

Lands 20/20



Washington Department of
FISH and WILDLIFE

Cynthia Wilkerson
Lands Division Manager
Wildlife Program

WDFW Lands

Protecting Land and Water for Wildlife and People

- Provide access for fishing, hunting, and other wildlife related recreation
- Foster experiences and exploration
- Preserve natural and cultural heritage

Our vision is a Washington where fish and wildlife thrive in healthy habitats, and where people experience and enjoy our state's natural gifts for generations to come.

Why Does WDFW Buy Land?

Protecting Land and Water for Wildlife and People

- Conserve and restore the diversity of Washington's fish and wildlife species and habitats
- Enhance sustainable fishing, hunting and other wildlife-related outdoor opportunities
- Improve management of current WDFW Lands
- Preserve working lands for agriculture, forestry, and other sectors of the outdoor economy, particularly in rural areas

Questions WDFW Asks

Protecting Land and Water for Wildlife and People

- Willing seller
- Partnerships
- Best Conservation Alternatives?
- Conservation easements?
- Long-term opportunities and ecological values
- Larger, contiguous habitats
- Ecological and social importance

Acquisition Steps

Scoping
and Need

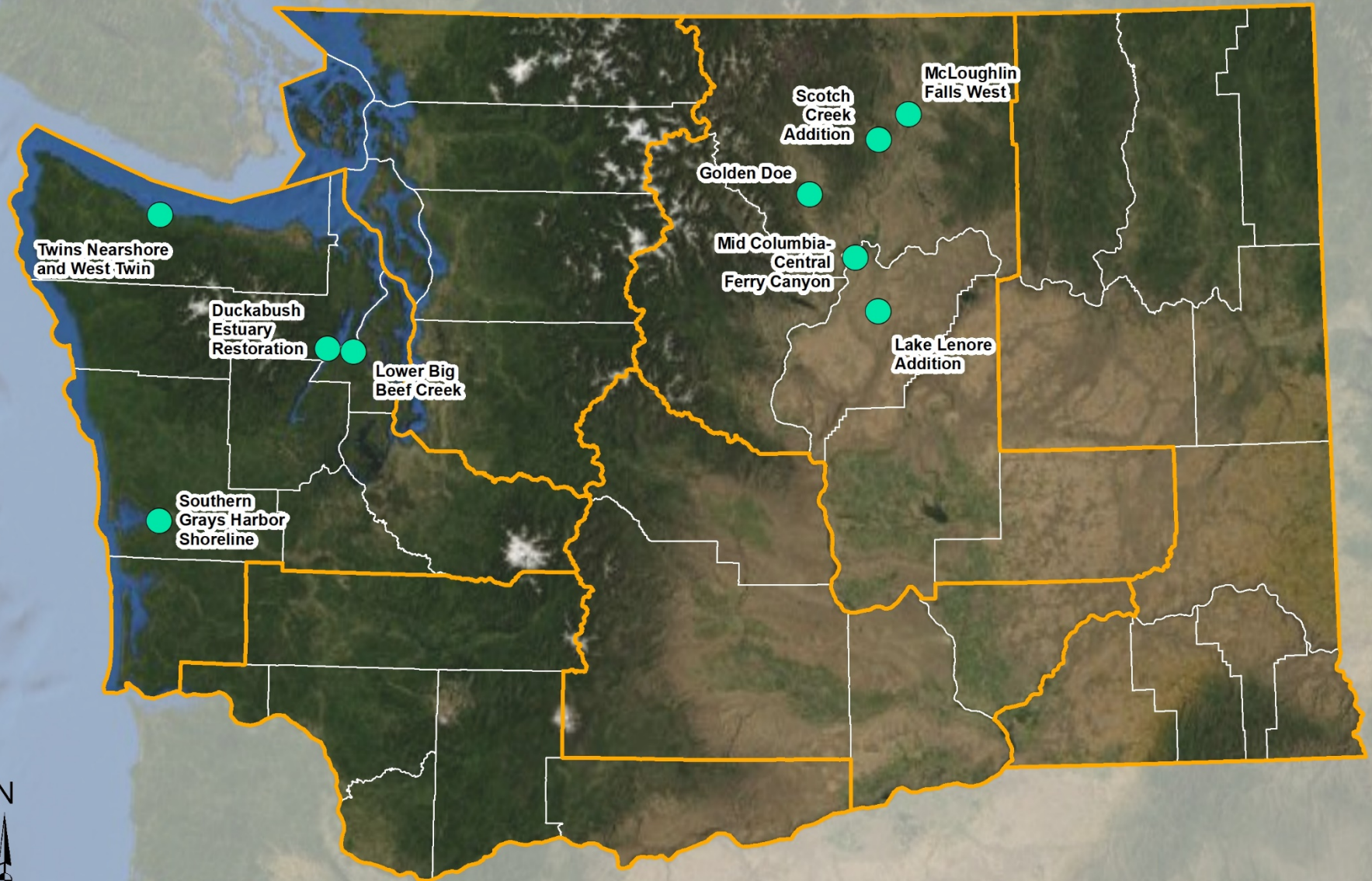
Evaluation and
Prioritization

Land
Transaction

Integrating
Ownership



WDFW Land Acquisition Project Proposals

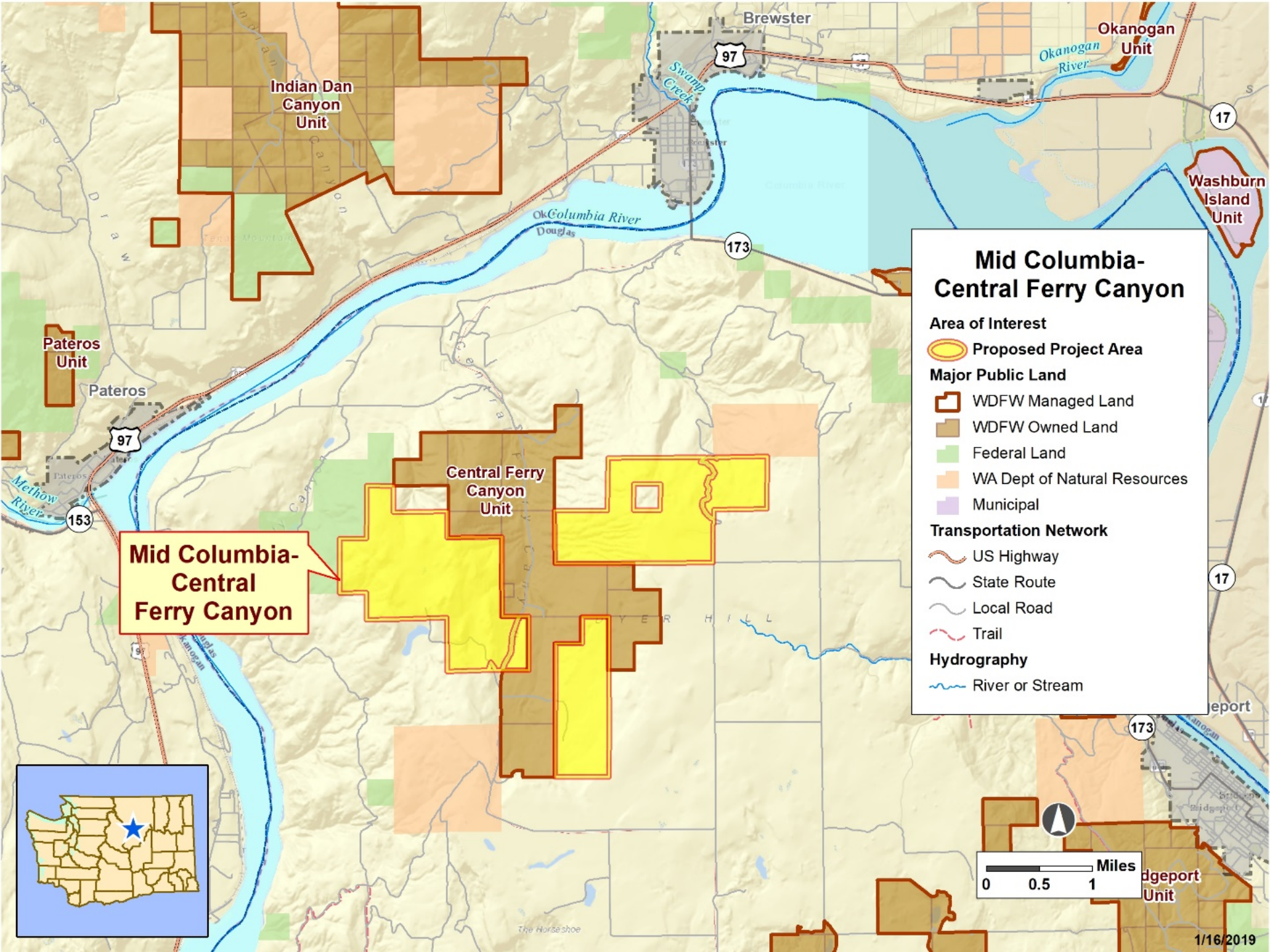


● Projects Proposed in 2019

0 10 20 30 40 Miles

2/1/2019

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Indian Dan Canyon Unit

Brewster

Okanogan Unit

Washburn Island Unit

Pateros Unit

Pateros

Central Ferry Canyon Unit

Mid Columbia-Central Ferry Canyon

Mid Columbia-Central Ferry Canyon

Area of Interest

- Proposed Project Area

Major Public Land

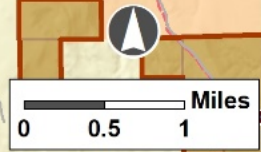
- WDFW Managed Land
- WDFW Owned Land
- Federal Land
- WA Dept of Natural Resources
- Municipal

