

LEARN MORE

With more than 4 miles of trails and an auto tour route, **Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge** offers so much to explore during your visit.

You can walk among a rich diversity of floodplain forests, freshwater marshes, and meadows. These provide important habitats for wintering geese, migrating waterfowl, and many kinds of wildlife.



For more information about the Refuge including parking, hours, trails, education programs, entrance fees, and more, scan the QR code here or visit the website below:

www.fws.gov/refuge/ridgefield

EXPLORE THEM ALL

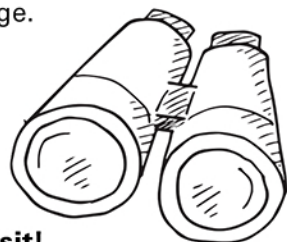
Ridgefield is one of four Urban Wildlife Refuges managed by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service located in the Portland-Vancouver Metro area. **Get outdoors and explore them all!**

- ✓ **Steigerwald Lake National Wildlife Refuge**
www.fws.gov/refuge/steigerwald-lake
- ✓ **Tualatin River National Wildlife Refuge**
www.fws.gov/refuge/tualatin-river
- ✓ **Wapato Lake National Wildlife Refuge**
www.fws.gov/refuge/wapato-lake

LOOK CLOSELY

Each season offers something different to see at Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge.

In the summer, you can see turtles and frogs in the sloughs and wetlands. In the winter, you can see migrating geese, swans, and ducks in the wetlands.



Look for new things on each visit!

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RIVER S UNIT

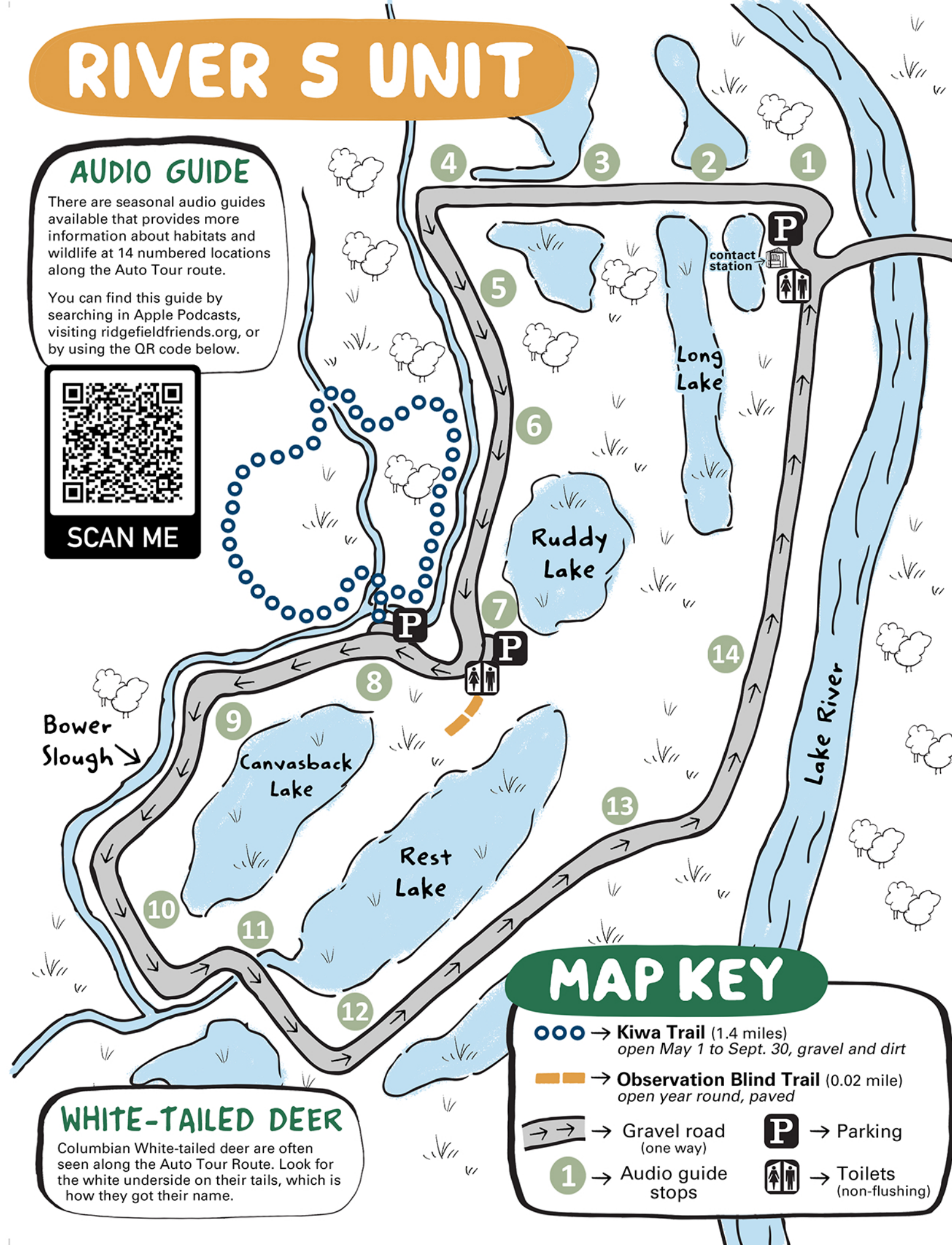
AUDIO GUIDE

There are seasonal audio guides available that provides more information about habitats and wildlife at 14 numbered locations along the Auto Tour route.

