

Tues, Nov 4, 2025

6:00-8:00PM

Hybrid Meeting

WSU Classroom (97 Oak Bay Rd)

Zoom link: <https://wsu.zoom.us/j/6372590166?omn=93225841568>

MEETING AGENDA

Officers/ Executive Committee:

Betsy Carlson, Chair
Emily Buckner, Vice Chair
Jeff Taylor, NWSC Rep
Sarah Fisken, NWSC Alt

MRC Members:

Janette Mestre, District 1
Timothy Behrenfeld, District 1
District 1 Alt - Vacant
Brenda Johnson, District 2
Jeff Taylor, District 2
Frank Handler, District 2 Alt
Sarah Fisken, District 3
District 3 - Vacant
Tim Cross, District 3 Alt
Betsy Carlson, Envir/Conserv
Bryan DeCaterina, Env/Cons Alt
Carol Hasse, Port of PT
Gordon King, Commercial
Emily Buckner, Marine Science
Jon Waggoner, Marine Science Alt
Heidi Eisenhour, BoCC
Troy McKelvey, Recreation
Roy Clark, Recreation Alt
Steve King, City of PT
Neil Harrington, Tribal Rep
Local Youth - Vacant

Staff:

Katie Kowal, MRC Coordinator
Water Resources Program
Coordinator
c/o WSU Jefferson Extension
121 Oak Bay Rd
Port Hadlock, WA 98339
www.jeffersonmrc.org
jeff.co.mrc@gmail.com

Tonya Cole, MRC Meeting
Recorder

6:00 Call to Order, Mission & Introductions

6:05 **Guest Speaker: "Update on Conservation of Dabob Bay"**
*Peter Bahls, Executive Director
Northwest Watershed Institute*

6:50 **Break**

7:00 Amendments to/Approval of Agenda
Amendments to/Approval of October 2025 Minutes

7:03 Public Comment

7:05 **Discussion: Letter of Support Request (DNR)**
Dabob Bay Natural Area Trust Land Transfer

Port Update

7:20 **BoCC Update**

7:25 **Reminder: Executive Committee elections at December 2 meeting (Betsy)**

7:30 **Administrative Updates**
• Nov 7-8, 2025 – Conference reimbursement

7:35 **Grant Project Updates**
• Forage Fish (Dabob, Quilcene Marina – Sarah)
• Olympia Oysters (Neil)
• Bull Kelp Monitoring (Emily)
• Eelgrass Buoys (Troy)
• Rain Gardens (Jeanette)
• Education and Outreach (Brenda)

7:45 **Other MRC Project Updates**
• Shoreline Landowner Outreach (Sarah)
• Satellite Imagery (Jeff)
• Storm Surge (Jeff)
• ROV Crab Pots (Tim)

7:50 Public Comment

7:52 Call for Future Agenda Topics/Speakers

7:55 MRC Member Roundtable/Announcements

8:00 Adjourn

Upcoming Meetings & Events:

November 7-8 – NW Straits Annual Conference, La Conner, WA

November 18, 8:30am-9:30am – MRC Executive Committee Meeting

November 20, 5pm-8pm – Jefferson WSU Extension Office ‘Gathering in Gratitude’ event
(Point Hudson Pavilion Bldg)

December 2, 6pm-8pm – Hybrid MRC monthly meeting at WSU Classroom (97 Oak Bay Rd)

December 5, 10am-12pm – NWSC Monthly Meeting ([Meeting details here](#))

2nd Wednesdays at 1pm and 4th Wednesdays at 5:30pm – Port of PT [Meetings](#)

Mondays, 9am – Jefferson County BoCC [Meetings](#)

Fridays, 12pm – [BoCC on KPTZ \(91.9\)](#)

Ongoing projects in Jeff. Co:

- [Pleasant Harbor MPR](#)
- [City of PT SMP update](#)
- [Jefferson County SMP update](#)
- [PT sewer outfall](#) (not up to date)
- Port of PT sea level rise mitigation project
- [Duckabush Estuary Restoration Project](#)

2025 Monthly Meeting Dates

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
7	4	4	1	6	3		5	2	7	4	2

About the MRC

The Jefferson Marine Resources Committee is an advisory group to the Board of County Commissioners and part of the regional Northwest Straits Marine Conservation Initiative. Members are citizen volunteers committed to protecting and restoring our local marine habitats.