Transportation Network

- US Highway
- State Route
- Local Road
- Trail

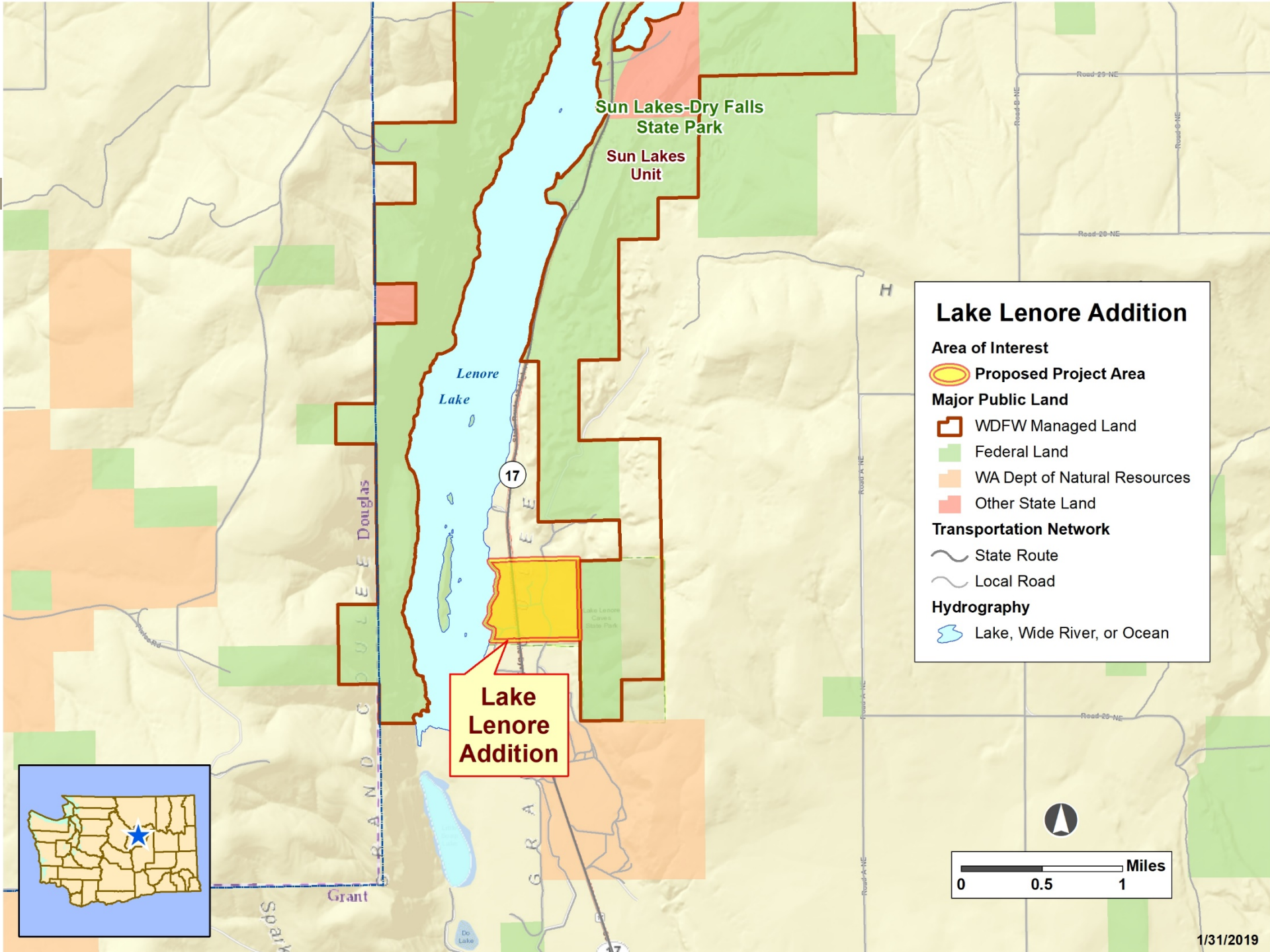
Hydrography

- River or Stream





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| <p>Project Description</p> | <p>This project targets acquisition and protection of shrub-steppe, grassland and forest habitat in the vicinity of existing and historical Columbian sharp-tailed grouse and greater sage grouse populations. The parcels border the Central Ferry Canyon Wildlife Area, BLM and DNR lands. This project is consistent with 1) WDFW’s recent efforts to provide and protect important connectivity links between and through sharp-tailed grouse populations in Douglas, Okanogan and Lincoln counties, and 2) WDFW’s efforts to maintain and expand opportunities for public hunting, wildlife viewing, and other compatible recreation. Acquisition of this property will help WDFW achieve both of these long-term goals.</p> |
| <p>Project Benefits</p> | <p>Acquisition will complement and protect area habitat and species including, Columbian sharp-tailed grouse, Greater sage grouse and Mule deer, while providing hunting, wildlife viewing, and other recreational opportunities.</p> |
| <p>Support</p> | <p>Douglas County Commissioners</p> |



Lake Lenore Addition

Area of Interest

- Proposed Project Area

Major Public Land

- WDFW Managed Land
- Federal Land
- WA Dept of Natural Resources
- Other State Land

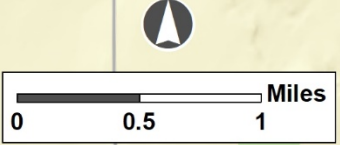
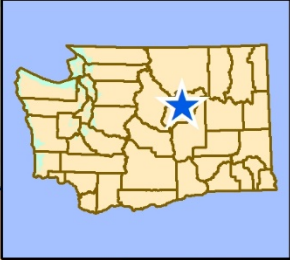
Transportation Network

