

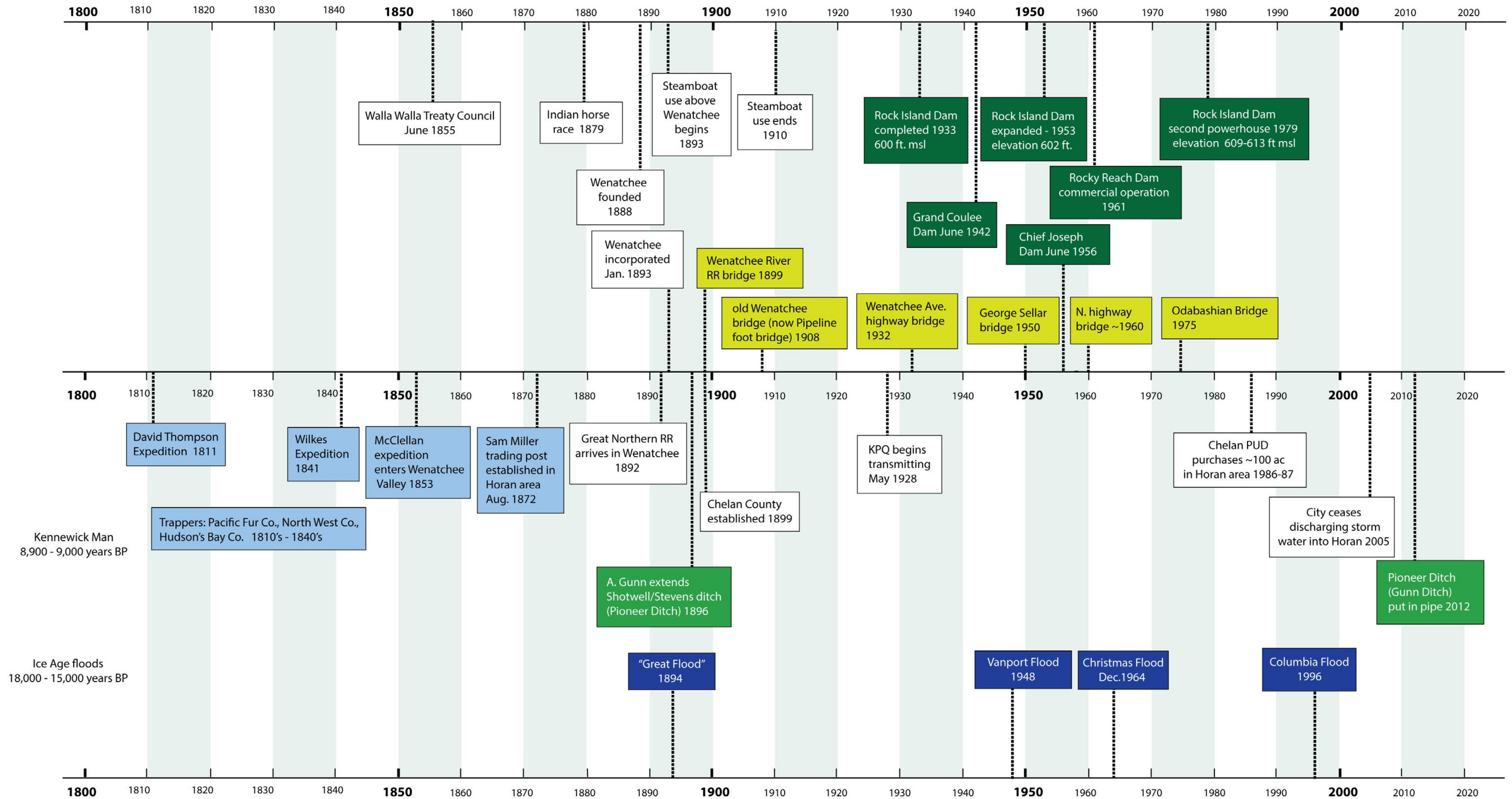
HORAN NATURAL AREA

Community Open House

Wednesday, November 6, 2019



A Select Timeline of Wenatchee Area History*



NOTES

* This timeline began as a means to organize cultural, geologic, and climatic events that influenced the formation and history of use in the area around the mouth of the Wenatchee River. Other events have been added to provide local context.

