

LSNA Self-Guided Tour

Brochure and website links also available at LuckiamuteLWC.org/lсна-self-guided-tour

Take a walk along the North Unit loop trail at Luckiamute State Natural Area (LSNA) for a self-guided tour of this beautiful and unique part of the Oregon State Park system. There are six learning stations along the 2-mile loop trail.

If you'd like to take the optional spur trail that goes to the boat-in campground along the Willamette River, you would add an additional two miles (there and back) to the hike.

LSNA Self-Guided Tour Stations

(turn over brochure to see map and information for stations 2 through 6)

1 Floodplain Restoration at LSNA

Luckiamute State Natural Area is a special place. Located at the confluence of the Luckiamute, Santiam, and Willamette Rivers, the LSNA encompasses the largest contiguous tract of floodplain forest along the Willamette. It includes critical habitats for a variety of species throughout the seasons. Since 2011, restoration efforts have been designed to enhance these habitats across 621 acres. To learn more about why the LSNA is so special, why restoration is important in this location, and the restoration projects implemented over the years, head to LuckiamuteLWC.org/luckiamute-state-natural-area-enhancement

What's Happening in the Big Field?

The LWC is partnering with Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD) and Bonneville Environmental Foundation (BEF) on a new phase of restoration at LSNA. Historically forested, the 60-acre field encircled by the North Unit trail was most recently leased as farmland, but is now being returned to floodplain forest habitat. Click the link below for details.

LuckiamuteLWC.org/luckiamute-state-natural-area-enhancement.html#lснаphase5



Effective Jan 27, 2022

OPRD has rerouted about 500 feet of the North Unit loop trail to higher ground to make way for this habitat restoration project. Over the next year, OPRD will work to improve this trail section, which is located about .25 miles from the trailhead. OPRD appreciates your patience with our realignment efforts.

Learn more about the Luckiamute Watershed Council!

The Luckiamute Watershed Council's mission is to engage and assist landowners and communities in the voluntary protection, restoration and enhancement of the Luckiamute and Ash Creek watersheds.

The year 2021 marked the 20th Anniversary of the LWC — that's 20 years of watershed restoration and outreach in partnership with our watershed community! We are so grateful to our partners, funders, donors, landowners, volunteers, contractors and all those who play a role in helping us accomplish our goal of a healthy watershed for all!

Looking for ways you can get involved? Click the link below to learn more!

LuckiamuteLWC.org/get-involved.html



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Luckiamute State Natural Area Self-Guided Tour



Since 2011, Oregon Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD) and the Luckiamute Watershed Council (LWC) have been working with many partners to restore and enhance the unique habitat types found within LSNA. This self-guided tour will help get you better acquainted with this beautiful state natural area!



Thank you to Benton Soil and Water Conservation District and Willamette Habitat Restoration Fund for providing the funding to support this event.

Click below for directions to LSNA North Unit:

<https://goo.gl/maps/SDsWwNUkWT5BGfVx9>

2 Native Plants, Pollinators, and You

Stop, look around you, take a deep breath, and listen quietly. What do you see, smell and hear? Chances are you hear some insects buzzing nearby. Some of these insects are pollinators hard at work providing a crucial service to the ecosystem. Bees, moths, butterflies, solitary wasps, and even some species of flies and beetles help us by pollinating native plants and crops that we grow for food and fiber. We can help them too by providing food, shelter, and nesting sites. Learn more at the link below: <https://bentonswcd.org/programs/plants/native-plants/pollinators/>

