



**LUMMI ISLAND HERITAGE TRUST**

**CURRY PRESERVE MANAGEMENT PLAN**

*Approved by the LIHT Board of Directors  
December 2022*

## **Lummi Island Heritage Trust Mission and History**

The mission of Lummi Island Heritage Trust (LIHT) is to create a legacy of abundant open space, native habitat, and natural resources on Lummi Island by inspiring people to protect and care for the island's farms, forests, wetlands, and shorelines forever.

Lummi Island Heritage Trust is a non-profit 501(c) 3 organization and belongs to the Washington Association of Land Trusts and the Land Trust Alliance.

Since its inception in 1998, the Heritage Trust has partnered with island landowners and the island community to conserve 1,215 acres of Lummi Island's disappearing open spaces and natural areas and created four beautiful nature preserves. The Otto Preserve, the Curry Preserve, and the Baker Preserve provide large contiguous protected habitats for birds and other wildlife, as well as places for people to experience nature. In June 2016, the Heritage Trust completed the 105 acre purchase of the former rock quarry on Lummi Island now renamed the Aiston Preserve. Restoration of the nearshore area and reclamation of the mine over the coming years will lead to opening a fourth public accessible Preserve. In July 2022, the Trust purchased a 120 acre forested property that adjoins the Aiston Preserve.

In addition to its preserves, the Heritage Trust has partnered with 16 private landowners to establish conservation easements on 707 acres of private land on Lummi Island. The Heritage Trust strives for integrity, respect, and transparency. The Trust makes stewardship of its protected lands a priority obligation, while recognizing and honoring that the lands we steward are a part of the ancestral homelands of the Coast Salish Peoples.

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## **I. Introduction**

The Curry Preserve is located on the northern half of Lummi Island, Whatcom County, Washington, NW ¼ E ½, Section 4, Township 37 N, Range 1 East. This 50-acre parcel is comprised of open fields, conifer and deciduous forests and wetlands.

The preserve was established in the footprint of an old farm and is comprised of three distinct habitats: open fields that are maintained from the original farm; conifer and deciduous forests that either were not cleared or are reverting from open farmland; and wetlands that include an old farm pond.

Three fields are informally identified as East Field (approximately 9 acres) near N. Nugent Road, West Field (approximately 5 acres) in the center of the preserve, and South Field (approximately 1 acre) in the extension connecting to Centerview Road. These fields were cultivated for hay and the entire property used for grazing livestock until purchased by the LIHT.

Forest covers approximately 70 % of the preserve and consists of Douglas fir, hemlock, and Western red cedar with secondary alder and big leaf maple. The forest canopy consists primarily of second growth trees alongside more mature stands.

Wetlands correspond to the natural drainage basins that cross the old farm. The principal drainage extends east-southeast from Tuttle Lane across the West Field and down across the East Field to N. Nugent Road where it is diverted on the way to Hale Passage. A small pond (approximately 1/4 acre) was created in this drainage at the western side of the preserve. Seasonal rains create a stream flowing from this pond through the West Field to a topographic bench at the east side of the field. For much of the year a natural wetland exists in this area. This drainage continues over and through the bench area to generate a second wetland in the central portion of the East Field. The third wetland is located on the south side of the preserve and is within a second low gradient, southeast trending drainage that crosses this corner of the preserve. All of these wetlands are reverting parts of the previous fields into mixed grasses and reed, including sheep sorrell, prickly sowthistle, pineapple weed, and stork's bill. The juxtaposition of open fields, wetlands, and forest provide a diverse habitat that attracts a wide range of birds. Numerous species have been identified to date.

Located between the north trending N. Nugent Road and Tuttle Lane and with the east-west trending Centerview Road on the south side, the preserve can be easily accessed at three locations. Parking areas have been established on N. Nugent Road and Tuttle Lane. Centrally located in the populated north end of Lummi Island, the Curry Preserve is a quiet respite, a wildlife refuge, and community agricultural zone. It is a distinctive natural setting with outstanding views across Hale Passage to Mt Baker.

## **II. Topography/Geology**

The western half of the preserve is gently sloping to the east with a maximum elevation of 180 feet dropping to 140 feet. This generally level ground extends to the south and Centerview Road.

The slope is steeper in the eastern portion of the preserve, dropping about 90 feet, leveling again near N. Nugent Road. This topography is directly related to the underlying geology, which consists of a layered sequence of sandstone and shale of the Chuckanut Formation. The rocks are approximately 50 million years old and rest on top of older igneous rock estimated to be at least 160 million years old. The Chuckanut Formation rocks have been deformed into large fold structures. The Curry Preserve is located on the northern flank of a large syncline, and layers here are inclined to the southwest 30-40 degrees. The trend of the sandstone layering controls the small seasonal streams draining the area. The steeper slope mentioned above corresponds to the edge of a thick sandstone layer inclined to the southwest. Covering these deformed rocks is a relatively thin layer of glacial overburden.

