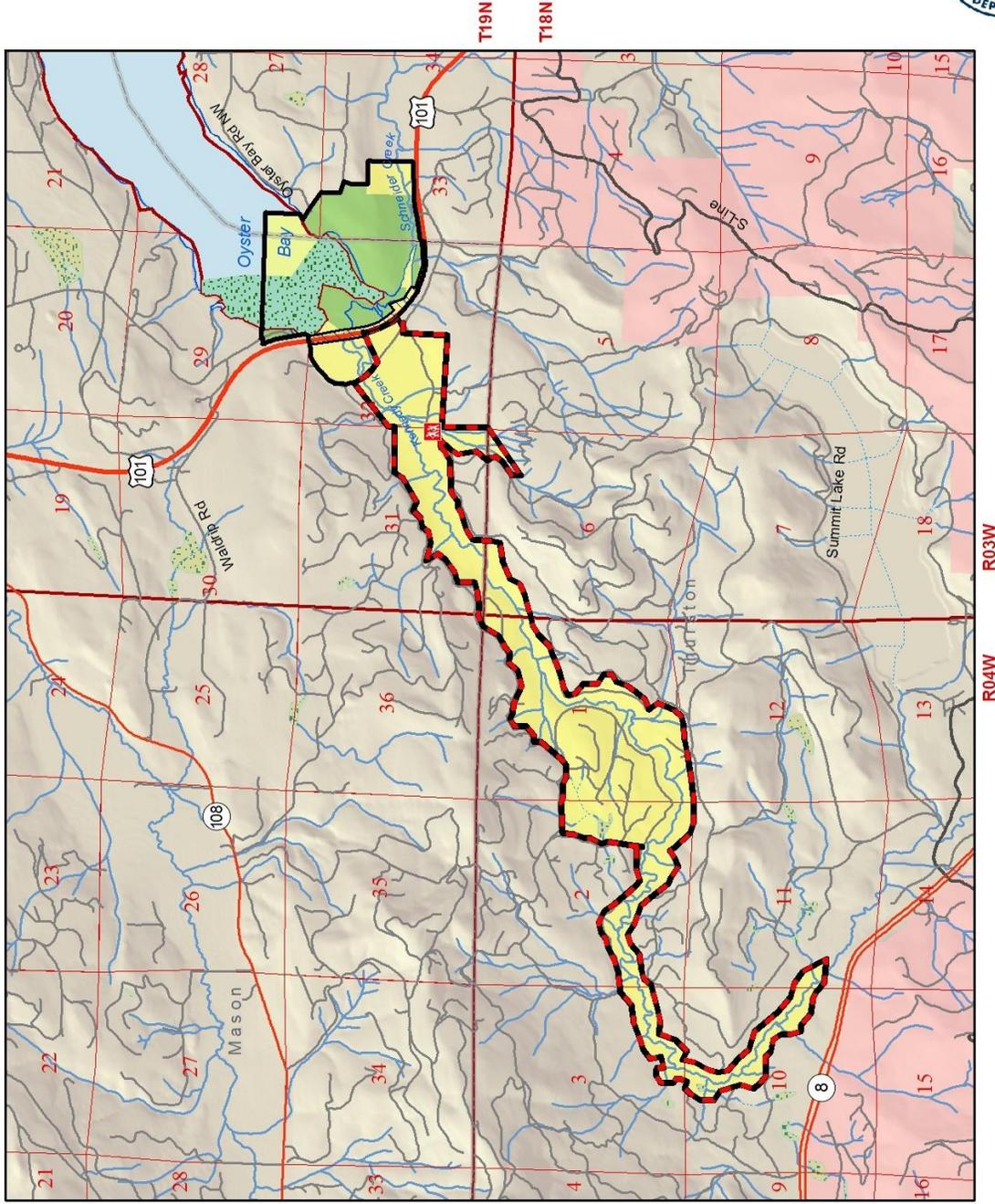
The Kennedy Creek estuary at Totten Inlet is a rich, intertidal salt marsh ecosystem that is protected within the Kennedy Creek Natural Area Preserve (NAP). Created in 1999, the preserve is managed by the Washington State Department of Natural Resources, and provides a critical feeding area for more than 140 bird species, including large concentrations of shorebirds, migratory waterfowl and predatory raptors. Bald eagle, marbled murrelet, peregrine falcon, purple martin and black-bellied plover all depend upon the mudflats at Kennedy Creek.

Each November, more than 5,000 people, including 2,500 students, visit the Kennedy Creek Salmon Trail. The Trail is an interpretive site located along the creek that is jointly managed by Taylor Shellfish and the South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group. By including the Trail and the stream corridor in the proposed conservation area, people will continue to learn about the importance of salmon to the Puget Sound region for generations to come.

See Map →

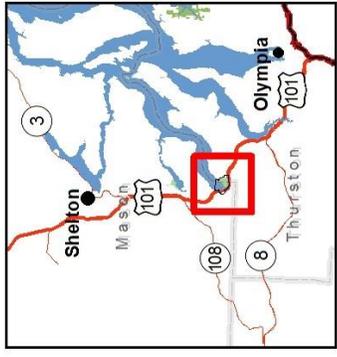
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Washington State Department of Natural Resources

Kennedy Creek Proposed Natural Resources Conservation Area



MAP LEGEND

- Proposed NRCA Boundary
- NAP Boundary
- Natural Area Preserve
- Lands Eligible for Inclusion
- DNR Trust Lands
- Kennedy Creek Salmon Trail

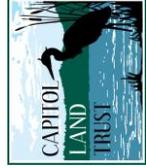


Disclaimer: Extreme care was used during the compilation of this map to ensure accuracy. However, due to changes in ownership and the need to rely on outside information, the Department of Natural Resources cannot accept responsibility for errors or omissions, and, therefore, there are no warranties which accompany this material.

Special Lands - Melrose - June 2016



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