Prune Hill Creek

Clark County - New Name

Township: 1N
Range: 3E
Section: 9, 39, and 41

USGS Quad: Camas

Location Description: Stream; 1.7 miles; starting from Haight Reservoir on Prune Hill at 45° 35' 22.146" N, 122° 26' 13.981" W, flows W then S to enter the Columbia River at 45° 34' 50.066" N, 122° 27' 43.493" W.

Proposal Summary: Prune Hill Creek: Stream; 1.7 miles; starting from Haight Reservoir on Prune Hill at 45° 35' 22.146" N, 122° 26' 13.981" W, flows W then S to enter the Columbia River at 45° 34' 50.066" N, 122° 27' 43.493" W; Name references the source of the stream, Prune Hill. In the 1880s and 1890s, the hill was covered in Italian prune orchards due to the excellent growing conditions of the area. Prune Hill was named in 1900 at the time when Clark County WA was known as the prune capitol of the world.; Clark County, Washington; Secs 9, 39, and 41, T1N, R3E, Willamette Meridian; 45° 34' 50.066" N, 122° 27' 43.493" W; USGS Map - Camas 1:24,000

Proposed name references the source of the stream, Prune Hill. In the 1880s and 1890s, the hill was covered in Italian prune orchards due to the excellent growing conditions of the area.

Prune Hill was named in 1900 at the time when Clark County WA was known as the prune capitol of the world.

Landowners: Private Citizens - Home Owners Associations

"Prune" Features in WA:
Prune Hill - Clark County
Three Prune Creek - Jefferson County
Three Prune Lakes - Jefferson County

Proponent:
Patrick Cooney
3815 NW 9th Loop
Camas, WA 98607

Proposal Received: 7/24/2023
Initial Consideration: 12/11/2023
Final Consideration:

WA Committee Decision:
WA Board Decision:
US Board Decision:

Opinions:

Domestic Geographic Name Proposal Form

The U.S. Board on Geographic Names (BGN) is responsible for standardizing the names of geographic features within the 50 States and in other areas under the sovereignty of the United States. The BGN retains the legal authority to promulgate all official names and locations of natural features (e.g. mountains, rivers, valleys), as well as canals, channels, reservoirs, and other select feature types.

This form is to propose a new name or name, spelling, or application change for a geographic feature for Federal use. A proponent should carefully review the proposal prior to submission to ensure that it is consistent with the BGN policies. Please note all fields with a red outline are required prior to submitting this form.

The proponent should also be aware that the entire proposal—including personal identifying information and any associated correspondence—is in the public domain and may be made publicly available at any time.

Submit Proposal:

1. Download and email this form and supporting documentation to: BGNEXEC@usgs.gov
   i. Save PDF using this format: *'State_GeographicNameProposed'*
   ii. Email Subject: *ST_GeographicName*

OR

2. Send by mail to:
   U.S. BGN Executive Secretary, Domestic Names
   12201 Sunrise Valley Drive, MS-523
   Reston, VA 20192

Please note that anything submitted by mail will delayed.

Contact Us:
BGNEXEC@usgs.gov

Naming Basics

Proposed Name:
Prune Hill Creek

Is this to change an existing name? ☐ Y ■ N

If yes, please provide the official name and Feature ID as it appears in the Geographic Names Information System (GNIS).

Is this name in current local use? ☐ Y ■ N

What is the Feature Type?
Stream

GNIS Name:

GNIS ID:

Location Basics

Where is the feature?

Latitude: 45.58061 *(38.94741)*
Longitude: -122.46208 *(-77.36839)*

For Linear Features (e.g. stream or valley):

Mouth/Confluence
Latitude: 45.58061 *(38.94741)*
Longitude: -122.46208 *(-77.36839)*

Source/Headwater
Latitude: 45.58961 *(38.94741)*
Longitude: -122.43572 *(-77.36839)*

General Location:

State: Washington
County: Clark
City/Town/ Township/ Borough: Camas

Public Land Survey System:
Section(s), Township, Range, Meridian
S41 T1N R3E OF WILLAMETTE

Feature Description

Physical shape, length, width, etc. (Maps can be submitted separately by email)