### **III. Cultural History**

Little is known about the manner in which Coast Salish people used the specific area that is now the Curry Preserve. Several ancient middens can be found on the northern half of the island and at least one major Coast Salish village existed on the island when European settlers arrived.

The Curry Preserve is named after the Curry family with John Curry coming to Lummi Island in 1937 to work the reefnet fishery. He and his wife, Ortha, bought their land in 1951, when about 50 families lived on Lummi Island. John's family harvested hay from the fields, grazed and raised cattle, and tended a small orchard on their land. John continued to farm until his death in 2002. Lummi Island Heritage Trust purchased the Curry property in 2003 and created the original 42 acre Curry Preserve to protect this significant, undeveloped landscape for generations to come and as a legacy to the Curry family.

In 2008, the LIHT had the opportunity to purchase and protect an 8.5 acre property that expanded the Curry Preserve to over 50 acres. The expansion protected the integrity of the preserve and allows trail access to the Preserve from Centerview Road. This property was owned by the estate of Anne Kennedy and contains one of the island's seasonal free-flowing streams, a significant wetland area, a large open field, and a stand of mature forest. The undeveloped property is frequented by a wide variety of birds and provides a wildlife corridor between the Curry Preserve and conservation easement properties to the south and west.

### **IV. Purpose**

The natural, open space of the Curry Preserve contributes to the overall beauty and rural quality of Lummi Island.

The forest, fields, and wetlands of the Curry Preserve provide a secure and diverse refuge for native flora and fauna that are being displaced by habitat disturbance both on the island and on the nearby mainland. The preserve also provides a place for people to enjoy the rural environment of Lummi Island and to develop an appreciation and understanding of its natural habitats. Unique among the LIHT preserves, the Curry Preserve also provides an agricultural area for groups of islanders who raise vegetables, flowers, and fruit, while serving as stewards of the preserve's community garden, now known as the Curry Garden, and the Community Orchard.

The Curry Preserve serves to increase people’s interest in and appreciation for land conservation on Lummi Island. The Heritage Trust holds several conservation easements that protect approximately 79 additional acres in the vicinity of and adjacent to the preserve. These conservation easements expand the area protected by the preserve and create a network of conservation minded neighbors.

Importantly, the Curry Preserve also protects a significant island watershed, helping to support aquifer recharge and ensure water storage capacity and good water quality into the future.

## **V. Stewardship Vision Statement**

The Curry Preserve is permanently protected by the LIHT. This will always be a place where high quality habitat for native plants and animals is maintained, along with a natural environment for trail walking, horseback riding, farming, and quiet contemplation. It is a community treasure for Lummi Island.

## **VI. Management Topics**

The Curry Preserve is divided into specific areas that address its historical uses and protect important conservation values. The farm heritage of this land leads to an emphasis on preservation of the open fields, the wetlands and forest provide critical wildlife habitat for native plants and animals. Importantly, the maturing forest is helping to mitigate the effects of climate change by sequestering a significant amount of atmospheric carbon dioxide.

Six management topics provide the basis for discussing the Curry Preserve Management Plans:

- A. Wildlife and Plants
- B. Groundwater
- C. Agricultural Area
- D. Education
- E. Public Access
- F. Climate Change

The Curry Preserve Management Plan devotes a section to each of these topics with sub-headings outlining the details of goals, objectives, and monitoring protocols. The *goals* in each section describe the long-term vision for the resources and uses of the Preserve. The *objectives* define actions that lead toward achieving the goals. The *monitoring protocols* provide the methods to measure progress toward reaching and maintaining the objectives.

Appendices to the plan include maps of the Preserve.

The Curry Preserve Management Plan attempts to be as descriptive and specific as possible, however, stewardship is an adaptive process that must respond to changing environmental and social conditions. A growing population and increasing tourism both on Lummi Island and the nearby mainland may put new pressures on the Curry Preserve. Through careful monitoring and

periodic review, the LIHT will evaluate its effectiveness and update or revise the Curry Preserve Management Plan as necessary or at minimum every five years.

**A. Wildlife and Plants**

**1. Goal - To maintain, enhance, and restore native wildlife habitat and native plants.**

**2. Objectives**

**a. Identify plants and wildlife**

The LIHT works with local scientists to create detailed inventories of the plants and wildlife, with particular attention to birds. An initial list of plants was compiled by van Schyndel in 2011. A baseline bird list was compiled by Jeffreys in February 2009. Inventories of flora and fauna will be updated with the help of local experts, LIHT members, and volunteers.