- State Route
- Local Road

Hydrography

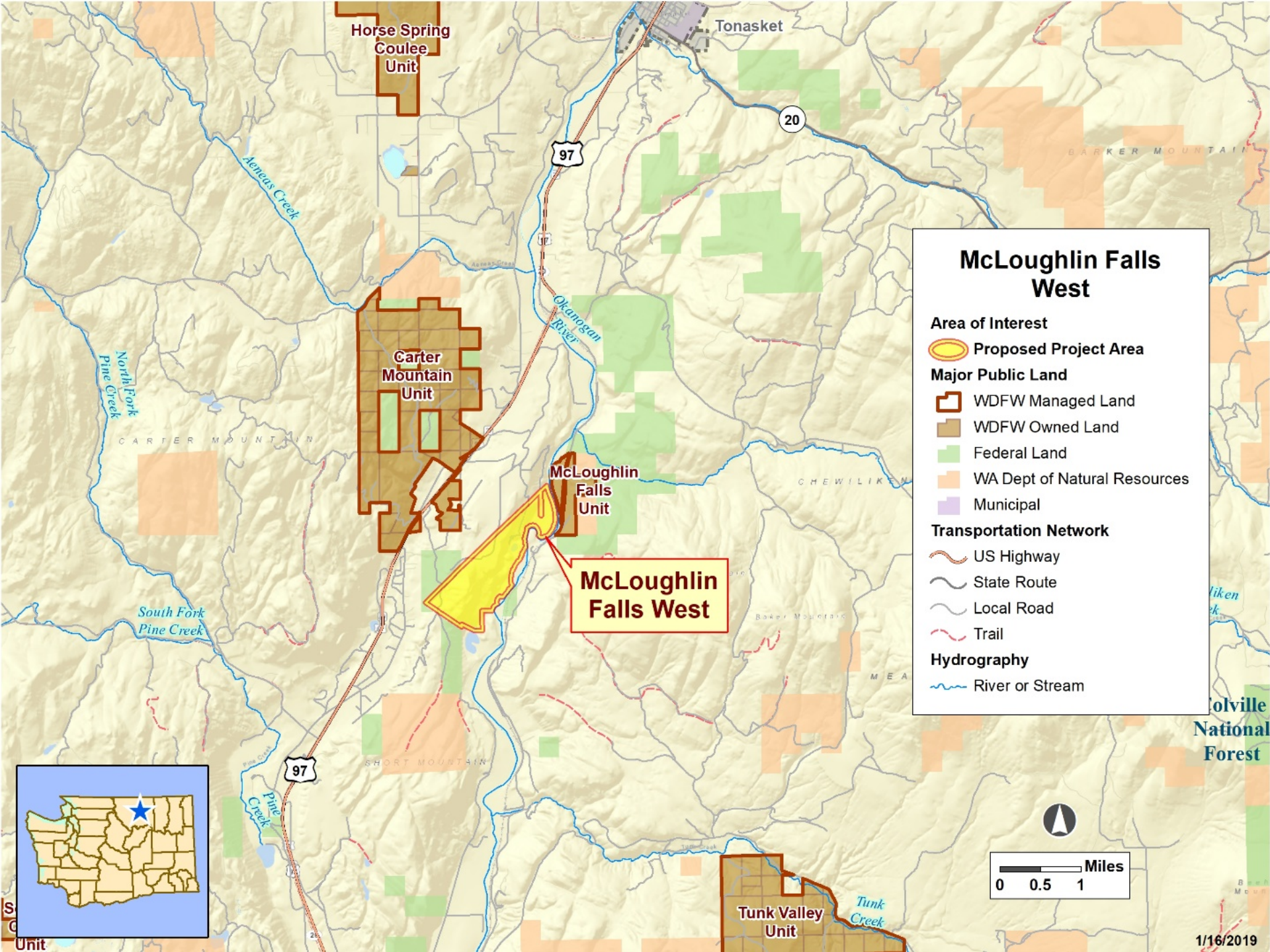
- Lake, Wide River, or Ocean

Lake Lenore Addition





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| <p>Project Description</p> | <p>Acquiring this property is necessary to eliminate an inholding within the Columbia Basin Wildlife Area. Washington State Parks, the current owner, manages this isolated parcel on a landscape where most of the public land is managed by WDFW. Consolidating this land under WDFW ownership would clear up public confusion about ownership, land use policies, and rules in effect for this area. This parcel also has the value of providing water access to Lake Lenore.</p> |
| <p>Project Benefits</p> | <p>The acquisition of this parcel will contribute to management efficiencies on this existing wildlife area. It will also facilitate public access the water at Lake Lenore and has the potential to develop a shooting range on the parcel.</p> |
| <p>Support</p> | <p>Washington State Parks</p> |



Horse Spring Coulee Unit

Tonasket

20

97

Aleneus Creek

North Fork Pine Creek

Carter Mountain Unit

Okanogan River

McLoughlin Falls Unit

McLoughlin Falls West

South Fork Pine Creek

97

Pine Creek

Tunk Valley Unit

Tunk Creek

McLoughlin Falls West

Area of Interest
 Proposed Project Area

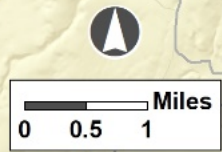
Major Public Land

- WDFW Managed Land
- WDFW Owned Land
- Federal Land
- WA Dept of Natural Resources
- Municipal

Transportation Network

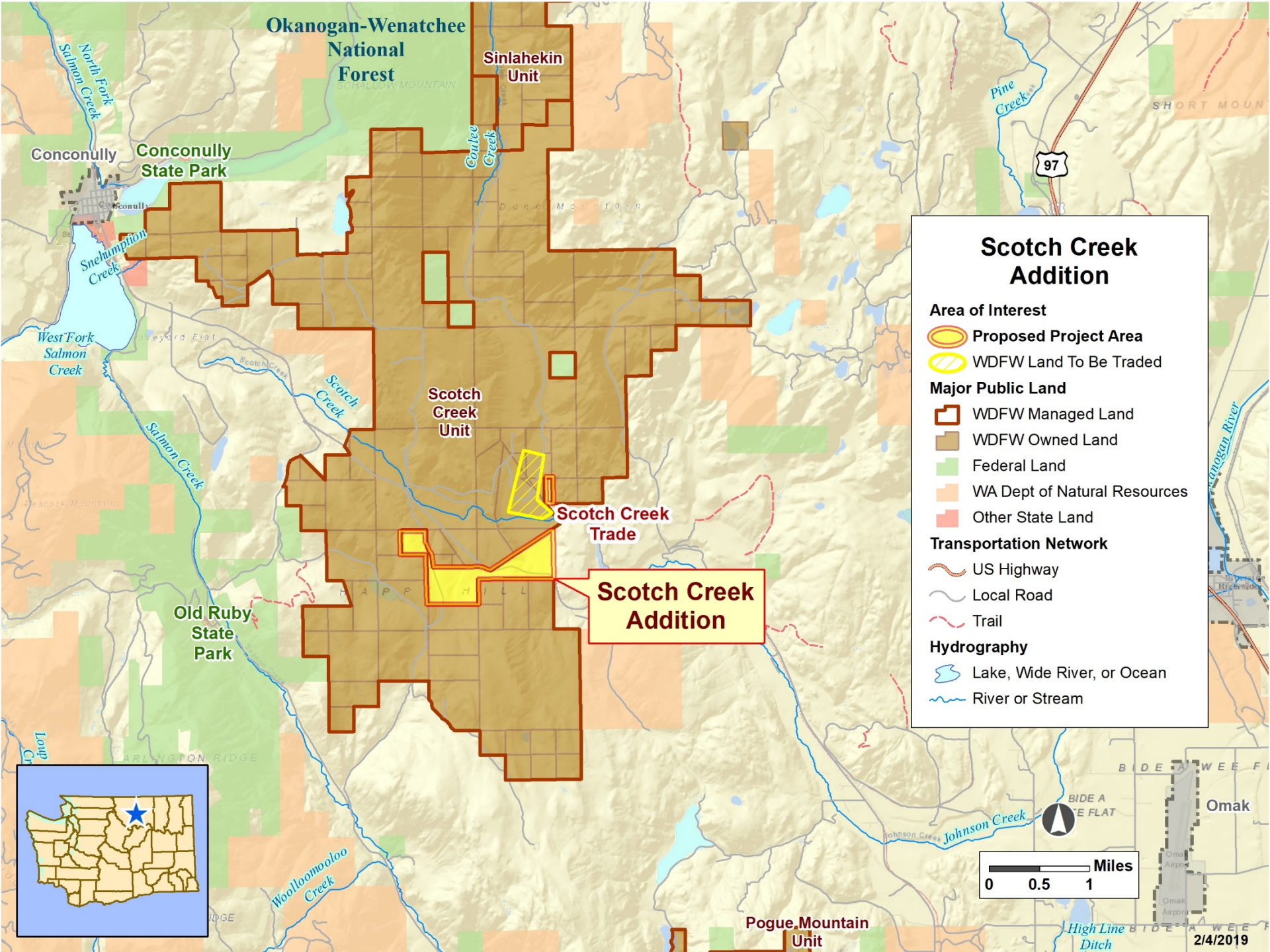
- US Highway
- State Route
- Local Road
- Trail

