

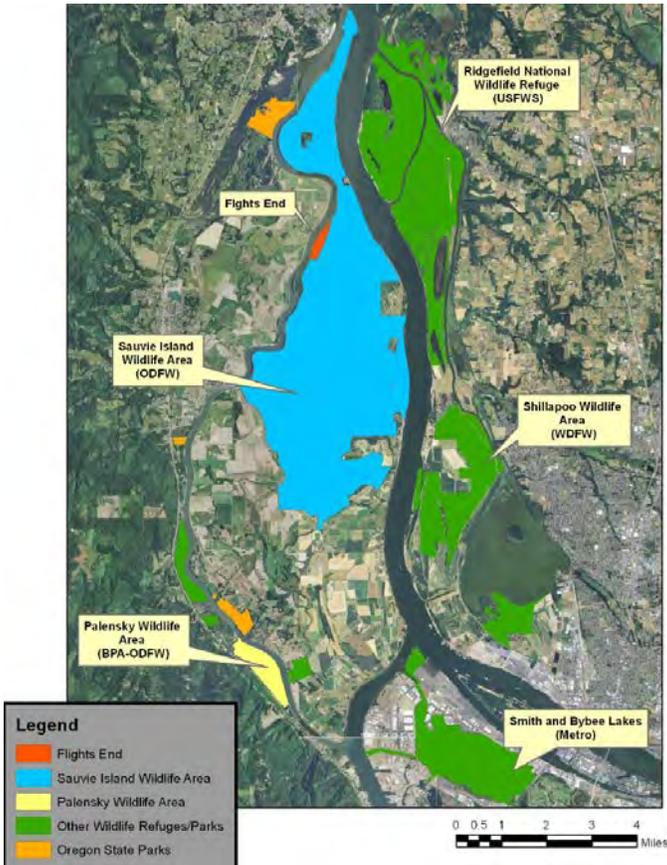
Flight's End

About the Flight's End property:

The Flight's End property is a 100 acre peninsula located at the north end of Sauvie Island in Columbia County, within the Sauvie Island Wildlife Area (SIWA), an 11,543 acre wildlife area owned and managed by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW). The property is bordered by Multnomah Channel on the west, Crane Slough on the east and SIWA to the north, south, and east. Flight's End is uniquely situated in proximity to a complex array of wildlife and wetlands-focused management areas including Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge (USFWS), Shillapoo Wildlife Area (WDFW) in Washington, Deer Island (Columbia Land Trust), Multnomah Channel wetlands (Metro), Palensky Wildlife Mitigation Area (BPA and ODFW), and Wapato Greenway Access (Oregon State Parks) in Oregon.

The Multnomah Channel has been identified as a priority habitat for restoration of ESA listed salmonid species (Chinook, coho salmon and steelhead). Multnomah Channel is also an important site for public recreation including fishing, boating, and wildlife viewing. Crane Slough borders the east side of the site and is also important habitat for salmon and steelhead as well as numerous species of birds such as bald eagle, great blue heron, great egret and osprey.

Flight's End was privately owned for more than 80 years prior to purchase. The property had been primarily managed for waterfowl hunting.



ODFW's interest in the Flight's End property:

ODFW had a strong interest in acquiring the Flight's End property as it offered a unique opportunity to protect and conserve habitats to benefit a variety of fish and wildlife species. As an "in-holding" to the existing Wildlife Area, purchase allowed ODFW to incorporate the site into the SIWA for efficient long-term management and protection. Under ODFW ownership, the property will be available for public recreational activities that are consistent with the conservation purposes of the purchase as defined in the management plan.

Though formal surveys have not yet been conducted, a diversity of wildlife species has been documented at the site including several Oregon Conservation Strategy priority status species: Northern red-legged frog and willow flycatcher. Additional wildlife species that use the habitats on site include migrating waterfowl, neotropical migratory songbirds, raptors, amphibians, wading birds, and mammals such as black-tailed deer and river otters.

Acquisition process and funding:

The acquisition of this property was funded primarily through ODFW's Willamette Wildlife Mitigation Program and the property was purchased in 2013. The funding was provided by Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) through a fifteen year agreement between ODFW and BPA to settle federal wildlife habitat mitigation obligations in the Willamette Valley. Additional funding was provided from the ODFW State Wildlife Fund. No General Fund tax revenues will be used in the purchase of this property, and ODFW will continue to pay taxes.

Long-term restoration and management:

ODFW's habitat restoration goals for the site include maintaining existing high quality habitats and restoring existing cropland areas to grassland and wetland plant communities. ODFW developed a management plan that included public review and comment and details planned management and restoration actions. Restoration activities will be based on topography, river levels, elevations and the historic habitat conditions of the site. A key component of habitat restoration at Flight's End will be the use of moist soil management to replicate conditions associated with historic hydrologic regimes on the lower Columbia River. Overall benefits to fish and wildlife are expected to increase substantially through restoration efforts at Flight's End.

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