You can find this guide by searching in Apple Podcasts, visiting ridgefieldfriends.org, or by using the QR code below.



SCAN ME



WHITE-TAILED DEER

Columbian White-tailed deer are often seen along the Auto Tour Route. Look for the white underside on their tails, which is how they got their name.

MAP KEY

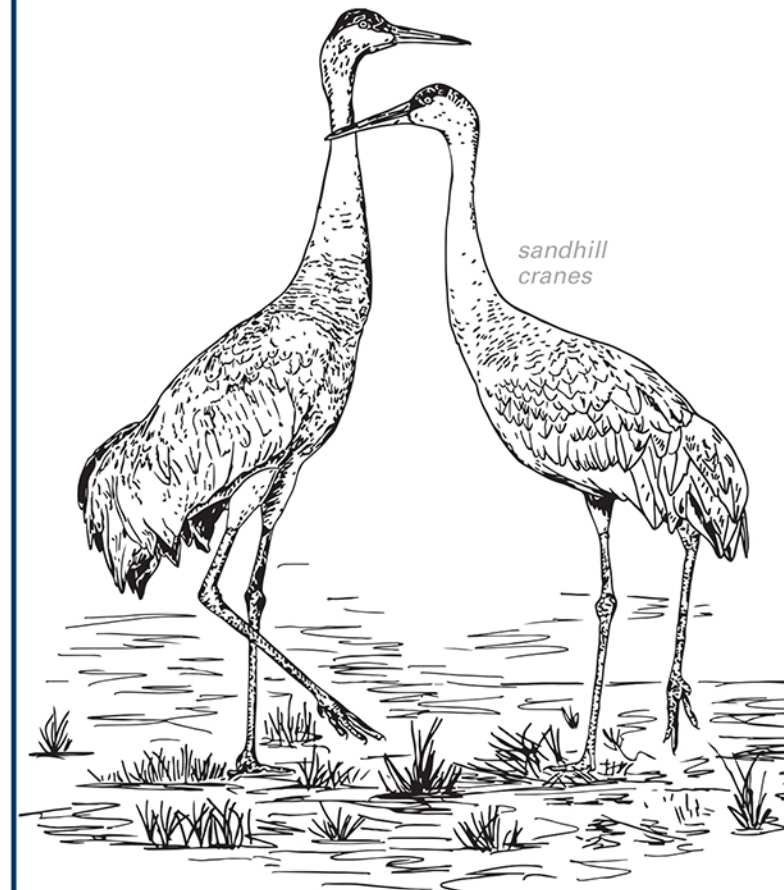
- → **Kiwa Trail** (1.4 miles)
open May 1 to Sept. 30, gravel and dirt
- — — → **Observation Blind Trail** (0.02 mile)
open year round, paved
- → → → Gravel road (one way)
- 1 → Audio guide stops
- P → Parking
- ♂ ♀ → Toilets (non-flushing)

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge

EXPLORE YOUR REFUGE

MAP & GUIDE




**NATIONAL
WILDLIFE
REFUGE SYSTEM**

CARTY UNIT

LISTENING FOR CALLS OF THE WILD

The refuge comes alive during peak migration. Stop at any point along the trail and close your eyes.

Can you hear Sandhill cranes as they fly over? or the trumpets and whooping of swans? or an acorn dropping from a tree?




OAK WOODLAND

Oregon white oaks grow along the trail in many places here at the refuge.

Look closely at the oak leaves and notice their lobed shape.

Can you find other leaves that are shaped differently? Why do you think they are different?




OAK OVERLOOK

Can you guess how old this tree is, or others on the Refuge?

Sit here and imagine what this ancient oak has seen over the years and reflect on your visit.


LOOKING FOR ACORNS AND OAK GALLS

Ever wonder what those round 'fruits' in oak trees are?

They are oak galls, a growth that the tree grows in response to a wasp laying an egg.

Both galls and acorns come in various sizes and colors.


How many do you see?



CATHLAPOTLE PLANKHOUSE

Completed in 2005, this Cathlapotle Plankhouse is representative of the houses found at the Cathlapotle village that once thrived on the present day refuge.

The House welcomes people for education, cultural events, and private Tribal ceremonies throughout the year.




NOTE: these are active railroad tracks. Trains pass by on a regular basis, creating loud noises.

WADING ON THE WATER

A section of the Carty Lake Trail is closed to visitors seasonally to allow wintering swans a resting place.

Can you think of other animals at the Refuge that need wetlands to survive?



NOTE: The Carty Lake Trail ends here, but there is another path that continues to the Ridgefield Waterfront.

MAP KEY

- Oaks to Wetlands Trail (0.4 mile) open year round, paved or gravel
- Oaks to Wetlands Trail (0.8 mile) open year round, dirt
- Carty Lake Trail (0.2 mile) open year round, gravel and dirt
- Carty Lake Trail (0.9 mile) open May 1 to Sept. 30, gravel
- Community Trail (0.17 mile) connects to Main St., gravel
- Parking
- Bench
- Toilets (non-flushing)
- Bridge
- Gravel Trail
- Seasonal Wetland