"An Indian Horse-Race", C.E.S. Wood, The Century Illustrated Monthly Magazine, Nov. 1886-April 1887 provided by William Layman

Rock Island Dam 1936 operating elev. = 600ft. msl (W.Graevell)

Rocky Reach dam 4 generators added 1969-1971 FERC license expires 2052

Rock Island Dam current headwater elevations per FERC permit 609-613 feet MSL FERC license expires 2028

Welcome

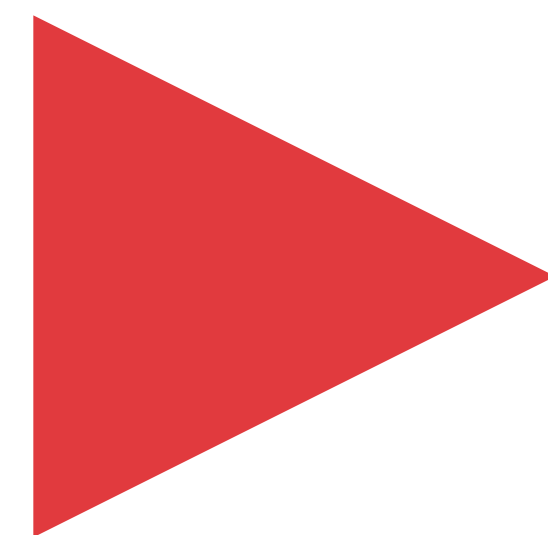
to the Chelan PUD and Washington State Parks Public Workshop

Learn more about
the ownership and
management of the
South Confluence Area

Tell us how you use the area
and things you'd like to see
preserved into the future

Talk to resource experts
and share your thoughts
and ideas

**WHY
NOW?**



**There are several projects
planned that will have
direct effects on the area**

**Local groups have
expressed interest in
enhancing the area**



Chelan PUD and State Parks Management Goals

- 1** Promote ecological function of the Natural Area
- 2** Allow for education and cultural interpretation
- 3** Provide recreational access

Rock Island Hydroelectric Project License – Recreation Requirements

Chelan PUD purchased the Wenatchee Columbia confluence area in the mid-1980's as mitigation, primarily for riparian habitat impacts of on-going Rock Island Hydroelectric Project operations. The intent of the license was to keep the land as a natural area. Below are some excerpts from Exhibit R (Recreation Plan) from the Rock Island Hydroelectric Project License.

“Its function as a natural area should be preserved.” (Exhibit R, p. 10).

“The plan proposes to acquire the site so as to preserve its function as a natural area, and also allow for educational interpretation. The development of the site would consist of three areas: the natural area, interpretative area, and shoreline trail.” (Exhibit R, p. 21).

“At the South Confluence site, “natural” designation is recommended for the southeast tip of the site and its islands. The remaining part of the South Confluence is designated “conservancy,” which permits a modest amount of development.” (Exhibit R, p. 42).

These requirements serve as guiding principles when considering external influences on the area by providing metrics which can be measured to ensure any new ideas align with the original intent of the property.

Washington State Parks – Wenatchee Confluence Area Management Objectives

Wenatchee Confluence Area State Parks Management Plan, p. 16. 2007.

The State Parks management plan identifies long-term goals, land classifications, and strategies for improving public recreation, resource stewardship, and management of park properties it manages.