Hydrography
 River or Stream





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| <p>Project Description</p> | <p>The goal of this acquisition is to protect approximately 730 acres of riparian and shrubsteppe habitat from the risk of development. The lands are adjacent to multiple units of the Sinlahekin Wildlife Area. The project may partner with the Colville Confederated Tribe (a neighbor to the property), which could manage a number of cultural sites in the area (pictographs and other cultural significant areas). The property borders approximately 2.25 miles of the Okanogan River and contains some intact segments healthy riparian habitat. The upland portion consists of shrubsteppe habitat with scattered stands of ponderosa pine</p> |
| <p>Project Benefits</p> | <p>The project will ultimately protect significant shrub-steppe and riparian habitats, bolstering efforts to protect species such as mule deer, shrub-steppe obligates and fish species such as summer/fall chinook, steelhead and Pacific lamprey.</p> |
| <p>Support</p> | <p>Colville Confederated Tribes, Okanogan County Commissioners</p> |



Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest

Sinlahekin Unit

Conconully State Park

Scotch Creek Unit

Scotch Creek Trade

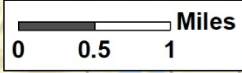
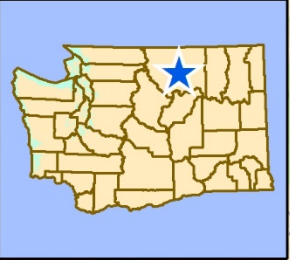
Scotch Creek Addition

Old Ruby State Park

Pogue Mountain Unit

Scotch Creek Addition

- Area of Interest**
 - Proposed Project Area
 - WDFW Land To Be Traded
- Major Public Land**
 - WDFW Managed Land
 - WDFW Owned Land
 - Federal Land
 - WA Dept of Natural Resources
 - Other State Land
- Transportation Network**
 - US Highway
 - Local Road
 - Trail
- Hydrography**
 - Lake, Wide River, or Ocean
 - River or Stream



Scotch Creek Addition – 200 Acres



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| <p>Project Description</p> | <p>This project is a property trade to provide the Scotch Creek Wildlife Area with additional quality habitat for sharp-tail grouse, reduce the risk of development adjacent to a significant amount of Scotch Creek Wildlife Area and provide more efficient and effective management of the area by incorporating this inholding. WDFW would gain approximately 200 acres of shrubsteppe habitat, while divesting 88 acres of irrigated agricultural lands currently under lease.</p> |
| <p>Project Benefits</p> | <p>The trade will improve management of the overall wildlife area unit, and WDFW ownership would protect the area from future development. The trade also provides significant additional quality shrubsteppe that will benefit local sharp-tail grouse populations.</p> |
| <p>Support</p> | <p>Okanogan County Commissioners</p> |


McClure
Okanogan-Wenatchee
National
Forest

Golden
Doe
Unit




Golden Doe

Golden Doe

Area of Interest

 Proposed Project Area


Major Public Land

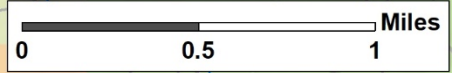
-  WDFW Managed Land
-  WDFW Owned Land
-  Federal Land
-  WA Dept of Natural Resources