"Prune Hill Creek" flows for 1.7 miles. The creek starts at ~750 feet of elevation atop Prune Hill, a Boring Lava Field Vent. The Creek initially flows to the West through a small reservoir (Haight Reservoir, constructed in 1951 for private agricultural use). It continues West through hardwoods and near houses where it is spring fed as it slightly drops in elevation atop Prune Hill. Approximately a quarter mile before its confluence with the Columbia River, the creek turns South and drops in elevation rapidly down the flank of the hill before crossing under State Highway 14, under an active railroad line, under the Evergreen Highway, and then flows directly into the Columbia River at ~1 foot elevation. The mouth of the creek is just North of Ackerman Island and just North of the state line between Washington and Oregon. The stream ranges in width from about 0.5 meters to 1.0 meters wide along its length, opening to about 5 meters width at the mouth.

Name Details

Name information:

Please provide relevant information about the proposed name, such as origin, meaning, how long it has been in current use, as well as current or historical significance. Also include why you believe the feature requires a name or name change and why the proposed name is appropriate. Describe any documents that you will be submitting (separately by email) to support your proposal.

The proposed "Prune Hill Creek" flows entirely on top of and down the flanks of Prune Hill.
Prune Hill is a Boring Lava Field Vent that rises ~750 feet above the Columbia River in Camas, Washington. In the 1880s and 1890s, Prune Hill was covered in Italian prune orchards. The name "Prune Hill" was adopted for the geographical feature in 1900 because of the excellent growing conditions on the hill for Italian Prunes. At that time, Clark County, Washington, was known as the prune capitol of the world, a title which continued until the Depression when the prune market collapsed. Despite the current lack of prune orchards atop Prune Hill, the name is still proudly used to describe the geographical feature and location within the town of Camas.
The elementary school and a large park within the watershed of this creek are called "Prune Hill Elementary School" and " Prune Hill Sports Park".
Miles of walking trails and multiple parks are within the watershed and adjacent to this creek (Klickitat Park, Prune Hill Sports Park, Prune Hill Elementary Playground). A group would like to create educational signage about creeks and watersheds and erosion control to erect along the walkways and within parks, but there is no name for this creek. Despite having year-round water within the stream bed and plenty of visibility because of the trails adjacent to the creek, a lack of a name for the creek (beyond "Tributary to Columbia River") has minimized the creek from gaining a proper level of importance and relevance for the community.
USGS named the seismic fault running across the hill the "Prune Hill Fault".
The proposed name of "Prune Hill Creek" is in alignment with the historical name of the hill and other geographic locations/features where the creek lies. Further, this name continues with the popular regional and cultural name that references more than 100 years of history.

Please provide a list of supporting documentation, including any web links:

Examples: Published sources showing the proposed name or letters of support (local government, historical society, etc.).

Map of Camas Qudrangle with Prune Hill and proposed "Prune Hill Creek": https://ngmdb.usgs.gov/ht-bin/tv_browse.pl?id=d38a6cabd371e395515b1f9b2cb8e469

Naming of Prune Hill: http://columbiariverimages.com/Regions/Places/prune_hill.html#:~:text=The%20name%20%22Prune%20Hill%22%20was,Other%20settlers%20followed.

Walking Trail and Park Map of Camas that includes Prune Hill: https://www.cityofcamas.us/sites/default/files/fileattachments/parks_and_recreation/page/8892/2015camas_trailmap_hi.pdf

Prune Hill Elementary School: https://www.camas.wednet.edu/schools-resources/elementary-schools/prune-hill-elementary/

Prune Hill Sprots Park: https://www.cityofcamas.us/parksrec/page/prune-hill-sports-park

Prune Hill orchards: https://downtowncamas.com/wp-content/uploads/Prunes2.pdf

USGS Prune Hill Fault: https://pubs.usgs.gov/sim/3017/camas_map.pdf

Haight Reservoir: https://data.beaconjournal.com/dam/washington/clark-county/haight-reservoir-dam/wa01039/

Is the name commemorative? Does the name honor or refer to a person or persons? ☐ Y ■ N

Please note that the BGN will only accept proposals for names that are intended to honor a person or persons deceased at least five years. The BGN will disapprove names that could be construed to honor living persons. The person being honored should have had either (1) some direct or long-term association with the feature, or (2) have made a significant contribution to the area, community, or State in which it is located; or (3) have outstanding national or international recognition. The BGN discourages the use of an individual's full name except to avoid ambiguity.