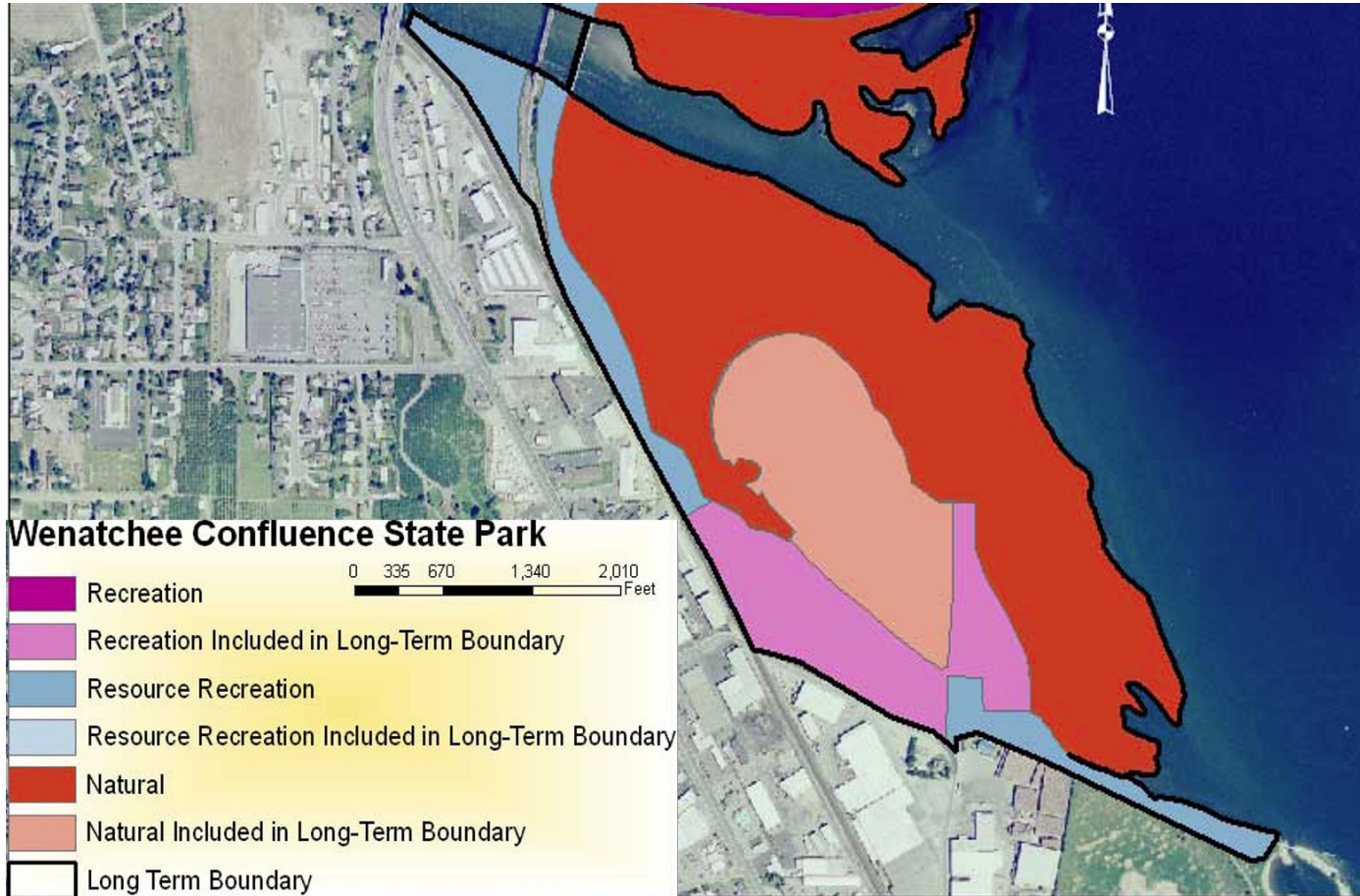
- Provide a variety of inviting, well-maintained year-round trails and trail-based recreation opportunities on the Horan Natural Area trail system, internal park trails, and a portion of Washington State Parks, the Apple Capital Loop Trail, focusing on non-motorized activities such as hiking, biking, wildlife viewing and ecological systems interpretation
- Protect, preserve, and interpret significant natural resources of the park, including rare, fragile and/or high-quality examples of vegetative and animal communities, associations and species; important wildlife corridors and habitat areas, and an unusual, relatively undisturbed natural area adjacent to an urban area.
- Protect, preserve, and appropriately interpret the key cultural resources of the park.
- Biking is not allowed in the Horan Natural Area.

Land, Management and Recreation



Ownership and stewardship of the land is complex.

- The HNA is owned by Chelan PUD and managed by Washington State Parks.
- The radio tower footprint is owned and actively managed by Chelan PUD.
- The islands to the east of the HNA are owned by Washington Department of Natural Resources and managed by State Parks.



Washington State Parks uses a land classification system to provide guidelines on land use within the parks system. The Horan Natural Area has been designated as a Natural Area which is defined as an area used for:

- Preservation, restoration, and interpretation of natural processes and/or features of significant ecological, geological or paleontological value
- Provides for low intensity outdoor recreation activities as subordinate uses.

The South Confluence Area is situated at the confluence of the Columbia and Wenatchee Rivers and offers nature trails in an urban setting enjoyed by runners and hikers, without biking traffic.