Transportation Network

-  State Route
-  Local Road
-  Trail

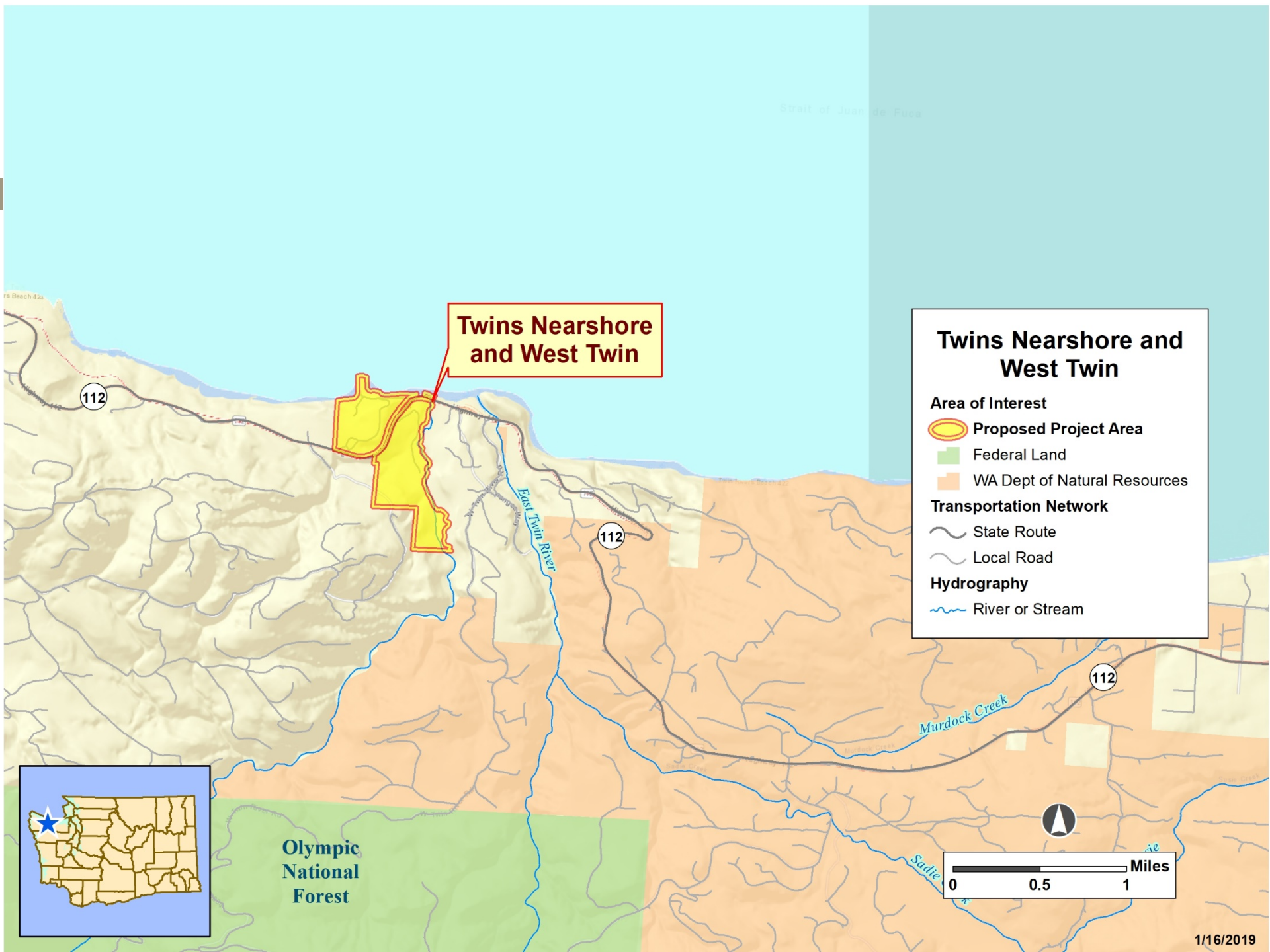
Hydrography

 River or Stream





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| <p>Project Description</p> | <p>This acquisition would provide the Methow Wildlife Area with an official, developed access site for the Golden Doe Unit, eliminate the risk of development adjacent to the boundary and provide more efficient and effective management of the area. The acquisition involves approximately 110 acres of shrubsteppe habitat, most of which would need some form of restoration following acquisition.</p> |
| <p>Project Benefits</p> | <p>The Methow Valley is a popular recreation area, and a developed access route would benefit a wide variety of area visitors. Securing this property would allow a direct access point to the Golden Doe unit.</p> |
| <p>Support</p> | <p>Okanogan County Commissioners</p> |



Twins Nearshore and West Twin

Twins Nearshore and West Twin

Area of Interest

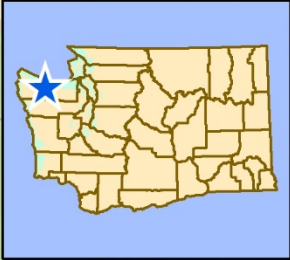
- Proposed Project Area
- Federal Land
- WA Dept of Natural Resources

Transportation Network

- State Route
- Local Road

Hydrography

- River or Stream



Olympic National Forest

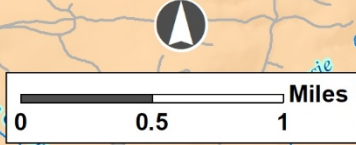
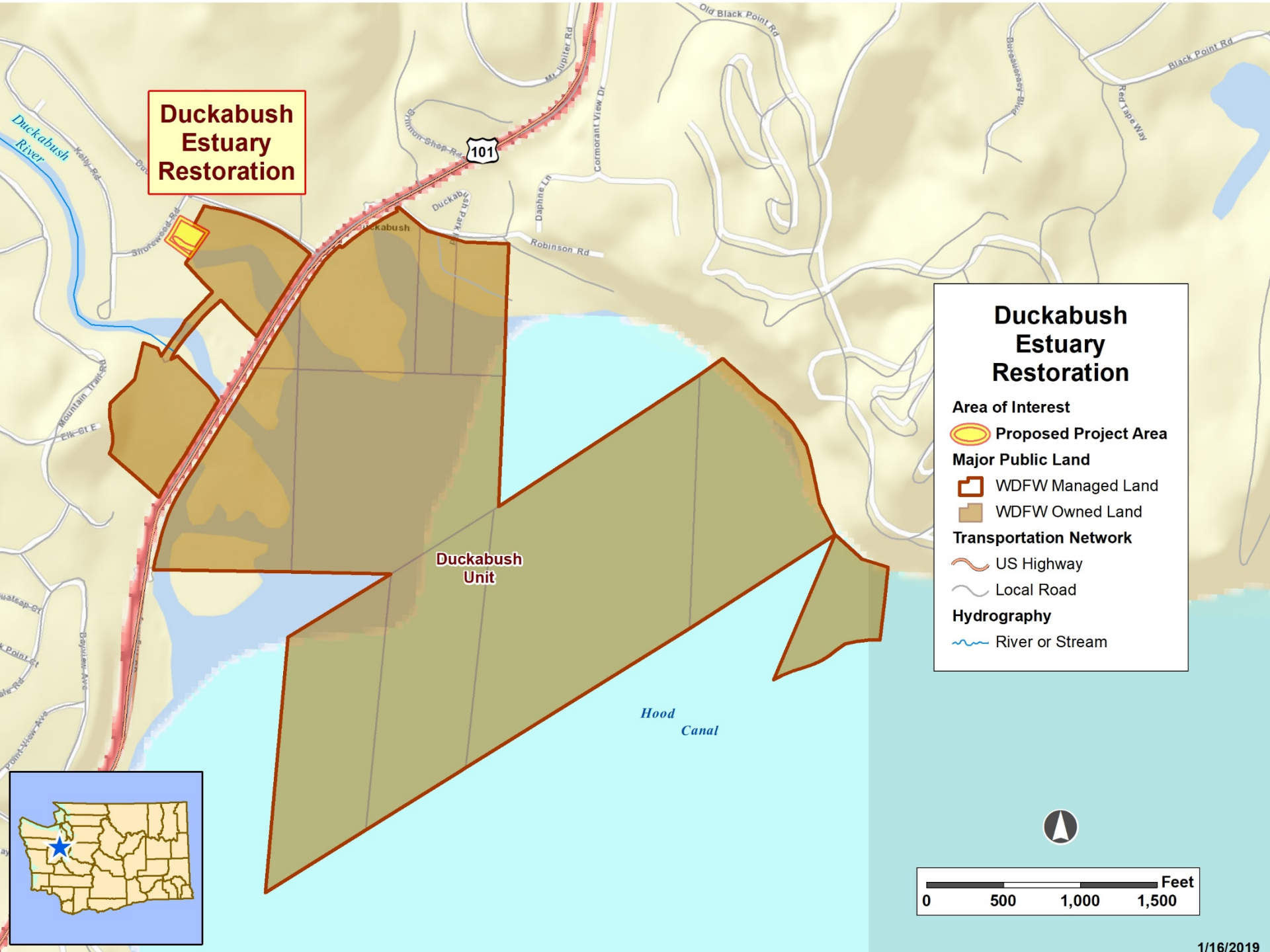