**b. Noxious Weed Control**

The spread of invasive species is a significant threat to global biodiversity. LIHT will make an effort to monitor and control invasive plant populations while maintaining and restoring native plant communities and avoiding adverse impacts to adjacent properties. Curry Preserve noxious plants will be removed over time by volunteers and through regular field mowing.

Known invasive plant species and control goals on the Curry Preserve include:

Himalayan blackberry	Cut and/or remove to control spread.
English holly	Cut and/or remove to control spread.
Reed canary grass	Monitor wetland areas.
Canadian thistle	Cut flowers/seeds to control spread.
Tansy ragwort	Remove to control spread.

Continuous staff and volunteer monitoring will help track the occurrence of these and other noxious species. Specific action to monitor and control invasive species may include cooperation with the Whatcom County Noxious Weed Control Board and other agencies. Regular volunteer work parties for manual or mechanical removal of invasive plants are conducted. The LIHT will consider use of herbicides or biological controls on a case-by-case basis. Noxious plants will be controlled over time by volunteers and through regular field mowing.

**c. Maintain and improve wildlife habitat**

The LIHT will consult with professional foresters and ecologists as necessary to assess the health of the Curry Preserve wooded areas. The Curry Preserve is

located along the Pacific Flyway, adding to the importance of conserving the quality and diversity of its wildlife habitat for foraging and incidental perching. Several priority non-game bird species are known to utilize the Curry Preserve including Blackheaded grosbeak, Great Blue heron, and Pileated woodpecker. Peregrine falcons and Bald eagles are known to nest in the vicinity and have been reported in the preserve, along with three species of owls: Barn, Barred, and Great Horned. Particular attention will be paid to protecting and monitoring the forests in light of their importance for wildlife breeding, foraging, and perching.

Some forest management may be necessary to maintain areas around trails, parking areas, agricultural areas, and utility buildings. Removal of blow-down and dead trees will be undertaken only when the fallen trees present a danger. In the event of a catastrophic blow-down, the LIHT will consult with specialists regarding proper management of the damaged forest.

The location of the wetlands adjacent to the forest areas, both in the preserve and on neighboring conservation easement properties, increases the capacity for supporting diverse wildlife populations on the Curry Preserve. The wetlands are currently productive and critically important for wildlife and water quality. Both resident and migratory waterfowl utilize the pond on an adjacent conservation easement property and the small pond on the Curry Preserve. Mallards and Wood ducks have been observed as well as species such as blue herons, wrens, and Belted kingfishers. As human development in Western Washington continues to degrade habitat for these and other waterfowl species, particular attention will be paid to managing the Preserve as an increasingly important resource for maintaining healthy waterfowl populations.

Volunteer surveys of the pond in the upper meadow have identified healthy amphibian populations.

The approximately 15 acres of open field on the Curry Preserve is maintained with annual field mowing. There is a mixture of hay, native and European grasses and forbs that provide forage and cover for birds such as sparrows, finches, and thrushes. The East Field has a well-developed hedgerow bordering N. Nugent Road. This barrier protects animals in the preserve from traffic. Some of the East Field has been set aside for agricultural use that includes a community garden, a parking area, and a building envelope containing a utility shed adjacent to the community orchard. The West Field is surrounded by forest and has a seasonal stream flowing through the center, creating a wetland along the eastern side of the field. The South Field abuts the wetland on the south side and private property on the east, north, and west side.

#### **d. Prohibit high impact recreational uses**

In an effort to limit impact by human activity on wildlife populations, access to the interior of the preserve (outside of the parking areas) is by foot or horse only,



except for maintenance and fire vehicles. Walkers and horseback riders may use designated trails and open fields. These trails are monitored for wear and limitations will be imposed when necessary. Camping, bicycles, and motorized vehicles are prohibited with the exception of powered mobility devices needed by individuals with limited mobility. Agricultural activity will generally be conducted with hand tools, tractors, mowers, and other mechanical tools as needed. No hunting or shooting is allowed.

**e. Require dogs to be leashed**

LIHT allows people to walk their dogs at the Curry Preserve. In an effort to prevent wildlife harassment, protect fragile habitat, and preserve enjoyment for all visitors, dogs must be on leash and under voice control at all times. Dog owners must clean up after their dogs and remove dog waste from the preserve. LIHT provides waste bags at both trailhead kiosks. Service dogs are permitted in accordance with the Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA) guidelines.

**f. Limit access by other domestic animals.**

Visitors may ride horses on Curry Preserve trails if they have first signed the LIHT liability waiver. Horseback riding may be restricted from some sensitive trails during the wet season. No other domestic animals or pets, with the exception of dogs, are allowed on the preserve without permission given by the LIHT Board of Directors.