If yes, please provide the following:

Honoree's Date of Birth:

Honoree's Date of Death:

Short biography and significance or association with the geographic feature: *(list any additional honorees here)*

Is the feature in a Wilderness Area or Wilderness Study Area? ☐ Y ■ N ☐ Unknown

If yes, please provide your justification for making an exception to the Wilderness Policy:

Please note that the BGN will not approve new names for unnamed features within wilderness areas or wilderness study areas, unless an overriding need can be demonstrated by the proponent.

Is the name you are proposing intended to honor Native Americans, their language, or culture? ☐ Y ■ N

If yes, to ensure that the proposed name is appropriate, the BGN strongly advises proponents to work with Tribal Leaders, Tribal Historic Preservation Officers, and/or Native American linguists or other expert(s) associated with the Tribe to determine the acceptability of the proposed name and application. Please review the BGN's Cultural Sensitivity for Native American Names guidance.

Proponents should also seek letters of endorsement from the governments (e.g., Tribal Councils) of any affected Tribes. Please indicate below, or in documentation submitted separately (with this proposal or any time after the proposal is submitted), any efforts to solicit Tribal input.

Additional Information +

Is there any local opposition or conflict with the proposed name? ☐ Y ■ N

If yes, please explain and describe any opposition:

Additional notes, including any Tribal input details

Proponent Information

Please provide one form of contact (email preferred):

Proponent's Name: Patrick Cooney

Agency or Organization, if applicable:

Email: pcooney@smith-root.com

Mailing Address: 3815 NW 9th Loop
Camas, WA 98607

Phone: 352-262-1986

Are you completing this form for someone else?

☐ Y ■ N

If yes, please fill out the following:

Completed by:

Full Name:

Email:

Mailing Address:

Phone:

Caleb,

Thank you for your email regarding the potential naming of Prune Hill Creek. I intended to attend the meeting virtually, but was called out to the field that day for work, and was unable to attend.

I just finished watching the video record of the meeting. I thank the committee for their time, comments, questions, and ultimately for moving the motion forward for final consideration.

During the meeting, there was a question about the stream potentially having fish. I will help provide some information here to help answer this question.

Starting at the Columbia River (at the mouth of this creek) and proceeding upstream, there are just over 200 meters of creek that are used by fish. Then there is a culvert under State Route 14 (SR14) that acts as a fish barrier, stopping migratory fish from occupying upstream habitats. Perhaps some day, the migration barrier will be amended to allow migratory fish to move farther upstream.

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife has the following information about this fish passage barrier: https://apps.wdfw.wa.gov/fishpassagephotos/Reports/999076_Report.pdf

Please note that this report states that Coho, Steelhead, Sea Run Cutthroat, and Resident Trout use this creek.

Hopefully that helps answer that question.

Additionally, there were questions/comments regarding the names being “Pruney” in this immediate area! That is an excellent observation by the committee! The entire hill is called Prune Hill because it historically was covered in Italian Prune Orchards and was previously considered the Prune Capitol of the World! Therefore, many of the public entities on the hill carry the name: Prune Hill Elementary School, Prune Hill Sports Park, Prune Hill Playground. Further, USGS named the seismic fault running through the hill the Prune Hill Fault. The name is well loved for its historical context and for defining the geographical feature (the hill). Similarly, the application is to help define the name of the geographical feature of the creek. I appreciate the committees time and consideration to help in that effort.

There was another comment from the committee where someone stated that there did not appear to be a commercial angle to this application. That commentor is correct. We have no commercial or financial benefit to this naming application or the naming of the creek as Prune Hill Creek.

Thank you to the committee for consideration. Please let me know if you have any questions or items that I can help with.

