Natural Resources Conservation Areas

Natural resources conservation areas (NRCAs) protect outstanding examples of native ecosystems, habitat for endangered, threatened and sensitive plant and animals, and scenic landscapes. Environmental education and low-impact public use are appropriate on conservation areas where they do not impact the protected features. Critical habitat is conserved in NRCAs for many plant and animal species, including rare species. NRCAs include coastal and high elevation forests, alpine lakes, wetlands, scenic views, nesting birds of prey, rocky headlands and high-quality native plant communities. Conservation areas also protect geology, cultural, historical, and archeological sites. More than 114,000 acres are conserved in 36 Washington State NRCAs.

Natural Area Preserves

Natural area preserves (NAPs) protect the best remaining examples of many ecological communities including rare plant and animal habitat. The DNR’s Natural Heritage Program identifies the highest quality, most ecologically important sites for protection as natural area preserves. The resulting network of preserves represents a legacy for future generations and helps ensure that blueprints of the state’s natural ecosystems are preserved forever. The preserve system presently includes nearly 30,000 acres in 56 sites throughout the state.

Please Help Protect Cypress Island

- Protect natural features by not touching or removing plants, animals, or historic artifacts.
- Hiking only: stay on marked trails. Respect closures and private property.
- Pets must be leashed and are not allowed on Cypress Lake or Eagle Old Trails.
- Observe wildlife without interfering with their activities.

In The Campgrounds

- Camp only at Pelican Beach or Cypress Head.
- Site designated campsites. Campsite resources are limited; share with others.
- Prevent wildfires. Fire permits are required in designated fire rings only.
- Bring your own firewood if possible. Do not use or discard trash.
- Collect only small twigs and branches that will fit into firepits. Leave larger sizes for beach and upland habitat.
- Secure food supplies; protect wildlife from human food sources.
- No potable water. Please bring your own.
- Pack it in. Pack it out. Leave no trace of your visit.
- Limit your stay to 7 days.
- Group size is limited to 12 people at Pelican Beach and Cypress Head.

Recreation

Two campgrounds are managed for primitive camping. Approximately 26 miles of trails and converted roads are open for hiking. Bicycles, pack animals, and all motorized and non-motorized vehicles are not allowed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recreation Area</th>
<th>Campsites</th>
<th>Toilets</th>
<th>Drinking Water</th>
<th>Mooring Buoys</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pelican Beach</td>
<td>3*</td>
<td>yes*</td>
<td>none</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cypress Head</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>none</td>
<td>none</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Please visit each site for full campground facilities. Levels of accessibility vary and assistance may be required. Contact DNR office for details on beach access.