Dabob Bay NRCA

Proposed boundary expansion

Jefferson County, Washington

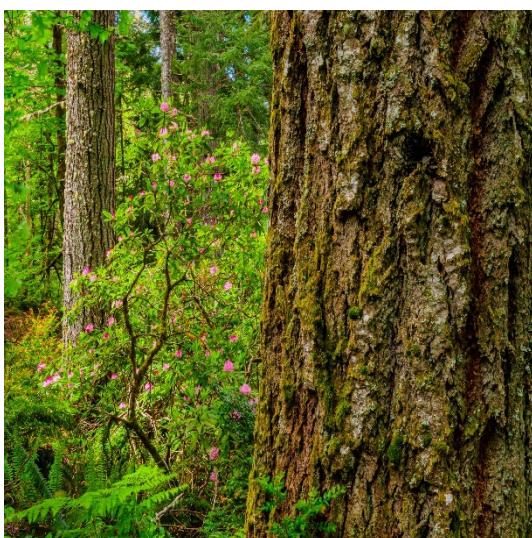


The Dabob Bay Natural Area was established in 1984 to protect rare examples of intact salt marsh and sand spit plant communities within one of Washington's highest functioning coastal spit and tidal wetland systems. Initially created as a Natural Area Preserve (NAP), the site was enlarged in 2009, and again in 2016, to include additional land designated as NAP, along with lands designated as Natural Resources Conservation Area (NRCA). This provides additional opportunities for low-impact public use.

The natural area includes mature coastal forests, coastal streams, feeder bluffs, forage fish spawning areas, eelgrass beds, native Olympia oyster beds, nearshore tidelands and mudflats utilized by juvenile salmon and shorebirds, and open marine waters utilized by salmon, marine birds, harbor seals and orcas. The current NAP/NRCA boundary encompasses 7,735 acres, of which DNR owns and manages 4,094 acres of shoreline, marsh and forestland in the Dabob Bay watershed.

A proposed natural area boundary is a designation of lands eligible for inclusion within a state-owned natural area. Lands located within the boundary only become part of the natural area if they are acquired by DNR. The boundary is simply an administrative tool to indicate where DNR will work with willing-seller property owners, and it imposes no change in land use zoning or any other restrictions on landowners. Over time, land is purchased at market value, which is determined by an independent, third-party appraisal.

The potential Dabob Bay NRCA boundary expansion of approximately 3,860 acres would provide more complete protection and improved long-term viability of features within the current site by further protecting hydrologic influences on streams, wetlands, and bays, expanding terrestrial-aquatic linkages, and improving connectivity of forest habitats.



CONTACT: Jayana Marshall | Assistant Division Manager, Conservation | 360-789-3062 | Jayana_marshall@dnr.wa.gov
Washington State Department of Natural Resources