Patrick Cooney, Certified Fisheries Professional

Science Director | Solution Advisor

Washington Department of
Fish and Wildlife

Fish Passage & Diversion Screening Inventory Database
Report Cover Sheet

The following report is extracted from the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife's (WDFW) Fish Passage and Diversion Screening Inventory Database (FPDSI). WDFW makes every attempt to keep these reports in sync with FPDSI; however, the dynamic nature of the data and workflows associated with maintaining the database may result in short-term differences.

Users are encouraged to contact WDFW to discuss appropriate use of the data and how we can assist with fish passage barrier removal or inventory. Please visit the Fish Passage web site for contact information at: https://wdfw.wa.gov/species-habitats/habitat-recovery/fish-passage/about

Disclaimers:

- Data presented here represent a snapshot observation of conditions in a dynamic environment that is subject to change. Fish passage data are also collected from a variety of agencies and sources. Therefore, WDFW makes no guarantee concerning the data's content, accuracy, completeness, or the results obtained from use of the data. WDFW assumes no liability for the data represented here.
- These data are not an attempt to provide you with an official agency response as to the impacts of your project on fish and wildlife.
- Note that some fish passage features, habitats or species may occur in areas not currently known to the WDFW Fish Passage division, and may not be reflected in this database. A lack of data does not necessarily indicate that a feature, habitat, or species are not present.
- Unauthorized attempts to alter or modify these data are strictly prohibited.
- Bankfull width measurements included in these reports should not be used for fish passage crossing design. They are solely for assessment purposes.
- The barrier status reported in this document is based on the swimming abilities of adult salmonids. Passabilities are a qualitative value, and should not be interpreted as a quantitative calculation. Please see page 1-4 of the Fish Passage Inventory, Assessment and Prioritization Manual for further clarification: https://wdfw.wa.gov/publications/02061
- EXIF data presented with Image Reports may be erroneous due to camera battery failures and resetting of camera clock functions.

Abbreviations:

Most abbreviations in this report are defined in the Quick Reference Tables of the Fish Passage Inventory, Assessment, and Prioritization Manual. Additional commonly used abbreviations are defined as follows:

NFB = no potential salmonid use, **BB** = both banks, **LB** = left bank looking downstream, **RB** = right bank looking downstream, **US or U/S** = upstream, **DS or D/S** = downstream, **WSDrop** = water surface drop, **BFW** = bankfull width, **OHW** = ordinary high water, **SLW** = scour line width, **CMP** = corrugated metal pipe, $\mathbf{Q_{fp}}$ = fish passage flow, **V&D** = Velocity and Depth, **ROW** = Right of Way

The FPDSI database often uses default values such as '**-99.99**' or '**-999**' to represent null values.

WDFW Fish Passage and Diversion Screening Inventory Database

Site Description Report

Site ID 999076 **Project** WSDOT ☐ **Mitigated**

Geographic Coordinates

Latitude (WGS 84):	45.582375094
Longitude (WGS 84):	-122.461379951
East (NAD 83 HARN):	1,138,225.3
North (NAD 83 HARN)	97,061.4

Waterbody

Stream:	unnamed
Tributary To:	Columbia R
WRIA:	28.0151
River Mile:	-999.99
Fish Use Potential:	Yes
FUP Criteria:	Physical

General Location

Road Name:	SR 14
Mile Post:	10.66
County:	Clark
WDFW Region:	5

Owner

Type:	State
Name:	Washington State Department of Transportation

PI Species

☐ Sockeye	☐ Chinook	☑ Sea Run Cutthroat
☐ Pink	☑ Coho	☑ Resident Trout
☐ Chum	☑ Steelhead	☐ Bull Trout

Associated Features

☑ Culvert	☐ Dam	☐ Natural Barrier	☐ Diversion
☐ Non-Culvert Xing	☐ Other	☐ Fishway	

Location/Directions

Site Comments

11/20/2021

WDFW Fish Passage and Diversion Screening Inventory Database

Level A Culvert Assessment Report

Site ID:	**999076**				
Latitude:	**45.582375094**	Stream:	**unnamed**	WRIA:	**28.0151**
Longitude:	**-122.461379951**	Tributary To:	**Columbia R**	Fish Use Potential:	**Yes**

