

COMMISSIONER'S ORDER

NUMBER **202304**

STATE OF WASHINGTON

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Hilary S. Franz, Commissioner of Public Lands

COMMISSIONER'S ORDER

Whereas, the Washington State Legislature, through Chapter 79.71 RCW, Washington Natural Resources Conservation Areas (NRCA) Act, found that there is an increasing and continuing need by the people of Washington for certain areas of the state to be conserved, in rural as well as urban settings, for the benefit of present and future generations; such areas are worthy of conservation for their outstanding scenic and ecological values and provide opportunities for low impact public use; acquisition of property or rights in property is necessary to protect these areas for public purposes; and there is a need for a state agency to act in an effective and timely manner to acquire interests in such areas and to develop appropriate management strategies for conservation purposes, and

Whereas, pursuant to Chapter 79.71 RCW, the state Department of Natural Resources is authorized to transfer state-owned trust lands and acquire private lands for the creation of natural resources conservation areas as necessary to achieve the purposes of this Chapter, and

Whereas, as required by RCW 79.71.060, the Department held a public hearing on July 19, 2023, in Thurston County, Washington, to receive public comment on a boundary expansion of the Kennedy Creek Natural Resources Conservation Area, and


Whereas, the Department has determined that the area described below should be designated as a natural resources' conservation area; the area is ecologically important and contains resources and characteristics worthy of consideration for conservation purposes, as defined in RCW 79.71.010.

It is THEREFORE ORDERED AND DIRECTED that the boundary of Kennedy Creek Natural Resources Conservation Area be expanded to include approximately 105 additional acres in portions of Sections 1 and 2 in Township 18 North, Range 04 West, and approximately 12 additional acres in Section 32 in Township 19 North, Range 03 West for a total boundary acreage of approximately 1,177 acres in portions of Sections 1, 2, 3, 10 and 11 in Township 18 North, Range 04 West, and Section 6 in Township 18 North, Range 03 West, and Sections 31 and 32 in Township 19 North, Range 03 West in Thurston and Mason Counties, Washington, as indicated on the attached boundary map dated August 16, 2023.

Dated this 22 day of September, 2023.



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HILARY S. FRANZ
Commissioner of Public Lands