Recreation Opportunities

- The North Central Washington Audubon Society Friends of Horan hosts monthly bird walks at the Horan Natural Area. The area is a birding hot spot and routinely has bird observations entered into the Cornell Labs eBird database.
- School groups and other local organizations use the area for educational tours.
- Self-guided interpretation with 15 interpretive kiosks
- The area is connected to the Apple Capital Loop Trail System.
- There are several amenities in the South Confluence Area such as a restroom, benches, interpretive kiosks, and several viewing platforms throughout the area for wildlife viewing.
- Running and walking
- The sloughs along the east edge of the Horan provide a pleasant water-based trail system for canoes and kayaks



Maintenance Practices

- Washington State Parks and Chelan PUD treat the area for noxious weeds a few times a year.
- Vegetation is cut back and managed along the trail.
- The restroom, informational kiosks, and benches are maintained by Washington State Parks.
- Washington State Parks also does hazardous tree assessment to identify and remove trees that may fall on the trail.
- Chelan PUD takes on special projects to maintain and enhance the South Confluence Area.
- Trail closures from December 1st to April 1st for Bald eagle and other wildlife protection as required by the FERC license.



Tribal and Local History



Chief John Harmelt

Tribal History

Native peoples have inhabited the Wenatchee area for thousands of years. Their presence has been documented at places such as the East Wenatchee Clovis site, which has been dated to 13,000 years ago.

Historically, the area around the confluence of the Columbia and Wenatchee Rivers was used by Native American tribes for gathering, ceremonies and trade.



Columbia River Petroglyphs

Wenatchi Women



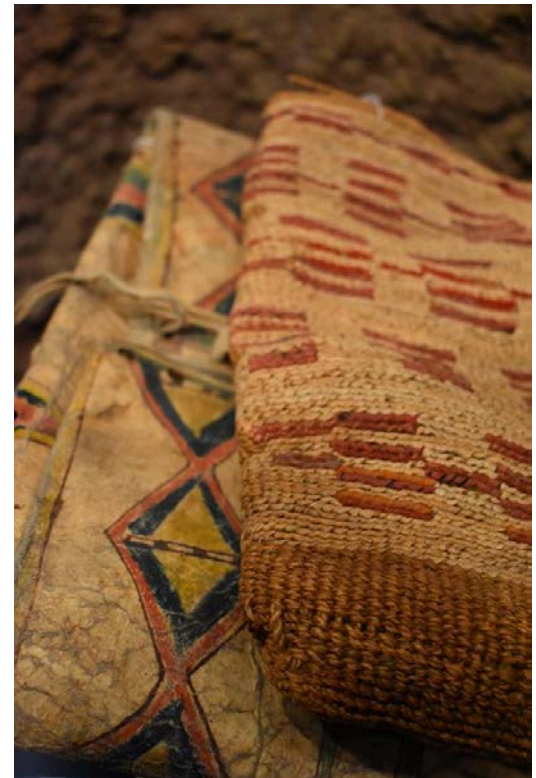
Columbia River Petroglyph

Life in the Wenatchee Area

The Wenatchee and Columbia rivers confluence site included fishing camps, temporary camps and permanent village locations. It is estimated that during this time, there were up to 800 people living near the confluence. They lived in long houses, typically 30 feet wide and up to 240 feet long.

They made clothing out of antelope skins, made blankets out of mountain goat hair, and traded salmon for resources from other tribes.

The area still provides a significant amount of habitat for wildlife including Bald eagles, osprey, mink, river otters, beaver, and salmon.



Yarrow



Tribally Significant Plants

The South Confluence Area has a variety of plants that are tribally significant to the native people including, but not limited to:

- Dogbane (*Apocynum cannabinum*)
- Cattail (*Typha latifolia*)
- Wild rose (*Rosa woodsia*)
- Yarrow (*Achillea millefolium*)

Plants were used for subsistence, ceremonial and medicinal purposes.



Dogbane



Wild Rose



Cattail



Brubaker, 1930; from the collection of William D. Layman



Local History

- Native Americans in the area first encountered explorers in the summer of 1811, when explorer David Thompson stopped at a large P'squosa village near the confluence of the Wenatchee and Columbia Rivers.
- The South Confluence Area was home to the area's first trading post in 1866, and settlers began to move into the Wenatchee Valley in significant numbers in the late 1880s.
- The Great Northern Railroad arrived in Wenatchee in 1892 and allowed produce growers to ship their products across the country.
- The area that is now the Horan Natural Area was established as a pear orchard and cattle pasture, before it was purchased by the PUD in the 1980s as recreational and wildlife development for the Rock Island hydroproject.
- The PUD developed a series of connected, steep-sided ponds along with a gravel trail system that extends throughout the area as part of the recreation plan.



South Confluence Area 1964
Photo credit: from the collection of Bruce McCammon



South Confluence Area 1967
Photo credit: from the collection of Bruce McCammon

Wildlife, Plants, and Habitat

Microhabitat types in the South Confluence Area that support a wide variety of fish and wildlife.