Data Source: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

Field Crew: Peter;Thompson Review Date: 3/13/2007

Culvert Details / **Level A Parameters**

ID	Shape	Material	Span	Rise	Length	WDIC	Apron	WSDrop	Location	Countersunk	Backwater	Slope (%)	Sediment
1.1	BOX	CPC	1.22	1.85	87.50	0.02	BE	2.20	Outlet	No		11.40	

All dimensions in meters

Channel Description

Toe Width (m):	1.1
Average Width (m):	-99.99
Culvert/Stream Width Ratio:	1.11

Plunge Pool

Length (m):	-999.99
Max Depth (m):	-99.99
OHW Width (m):	-999.99

Road

Fill Depth (m):	15.00

Assessment Results

		Tidal Influence:		Tidegate Present:	No
Barrier:	Yes	Passability (%):	0	Method:	Level A
Reason:	WS Drop	Fishway Present:	No	Recheck:	

Comments

Verified 42m of fish useable habitat Upstream (13% gradient), then end fish use due to gradient increase (20% to 35% for 160+m.)

Potential Habitat Gain

Survey Type:	TD	Spawning (sq m):	-999	Length (m):	42
Significant Reach:	No	Rearing (sq m):	-999	**PI Total**	

11/20/2021

WDFW Fish Passage and Diversion Screening Inventory Database

Habitat Survey Summary Report

Site ID:	**999076**				
Latitude:	**45.582375094**	Longitude:	**-122.461379951**	WRIA:	**28.0151**
Stream:	**unnamed**	Tributary To:	**Columbia R**	PI Total:	

Survey Type TD

Spreadsheet File(s):

Downstream Survey

Date: 4/23/2007 Crew: Peter;Thompson Length (m): 178

Downstream Comments:

Observed a few dozen juvenile Coho at confluence with Columbia R.

Upstream Survey

Date: 4/23/2007 Crew: Peter;Thompson Length (m): 42

Upstream Comments:

20%+ gradient from 41.5m US to end of survey.

Potential Habitat Gain

Lineal (m):	42
Spawning Area (sq m):	-999
Rearing Area (sq m):	-999

Distribution

- (•) Anadromous
- ( ) Resident Only
- ( ) Unknown

Gain Direction (Resident Only):

Potential Species Benefit

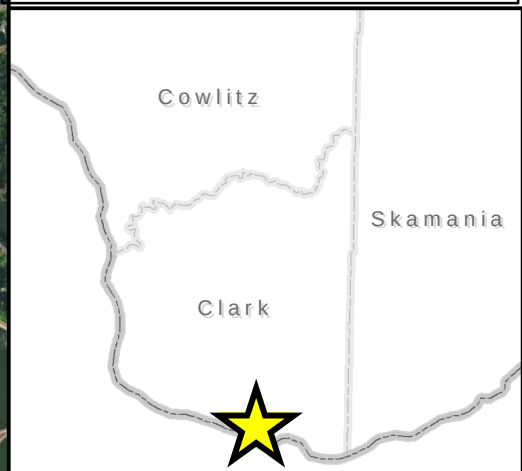
☐ Sockeye / Kokanee	☐ Chinook	☑ Searun Cutthroat
☐ Pink	☑ Coho	☑ Resident Trout
☐ Chum	☑ Steelhead	☐ Bull Trout