Photo by: Coastal Watershed Institute

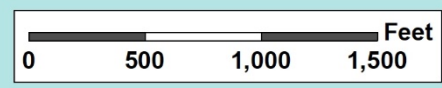
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| <p>Project Description</p> | <p>This property acquisition would enhance and ensure successful restoration at this site. Conservation of this property will protect over 2,800 linear feet of critical shoreline on the Strait of Juan de Fuca, which is an important migratory corridor for salmon in the western Strait. It will also protect more than 16 acres of nearshore habitat, including eelgrass beds and surf smelt spawning beaches. In addition, there are 14,000 linear feet of riparian habitat on the west side of the West Twin River and its tributaries, which is one of the most important coho and steelhead systems in the Strait of Juan de Fuca.</p> |
| <p>Project Benefits</p> | <p>The public will realize a long-term benefit from this property, which features a salt-water shoreline that is highly valued for recreational crabbing, smelt fishing, surfing, photography, and fossil hunting. The upland area is also used by local residents for hiking, trail running, dog walking, and public recreation. There is strong recreational potential for hunting waterfowl, deer, elk, bear, and other species.</p> |
| <p>Support</p> | <p>The North Olympic Land Trust, Coastal Watershed Institute, Olympic Peninsula Audubon Chapter, Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe, and Makah Tribe</p> |

Duckabush Estuary Restoration



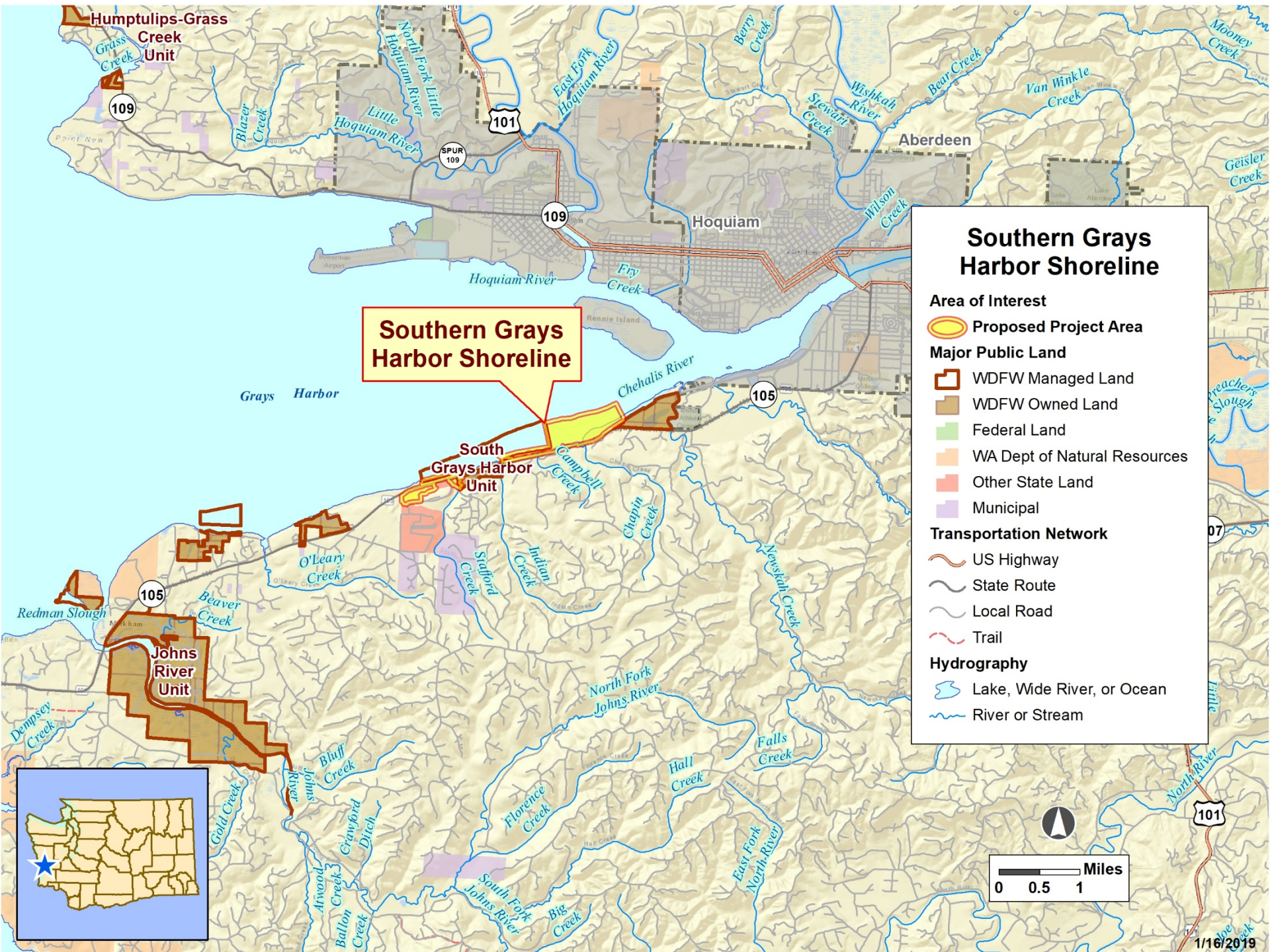
Duckabush Estuary Restoration

- Area of Interest**
 - Proposed Project Area
- Major Public Land**
 - WDFW Managed Land
 - WDFW Owned Land
- Transportation Network**
 - US Highway
 - Local Road
- Hydrography**
 - River or Stream





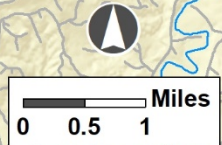
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| <p>Project Description</p> | <p>This acquisition project will ensure that the parcel is available for a future habitat restoration project, which will limit risk of further development in this flood-prone area. WDFW already owns a significant portion of the Duckabush Estuary area and together with WSDOT plans to restore habitat. Infrastructure on this property will be removed to accommodate the project.</p> |
| <p>Project Benefits</p> | <p>Restored tidal wetlands are highly productive habitats that support biodiversity and provide connectivity between the land and sea. Restored large river deltas provide valuable nursery habitat for threatened species of juvenile salmon, increasing their survival and supporting population recovery in Puget Sound. Hood Canal Summer Chum and Puget Sound Chinook (both ESA-listed species) are known to spend considerable time in estuaries during their life stages.</p> |
| <p>Support</p> | <p>Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group, Hood Canal Coordinating Council</p> |