Meadows/
Grasslands

Ponds

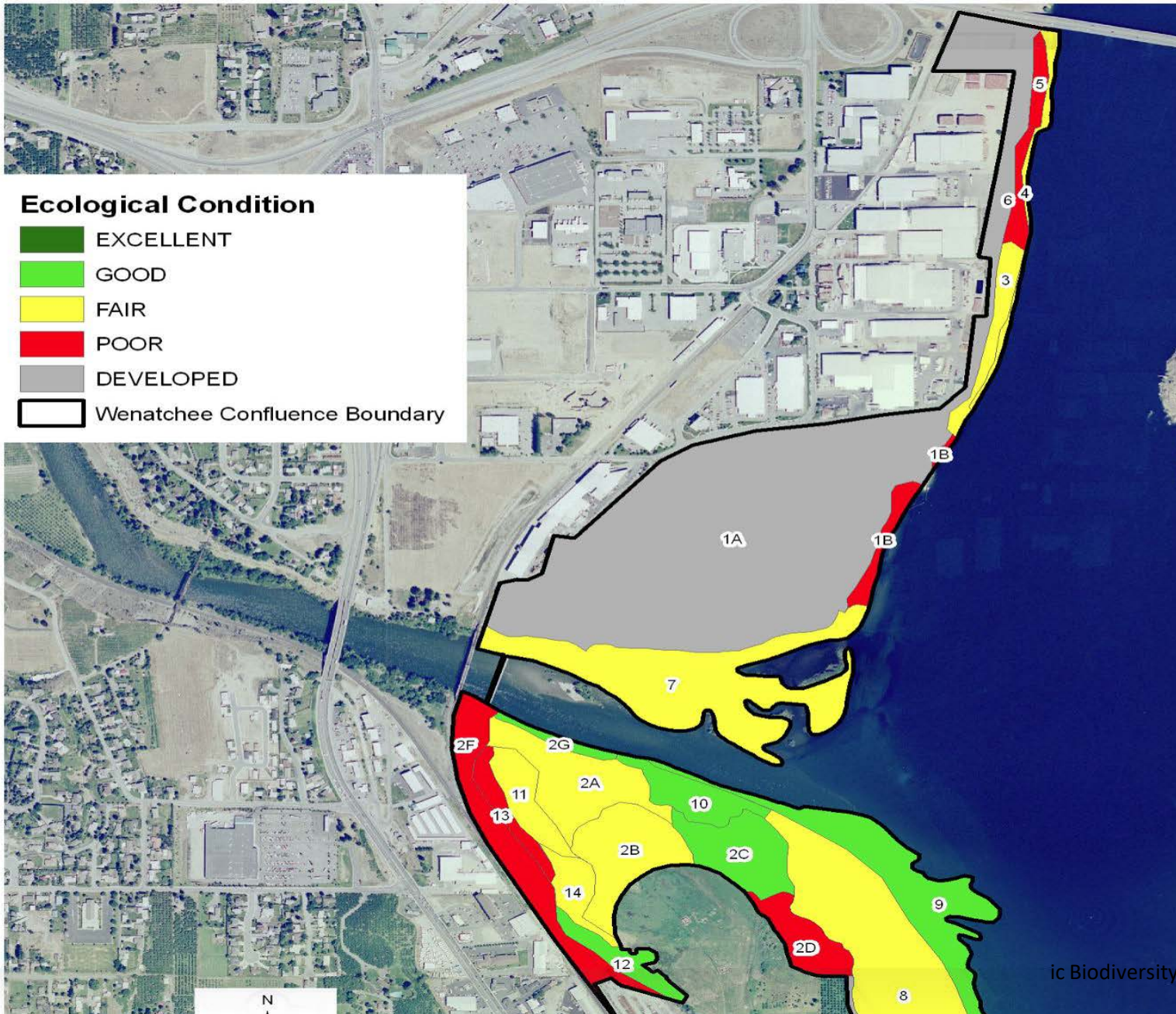
Riparian
shrub

Marsh

Mature
Cottonwood Forest

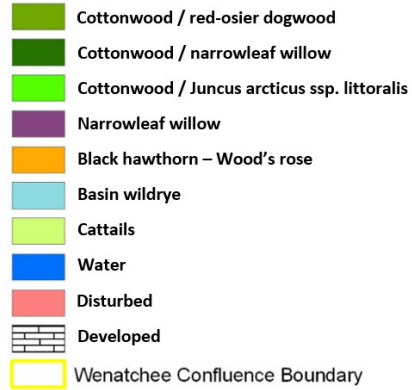
River

Islands



- The *Rare Plant and Vegetation Survey of Wenatchee Confluence State Park* conducted by the Pacific Biodiversity Institute identified 13 species of noxious weeds within the area.
- No increase in noxious weeds species since 2008.
- Active weed control has limited the spread and density of many noxious weed species, including white-top (*Cardaria draba*) and diffuse knapweed (*Centarea diffusa*), and eradicated the only occurrence of Camelthorn (*Alhagi maurorum*) documented in Chelan County.
- Many native plants are still present, especially in the riparian areas of the SCA.

Primary Plant Communities and Land Cover Types



- The plant study conducted by the Pacific Biodiversity Institute (2008) also identified 9 primary plant communities within the South Confluence Area.
- This reflects a unique plant community within an urban area.
- These unique plant communities support a variety of wildlife species.



Water

- The South Confluence Area has evolved over time due to natural and human influences.
- These influences have reduced the amount of open water habitats and increased the marshland habitat type.
- Chelan PUD is working with Stakeholders to increase surface water sources for the SCA.



- Without a dedicated source of surface water for the area, groundwater and high river flows are the primary sources of water.
- There is occasional flooding during high water in the Columbia.

Fish and Wildlife

Aquatic Wildlife

- While there are no fish species that permanently inhabit the open water ponds and wetlands of the South Confluence Area, there are a number of fish species in the Wenatchee and Columbia rivers, including salmon.
