



# KENNEDY CREEK NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION AREA PROPOSED BOUNDARY EXPANSION

*Mason & Thurston Counties, Washington*



The Kennedy Creek Natural Resources Conservation Area (NRCA) protects 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 is proposing to add approximately 105 acres to the existing 1,007-acre Kennedy Creek NRCA boundary to protect additional wetlands and steep slopes. This area will 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 it 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 to witness the fall salmon run. The Trail is an interpretive site located along the creek that is managed by the South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group.

See Map →

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Washington State Department of Natural Resources

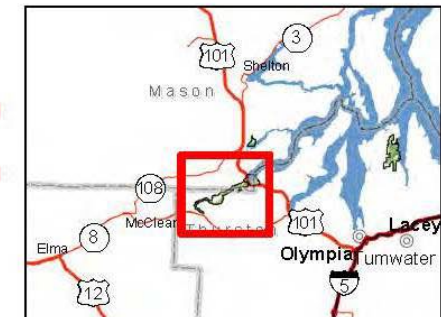


# Kennedy Creek Natural Area Proposed Boundary Expansion

Puget Trough Ecoregion

## MAP LEGEND

-  Proposed Expansion Area
-  NAP Boundary
-  NRCA Boundary
-  Natural Area Preserve
-  Natural Resource Conservation Area
-  Lands Eligible for Inclusion
-  Granted Trust Lands
-  Forest Board Trust Lands
-  State Tidelands withdrawn from Leasing for Conservation Purposes
-  WA Dept of Fish and Wildlife



0 1,050 2,100 4,200 6,300 8,400 Feet

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.

Conservation Lands - Melrose - June 2023



WASHINGTON STATE DEPT OF  
**NATURAL RESOURCES**  
HILARY S. FRANZ  
COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC LANDS