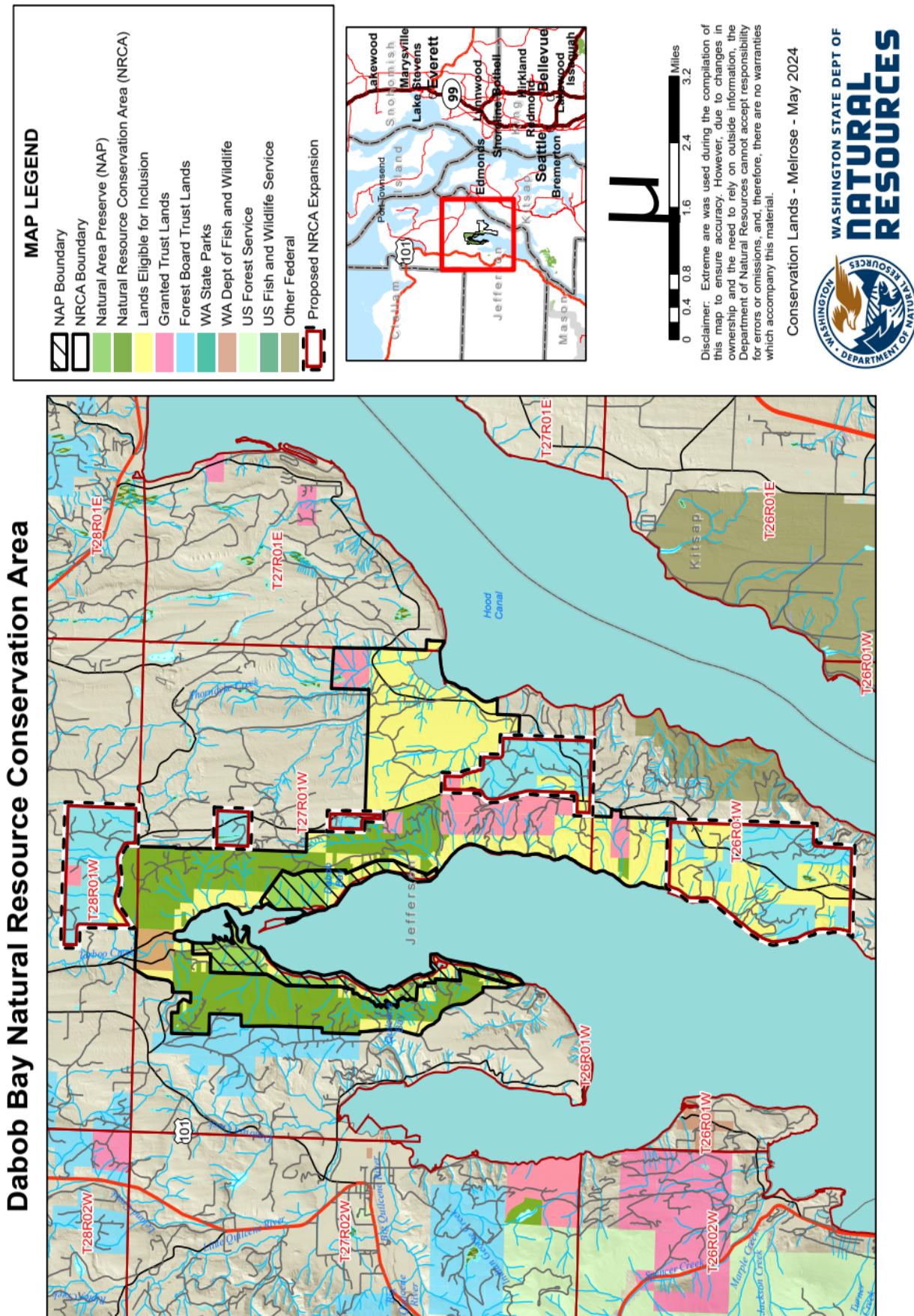
Under Title 79 of the Washington State Legislatures Revised Code of Washington, titled ‘PUBLIC LANDS’, chapter 79.71.020 RCW states that characteristics of lands to be considered worthy for consideration for conservation purposes must be (1) Lands identified as having high priority for conservation, natural systems, wildlife, and low-impact public use values; (2) An area of land and water, or land and water, that has flora, fauna, geological, archaeological, scenic, or similar features of critical importance to the people of Washington and that has retained to some degree or has reestablished its natural character; (3) Examples of native ecological communities; and (4) Environmentally significant sites threatened with conversion to incompatible or ecologically irreversible uses.

Expansion to the north (see map) would contribute to hydrologic protection for a freshwater wetland within the existing NRCA and NAP. The expansion would protect the eastern portion of the tributaries which insures the watershed processes in those locations are intact and thus help provide hydrological protection for the wetlands at the mouth of Tarboo Creek, which includes forage fish habitat in the bay.

Expansion to the east, adjacent to the current Dabob Bay NAP and NRCA lands further protects watershed tributaries and streams leading to the bay. Acquisition of these parcels into conservation status protects ecosystem processes throughout the site, meeting the goals for the natural area preserve under RCW 79.70 and for the natural resources conservation area under RCW 79.71.