- There are likely a number of amphibians present in the area which benefit the variety of wildlife in the area.

Terrestrial Wildlife

- The South Confluence Area serves as an important urban wildlife corridor for terrestrial mammals, shorebirds, songbirds, reptiles, and amphibians.
- Resident animals can include:
 - Deer
 - Raccoon
 - Coyotes
 - Songbirds
 - Snakes
 - Skunk



Wildlife management efforts in the South Confluence Area are currently focused on Wood Ducks (*Aix sponsa*) and Bald Eagles (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*).



**Confluence Park Bird List
Wenatchee, Washington**
(includes Walla Walla Point Park)

* = Breeding Confirmed
Sp = March, April, May
Su = June, July, August
Fa = September, October, November
Wi = December, January, February

OBSERVATION KEY

1=Frequently observed [chance of seeing at this season is good]
2=Occasionally observed; seen every year at this season more than a few times. [chance of seeing is only fair]
3=Rarely observed; at most observed only a few times each year at this season. Some rare species have been seen at the park only once. [chance of seeing is low]

	Sp	Su	Fa	W
Gr. White-fronted Goose	2	-	3	3
Snow Goose	3	-	3	-
Ross' s Goose	-	-	-	3
Brant	-	-	3	3
Cackling Goose	2	-	2	2
Canada Goose*	1	1	1	1
Trumpeter Swan	3	-	3	-
Tundra Swan	3	-	3	3
Wood Duck*	1	1	1	3
Gadwall	1	1	1	1
Eurasian Wigeon	2	-	2	2
American Wigeon	1	3	1	1
Mallard*	1	1	1	1
Blue-winged Teal	2	2	2	3
Cinnamon Teal	2	2	2	-
Northern Shoveler	1	2	1	3
Northern Pintail	2	3	2	2
Green-winged Teal	1	2	1	1
Canvasback	2	3	2	2
Redhead	2	2	2	3
Ring-necked Duck	1	3	1	1
Greater Scaup	3	-	3	3
Lesser Scaup	1	3	1	1
Harlequin Duck	3	-	-	-
Surf Scoter	-	-	3	3
White-winged Scoter	-	-	3	3
Long-tailed Duck	-	-	3	3
Bufflehead	1	3	1	1
Common Goldeneye	1	-	1	1
Barrow's Goldeneye	1	-	1	2