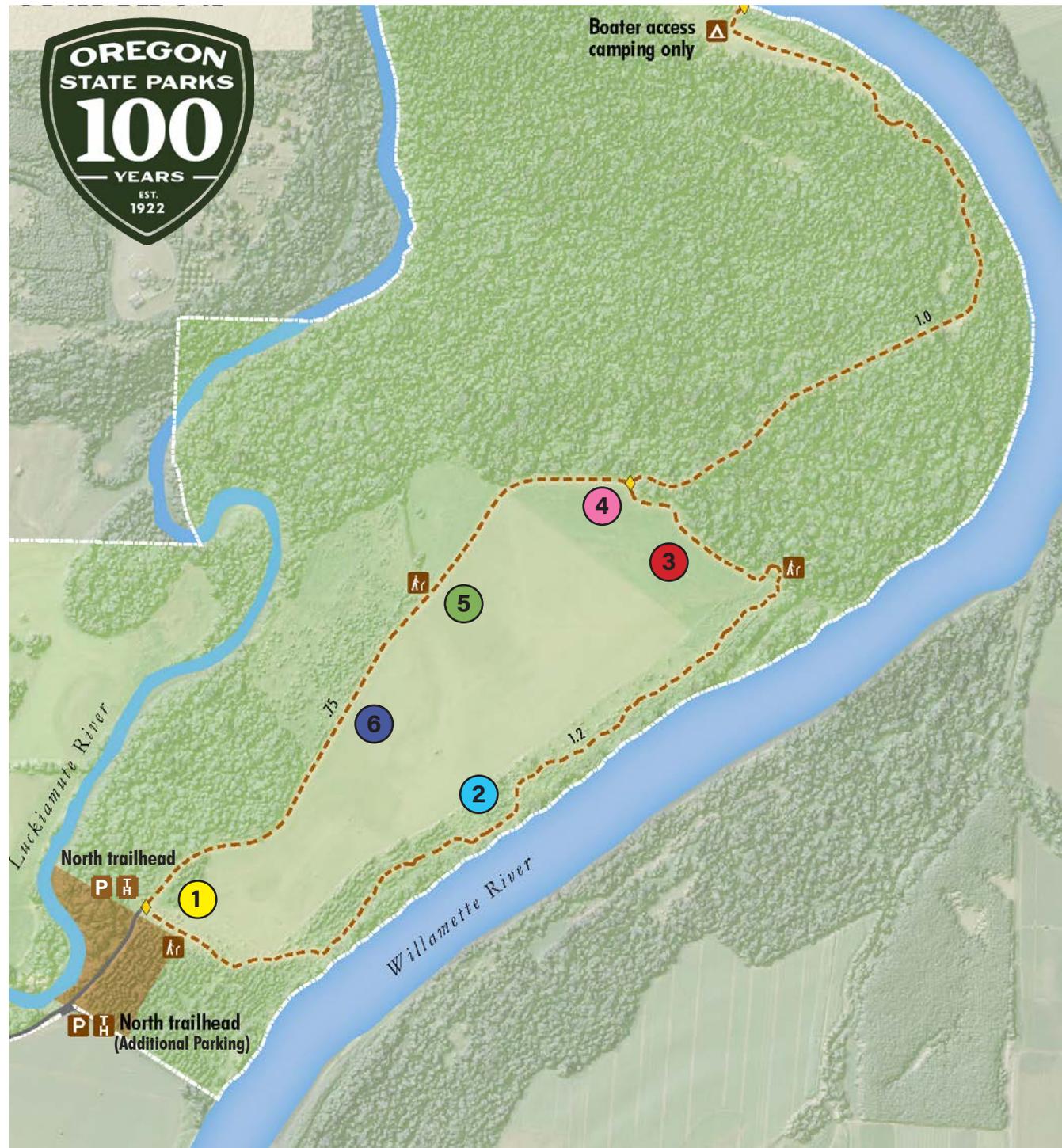
3 Birds and Riparian Habitat

The U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) and partners are collecting data on birds at LSNA to determine how different species are responding to riparian (streamside) restoration. Since riparian vegetation that provides habitat for birds also provides essential habitat for fish and other wildlife, monitoring LSNA's bird diversity can help us better understand the benefits of restoration efforts here. To learn more about this research, head to <https://www.usgs.gov/centers/forest-and-range-land-ecosystem-science-center/science/birds-indicators-ecosystem-health>

4 This is Kalapuyan Land

The area where you are standing now is part of the traditional homelands of the Kalapuya (Calapooia) tribe. The Kalapuya have lived here for over 14,000 years, and originally occupied over a million acres in the Willamette and the Umpqua valleys. For the past 200 years, however, they have endured enormous changes to their traditional life-ways. Kalapuyan land management practices include setting annual fires, which clears the land of

LSNA Self-Guided Tour Stations



Station 4, continued

excess vegetation, deposits nutrients in the soil, and creates habitat for culturally important plant and animal species. Today, many Kalapuyan descendants are members of the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde and Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians. Click the following link to learn more about the Kalapuya, their culture, and view an online exhibit curated by a Kalapuyan descendant. <https://fiveoaksmuseum.org/exhibit/this-is-kalapuyan-land/>

5 The River Around You

Did you know you are standing in a river? The footprint of a river includes its floodplain, which is the low lying land that surrounds a waterway. Periodic flooding leaves behind rich topsoil which provides essential nutrients for plants, fish, and wildlife. This area is also a seasonal wetland ecosystem which is dry in the summer, but then acts like a giant sponge in the wetter months, soaking up floodwater and slowly releasing it back into the river. Oregon wetlands and floodplains need our protection. To learn more about them, click on this link: <https://oregonexplorer.info/topics/wetlands?topic=98>

6 Dispelling the “Green Blur”

The LWC has planted hundreds of thousands of native plants in its work to restore LSNA. Each species is a unique and important part of the landscape but until you get acquainted with what makes one plant different from another, it may just look like a wild “green blur” of plant growth! The world comes alive when you are able to recognize the incredible diversity that surrounds us every day, and when each plant presents itself as a unique component of an ecosystem. You can view and download a locally-focused Plant ID Primer that will help you learn the basics of plant taxonomy and identification at LuckiamuteLWC.org/plant-id-primer

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