Prune Hill Creek - CLARK COUNTY

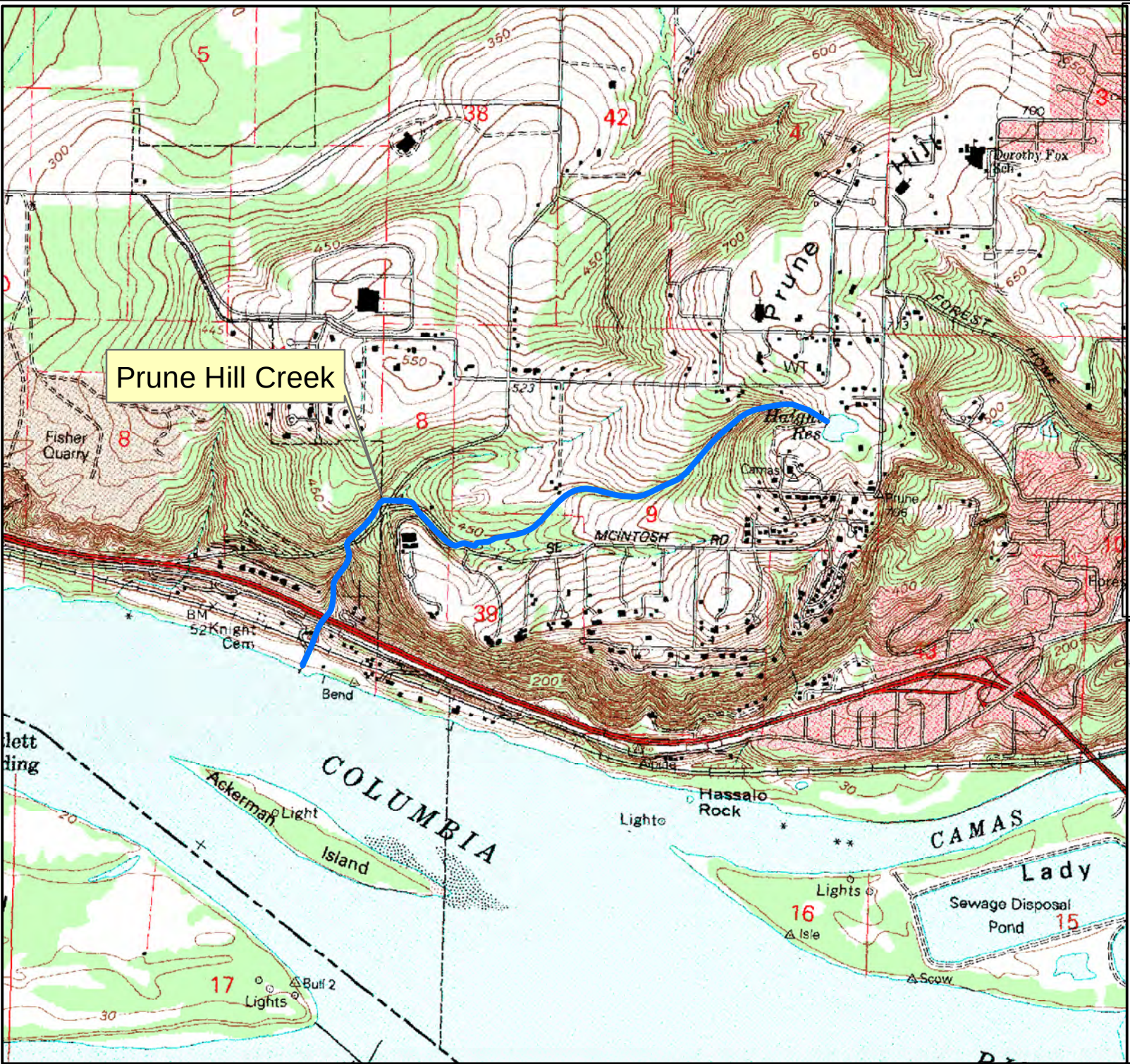
Stream; 1.7 miles; starting from Haight Reservoir on Prune Hill at 45° 35' 22.146" N, 122° 26' 13.981" W, flows W then S to enter the Columbia River at 45° 34' 50.066" N, 122° 27' 43.493" W.

Proposed name references the source of the stream, Prune Hill. In the 1880s and 1890s, the hill was covered in Italian prune orchards due to the excellent growing conditions of the area.

Prune Hill was named in 1900 at the time when Clark County WA was known as the prune capitol of the world.



Prune Hill Creek - CLARK COUNTY



Stream; 1.7 miles; starting from Haight Reservoir on Prune Hill at 45° 35' 22.146" N, 122° 26' 13.981" W, flows W then S to enter the Columbia River at 45° 34' 50.066" N, 122° 27' 43.493" W.

Proposed name references the source of the stream, Prune Hill. In the 1880s and 1890s, the hill was covered in Italian prune orchards due to the excellent growing conditions of the area.

Prune Hill was named in 1900 at the time when Clark County WA was known as the prune capitol of the world.