Hooded Merganser	1	2	1	1
Common Merganser*	1	1	1	1
Red-breasted Merganser	3	-	3	3
Ruddy Duck	3	-	1	1
California Quail*	1	1	1	1
Ring-necked Pheasant*	1	1	1	1
Ruffed Grouse	3	-	-	-
Wild Turkey	3	-	-	-
Pied-billed Grebe	2	2	1	2
Horned Grebe	1	3	1	1
Red-necked Grebe	3	2	2	3
Eared Grebe	2	3	2	3
Western Grebe	2	2	1	2
Clark's Grebe	3	3	3	3
Rock Pigeon*	1	1	1	1
Eurasian Collared-Dove	2	2	2	3
Mourning Dove*	1	1	1	1
Common Nighthawk	-	1	1	-
Black Swift	-	2	2	-
Vaux's Swift	1	1	1	-
White-throated Swift	3	3	-	-
Black-chinned Hummingbird	-	3	-	-
Anna's Hummingbird	-	3	-	-
Rufous Hummingbird	-	3	-	-
Virginia Rail	2	2	2	-
Sora	2	2	2	3
American Coot	2	3	1	2
Black-necked Stilt	3	-	-	-
American Avocet	3	-	-	-
Black-bellied Plover	-	3	-	-
Semipalmated Plover	3	-	3	-
Killdeer*	1	1	1	1
Whimbrel	-	-	3	-
Long-billed Curlew	3	-	-	-
Sanderling	-	3	3	-
Dunlin	-	-	3	-
Baird's Sandpiper	-	3	3	-
Least Sandpiper	2	1	1	-
Pectoral Sandpiper	-	3	-	-
Semipalmated Sandpiper	-	3	-	-
Western Sandpiper	-	2	2	-
Short-billed Dowitcher	-	3	-	-
Long-billed Dowitcher	3	2	2	-
Wilson's Snipe*	2	2	2	2
Spotted Sandpiper*	1	1	1	2

Solitary Sandpiper	2	2	2	-
Greater Yellowlegs	3	-	-	-
Lesser Yellowlegs	-	2	3	-
Red-necked Phalarope	-	-	3	-
Pomarine Jaeger	-	-	3	-
Parasitic Jaeger	-	-	3	-
Sabine's Gull	-	-	3	-
Bonaparte's Gull	3	2	1	-
Little Gull	-	3	-	-
Laughing Gull	-	-	3	-
Franklin's Gull	-	-	3	-
Mew Gull	3	3	3	-
Ring-billed Gull	1	1	1	1
Western Gull	3	-	-	-
California Gull	1	1	1	2
Herring Gull	2	-	2	2
Thayer's Gull	3	-	2	2
Glaucous-winged Gull	2	3	2	2
Caspian Tern	2	2	2	-
Black Tern	-	3	-	-
Common Tern	-	2	2	-
Arctic Tern	-	3	-	-
Forester's Tern	3	2	2	-
Red-throated Loon	-	-	-	3
Pacific Loon	-	-	3	3
Common Loon	1	3	1	1
Yellow-billed Loon	-	-	-	3
Double-crested Cormorant	2	2	2	2
American White Pelican	3	-	-	-
American Bittern	-	3	-	-
Great Blue Heron	1	1	1	1
Great Egret	-	3	3	-
Cattle Egret	-	-	3	-
Green Heron	-	3	3	-
Black-crowned Nht Heron	1	1	1	2
Yellow-crowned Nht Heron	-	-	3	-
Turkey Vulture	2	2	2	-
Osprey*	1	1	1	-
Bald Eagle	1	3	1	1
Northern Harrier	2	3	2	2
Sharp-shinned Hawk	1	-	1	1
Cooper's Hawk	1	-	1	1
Northern Goshawk	3	-	3	3
Swainson's Hawk	3	-	-	-
Red-tailed Hawk*	1	1	1	1
Rough-legged Hawk	3	-	-	-

Ferruginous Hawk	-	-	3	-
Golden Eagle	3	-	-	-
Barn Owl	2	3	2	2
Western Screech-Owl	3	-	-	-
Great Horned Owl	2	2	2	2
Barred Owl	-	-	-	3
Long-eared Owl	-	-	-	3
Short-eared Owl	3	-	-	-
Northern Saw-whet Owl	-	-	3	3
Belted Kingfisher*	1	1	1	1
Lewis's Woodpecker	-	3	3	-
Red-breasted Sapsucker	-	-	-	3
Downy Woodpecker*	1	1	1	1
Northern Flicker*	1	1	1	1
American Kestrel*	1	2	1	1
Merlin	2	-	1	1
Gyrfalcon	-	-	-	3
Peregrine Falcon	3	3	3	-
Prairie Falcon	-	-	3	3
Olive-sided Flycatcher	-	3	3	-
Western Wood-Pewee*	1	1	1	-
Willow Flycatcher	-	3	3	-
Least Flycatcher	3	-	-	-
Hammond's Flycatcher	3	-	-	-
Gray Flycatcher	3	-	-	-
Dusky Flycatcher	3	-	-	-
Pacific-slope Flycatcher	3	-	-	-
Say's Phoebe*	1	1	1	3
Ash-throated Flycatcher	-	3	-	-
Western Kingbird*	1	1	1	-
Eastern Kingbird*	1	1	1	-
Northern Shrike	2	-	2	2
Cassin's Vireo	3	-	3	-
Warbling Vireo	1	-	2	-
Red-eyed Vireo	-	3	-	-
Steller's Jay	1	3	1	1
Blue Jay	-	-	3	-
Clark's Nutcracker	-	-	3	-
Black-billed Magpie	3	3	3	3
American Crow*	1	1	1	1
Common Raven	2	2	2	2
Horned Lark	-	-	2	2