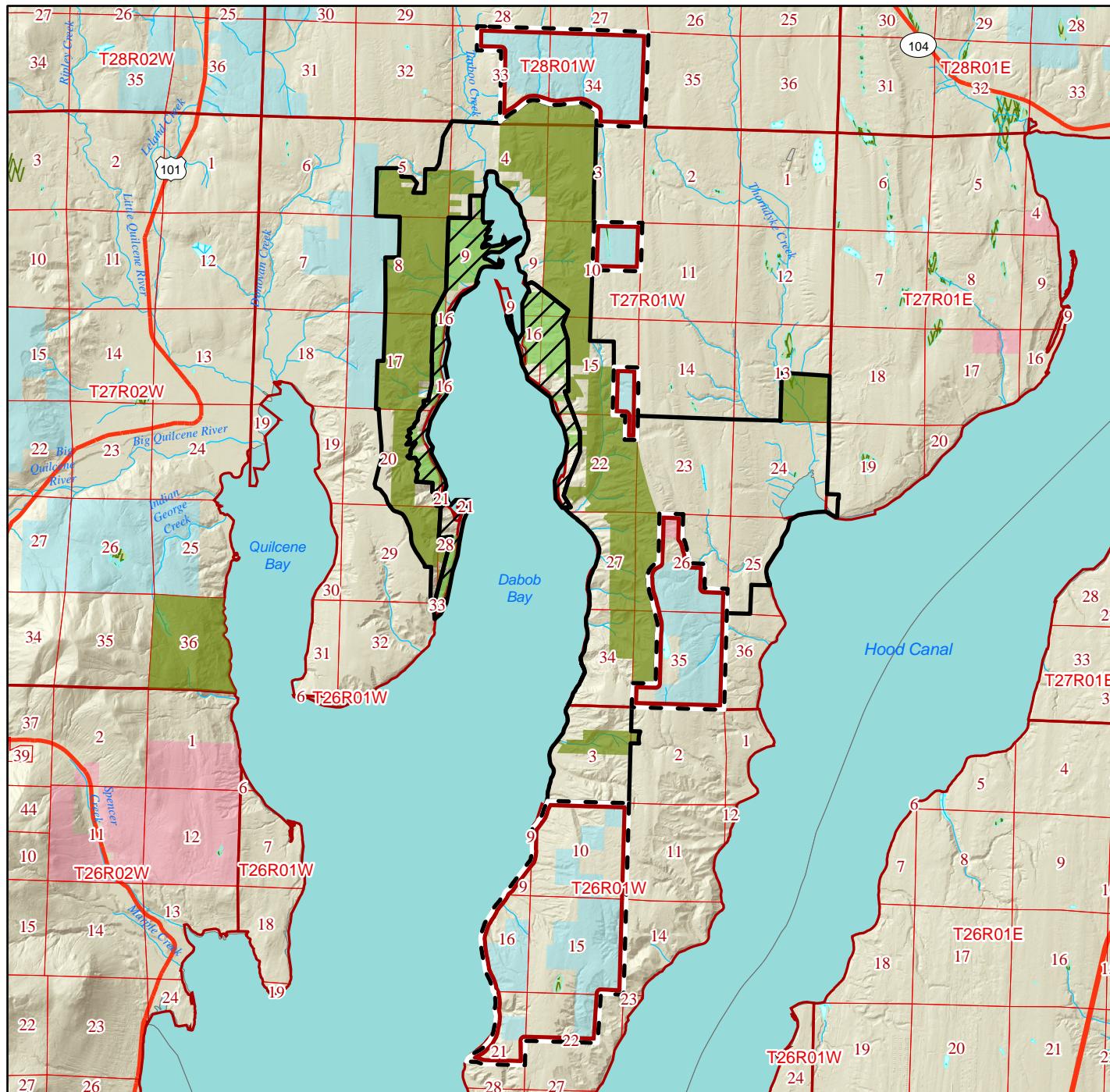
The expansion area to the south of current Dabob Bay Natural Area Preserve and Natural Resource Conservation Area, would protect the ecosystem processes along Dabob Bay, and additionally adds adjacent forested uplands.

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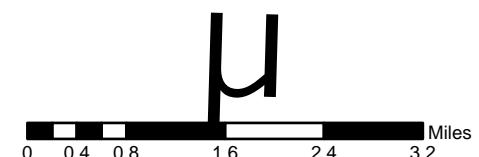
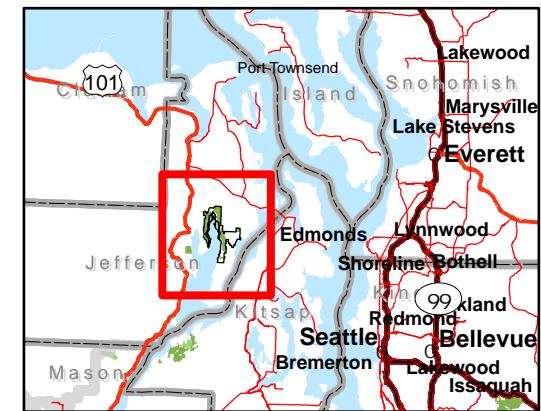
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Dabob Bay Natural Resource Conservation Area



MAP LEGEND

- Natural Area Preserve (NAP)
- Natural Resource Conservation Area (NRCA)
- NAP Boundary
- NRCA Boundary
- State Lands (Trust Lands)
- State Forest Lands (Trust Lands)
- Proposed NRCA Expansion



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 - August 2024



WASHINGTON STATE DEPT OF
**NATURAL
RESOURCES**