Southern Grays Harbor Shoreline

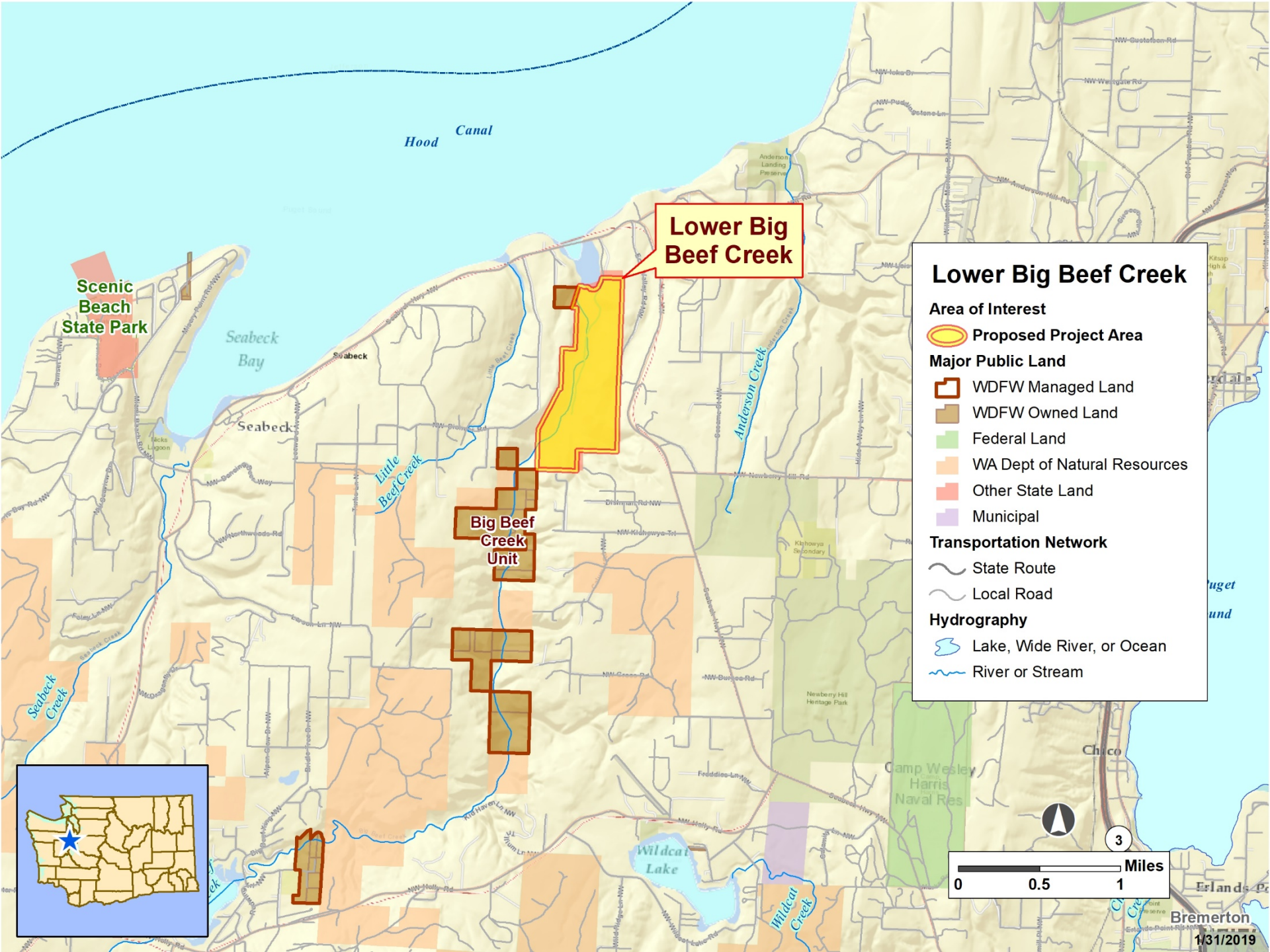
- Area of Interest**
- Proposed Project Area
- Major Public Land**
- WDFW Managed Land
 - WDFW Owned Land
 - Federal Land
 - WA Dept of Natural Resources
 - Other State Land
 - Municipal
- Transportation Network**
- US Highway
 - State Route
 - Local Road
 - Trail
- Hydrography**
- Lake, Wide River, or Ocean
 - River or Stream

Southern Grays Harbor Shoreline





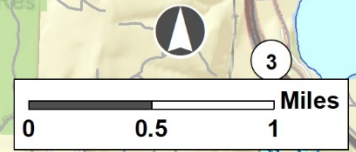
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| <p>Project Description</p> | <p>The goal of this project is to secure a donation of land approximately with 257 acres of habitat for federal and state-listed sensitive and priority species, including bull trout and American green sturgeon. It will also expand public recreational and education opportunities and protect habitats that mitigate the effects of sea level rise.</p> |
| <p>Project Benefits</p> | <p>Acquisition of these parcels by WDFW will guarantee public recreational access while strengthening the ability to manage existing WDFW adjacent properties.</p> |
| <p>Support</p> | <p>US Fish and Wildlife Service, Grays Harbor Audubon Society, Ducks Unlimited, Forterra, the City of Aberdeen</p> |



Lower Big Beef Creek

Lower Big Beef Creek

- Area of Interest**
- Proposed Project Area
- Major Public Land**
- WDFW Managed Land
- WDFW Owned Land
- Federal Land
- WA Dept of Natural Resources
- Other State Land
- Municipal
- Transportation Network**
- State Route
- Local Road
- Hydrography**
- Lake, Wide River, or Ocean
- River or Stream





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|-----------------------------------|--|
| <p>Project Description</p> | <p>WDFW plans to accept the transfer of 300 acres for habitat protection and restoration in the Big Beef Creek watershed on Hood Canal. This is one of the largest, most intact watersheds in Kitsap County, valued by the community for its large mature forests and substantive stream and wetland habitat.</p> |
| <p>Project Benefits</p> | <p>Ownership of this property would support continuation of a current restoration project. Additionally, Big Beef Creek is the only system in Hood Canal where state and tribal fishery managers have enough annual coho salmon out-migrants to mark wild coho salmon for marine survival and harvest forecasts.</p> |
| <p>Support</p> | <p>Suquamish Tribe, Port Gamble S’Klallam Tribe, Skokomish Tribe, Kitsap County, Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group, Washington Department of Natural Resources, Hood Canal Coordinating Council</p> |

Public Comment Highlights

- To Be Inserted – Public Comments open through February 25, 2019

Next Steps

- Director's Final Approval to pursue funding
- Grant applications
- Transaction work
- Land management

Questions?