Purple Martin	-	3	-	-
Tree Swallow*	1	1	1	-
Violet-green Swallow	1	1	1	-
N. Rough-winged Swallow	1	1	2	-
Bank Swallow	1	1	3	-
Cliff Swallow*	1	1	3	-
Barn Swallow*	1	1	1	3
Black-capped Chickadee*	1	1	1	1
Mountain Chickadee	-	-	3	3
Chesnut-bkd Chickadee	3	-	3	-
Red-breasted Nuthatch	3	3	2	2
Brown Creeper	2	-	2	2
House Wren	2	2	-	-
Pacific Wren	-	-	2	2
Marsh Wren	3	3	1	1
Bewick's Wren	-	2	-	-
American Dipper	-	-	-	3
Golden-crowned Kinglet	2	-	2	2
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	1	-	1	1
Western Bluebird	-	-	3	-
Townsend's Solitaire	3	-	-	-
Veery	-	3	-	-
Hermit Thrush	2	-	2	3
American Robin*	1	1	1	1
Varied Thrush	2	-	2	2
Gray Catbird*	1	1	1	-
Sage Thrasher	-	3	-	-
European Starling*	1	1	1	1
Cedar Waxwing	1	2	1	2
House Sparrow	1	1	1	1
American Pipit	2	-	1	3
House Finch*	1	1	1	1
Purple Finch	3	2	2	3
Cassin's Finch	-	-	3	-
Red Crossbill	3	-	-	-
Common Redpoll	-	-	3	3
Pine Siskin	2	2	1	1
American Goldfinch*	1	1	1	-
Evening Grosbeak	2	3	-	-
Lapland Longspur	-	-	3	-

Northern Waterthrush	-	3	-	-
Orange-crowned Warbler	1	1	1	3
Nashville Warbler	2	2	2	-
MacGillivray's Warbler	2	2	2	-
Common Yellowthroat*	2	2	2	-
American Redstart	-	3	-	-
Magnolia Warbler	-	-	3	-
Blackburnian Warbler	3	-	-	-
Yellow Warbler*	1	1	1	-
Palm Warbler	-	-	3	-
Yellow-rumped Warbler	1	3	1	1
Black-thrted Gray Warbler	-	3	3	-
Townsend's Warbler	-	3	2	-
Wilson's Warbler	1	2	1	-
Yellow-breasted Chat	-	3	-	-
Spotted Towhee	-	-	2	2
American Tree Sparrow	3	-	3	-
Chipping Sparrow	3	-	-	3
Clay-colored Sparrow	-	-	3	-
Brewer's Sparrow	-	3	-	-
Vesper Sparrow	3	-	3	-
Lark Sparrow	-	3	-	-
Savannah Sparrow	2	2	1	-
Baird's Sparrow	-	-	3	-
Fox Sparrow	2	-	2	2
Song Sparrow*	1	1	1	1
Lincoln's Sparrow	1	-	1	-
Swamp Sparrow	-	-	2	2
White-throated Sparrow	-	-	3	-
Harris's Sparrow	-	-	-	3
White-crowned Sparrow	1	-	1	1
Golden-crowned Sparrow	2	-	2	2
Dark-eyed Junco	1	-	1	1
Western Tanager	1	2	2	-
Black-headed Grosbeak*	1	1	-	-
Lazuli Bunting	-	3	-	-
Red-winged Blackbird*	1	1	1	2
Western Meadowlark	2	3	2	-
Yellow-headed Blackbird	3	3	3	3
Rusty Blackbird	-	-	3	-
Brewer's Blackbird	1	1	1	3
Brown-headed Cowbird*	1	1	1	-
Bullock's Oriole*	1	1	-	-

249 Species
Updated October 2016
Report sightings to Dr. Dan Stephens,
Wenatchee Valley College, dstephens@wvc.edu