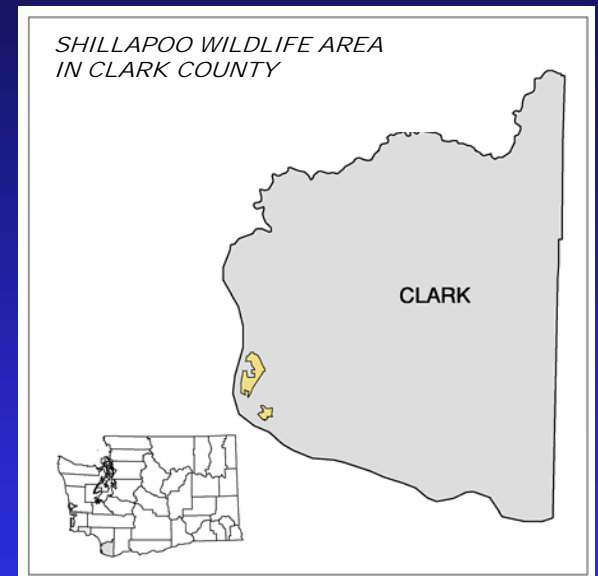
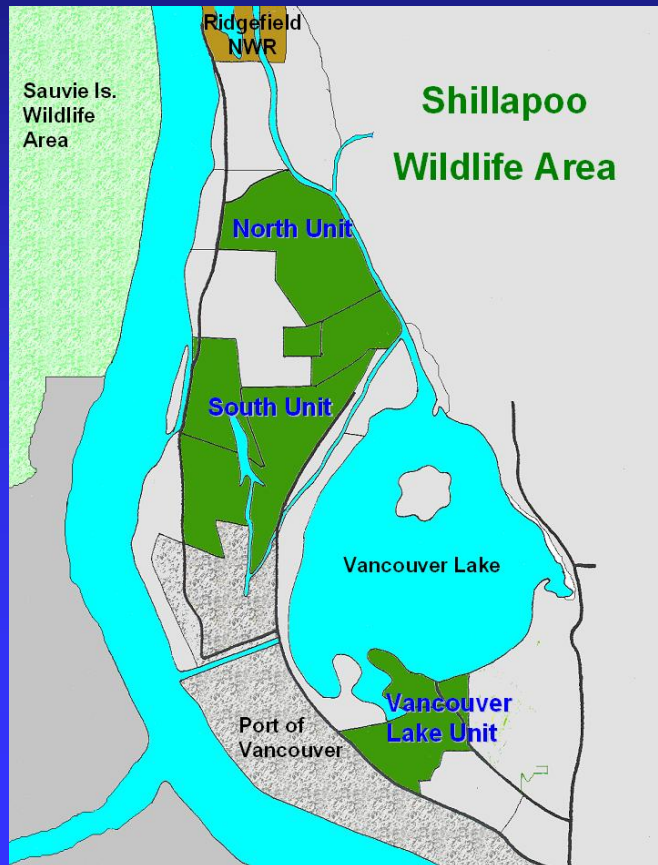


# Shillapoo Wildlife Area

BPA Project #2003-012-00



Presentation to ISRP  
March 2009  
Brian Calkins

# Area History: Landscape

- Pre settlement
  - Large villages
  - Wapato was a main staple in the diet.
  - Natural flooding maintained large open wetlands
- Early settlement
  - Farming limited to only the highest ground
  - Grazing occurred in lower areas



# Area History: Landscape

- Regulation of the Columbia
  - Diking became more feasible
  - Larger scale draining of wetlands
  - Timing of high water events changed
    - Favored exotics such as reed canary grass.
  - First agriculture, then industry expanded
    - Large scale filling continues



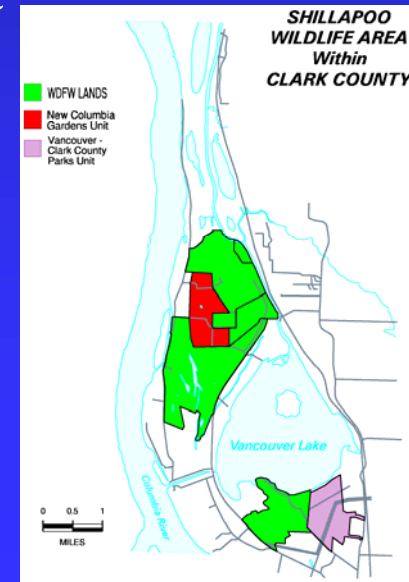
# Area History: Preservation

- A number of efforts have protected floodplain habitats
  - USFWS: Ridgefield NWR
  - ODFW: Sauvie Island Wildlife Area
  - Clark County: Vancouver Lake Open Space Areas
  - Port of Vancouver: Gateway Mitigation Site
  - WDFW: Shillapoo Wildlife Area



# Project History: Acquisition

- First established in 1952 for “bird hunting.”
  - Small acreages
- 1991-2001: Six acquisitions based on habitats
  - WWRP, Ducks Unlimited and BPA funds
- Future?: Three private ownerships in core area
  - Others nearby



# Project History: Management

- Prior to the early 90's: No consistent management
- Manager hired in 1992
  - Planning began and small enhancement projects
  - Grants funded to enhance wetland habitats
- BPA funded enhancements began in 2003
  - Progress more consistent since



# Management Goals



- Improve wintering waterfowl habitat
- Reestablish and enhance wetland habitat
- Reestablish and enhance native habitat
- Control and manage weeds in support of other goals

Each of these goals supports indicator species associated with the BPA loss assessments, focal species in the subbasin plan as well as listed or other species of special emphasis.



# Linkages

- Subbasin Plan
- HEP credits associated with loss assessments
- Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy
- Recovery Plans





# Major Accomplishments

- Full management capability in 384 wetland acres
  - Moist soil treatments applied annually
- Tree and shrub plantings ongoing at four sites
  - 171 acres
- Himalayan Blackberry influence reduced substantially.
- Reductions in other key weed species
- Upland pasture improvements



# Examples: Wetland Reestablished





# Examples: Wetland Management





# Examples: Tree/Shrub Plantings

Lake River Riparian



# Examples: Weed Control





# Future Work

- Complete tree/shrub plantings
- Complete Shillapoo Lake wetland project
- Complete two smaller wetland projects
- Snag creation and management

Ongoing management and maintenance will be necessary to assure long-term success.



# Threats

- Existing and new weeds
  - Early detection is critical
- Influence of Human Development
- Reduced management capability





# Long-term Management Needs

- Personnel
- Equipment
- Supplies
- Services



# Monitoring

- Routine observations
- Photo points
- Wetland vegetation monitoring
- Waterfowl use (currently suspended)
- HEP surveys
- Standardized wildlife and habitat surveys (proposed)



# Budget

Adequate and consistent funding is essential to the long-term success of any land management project.

FY 2010 request: \$304,314

This amount was derived through an evaluation of expenses incurred during recent work and applying to projects that still need to be completed on mitigation driven work.

# Cost Sharing

This project has generated a substantial amount of support from other funding sources.

FY 10-12 anticipated: \$2,281,789





# Thank You