**g. Maintain the Preserve as a corridor to other habitats.**

Buffers and corridors created by private conservation easements on adjacent properties add a valuable extension of the wildlife habitat on the Curry Preserve. The LIHT will limit fencing that would create a barrier to wildlife movement and will strive to involve neighbors in the monitoring and protection of the Preserve.

**3. Monitoring Protocols**

**a. Plant and Wildlife surveys**

Existing plant and wildlife inventories will be updated and reviewed over time in an effort to monitor changes on the property and surrounding area. Additionally, volunteers who regularly use the Curry Preserve are encouraged to record their plant and wildlife observations and to give this information to the staff.

**b. Photographic Monitoring**

Photographs from set points are used to monitor changes in the forest, wetland and open field habitats. Initial photograph points are indicated on a map and described in the Appendix. Changes over time are determined by examination of

these photographs. Specific actions to remedy unacceptable changes may include removal of invasive vegetation, restricted access to specific areas, or consultation with professionals to develop management techniques for problem sites.

### **c. Annual Monitoring**

LIHT stewardship staff conducts annual stewardship monitoring visits and files reports. This assists staff in planning for maintenance and protection of the unique wildlife habitats and native plants on the Curry Preserve. Copies of the monitoring reports are available at the LIHT office.

## **B. Groundwater**

### **1. Goals**

- a. Preserve and protect underlying aquifers**
- b. Enhance the aquifer recharge areas**

### **2. Objectives**

- a. Minimize impervious surfaces**

The three wetland areas located within the Curry Preserver are fed from rain, runoff, and groundwater. Historically, the wetlands were actively farmed. Without farm activities these wetlands are being reestablished. To enhance this restoration, mowing is limited to field areas outside the wetlands except when the need arises for the removal of non-native, noxious plants. Impervious surfaces will be limited to the building envelope in the Northwest portion of the East Field. Water runoff will be directed to areas of natural groundwater infiltration in an effort to preserve and enhance the aquifer recharge.

- b. Limit water well development and usage**

There are four wells located in the preserve. The Preserve's water supply consists of one deep well that is currently being used for irrigation by LIHT's garden and orchard programs in the Agricultural zone. A second shallow well is, by easement agreement, used by neighbors for non-potable use. The third deep well is located along Centerview Road and is, by easement agreement, used by a neighbor for potable water. The fourth well is inactive. Water usage by LIHT will be monitored to ensure that excessive use does not occur, and aquifer quality and quantity are not compromised. Any changes to water use and water infrastructure systems require prior approval by the LIHT Board of Directors.

- c. Use of non-chemical weed control**

Non-chemical methods will be utilized to control invasive species whenever possible. Environmentally safe chemical applications may be used when other methods have failed and will be done in a manner as to not pose a risk to groundwater quality.

### **3. Monitoring Protocols**

#### **a. Water testing**

Water from the deep well in the Agriculture zone will be monitored in accordance with the Federal and State guidelines, if it is used as a potable water supply. Water analyses will be conducted as needed. If required, water level and draw down tests will be conducted over regular intervals to ensure that the aquifer is maintained.

### **C. Agricultural Area**

The Curry Preserve was a family farm that existed for 50-60 years in the twentieth century and characterized Lummi Island life since the initial European settlement in the late 1800's. The rural, agricultural character of Lummi Island is threatened by increasing population density, and the conversion of farmlands to residential development and commercial development throughout Whatcom County.

#### **1. Goals**

- a. Preserve the rural character of historical Lummi Island.**
- b. Provide an educational and experiential connection to the natural environment.**
- c. Promote community involvement in the natural environment.**

#### **2. Objectives**

- a. Continue the historical use of farmland.**

The LIHT has defined an agricultural area at the site of the previous Curry farm. An approximately five acre agricultural area has been defined in the northern portion of the East Field. This five acre area currently includes a community garden and a community orchard. A building envelope has been established at the old home site and a utility shed has been refurbished to house the tools necessary for agricultural activity.

- b. Establish volunteer groups to work the land.**

In 2008 LIHT worked with a group of members to establish a community garden program. This group of garden stewards raised money, procured materials, plowed, fenced and planted an approximately 1/3 acre garden, divided into 12 individual plots. In 2011 an underground irrigation system was installed.

In 2010 the old Curry farm orchard was enhanced and expanded. In partnership with LIHT, orchard stewards obtained funding, removed debris and blackberries, restored a utility shed, purchased and planted 20 tree varieties, including apple, plum, cherry and walnut, all surrounded by protective fencing.

Curry garden and community orchard stewards regularly mow, weed, fertilize, mulch, repair fencing and provide consistent maintenance for this agricultural zone on the preserve. A LIHT staff member serves as the liaison between these two groups and the LIHT Board of Directors.

## **D. Education**

### **1. Goals**

- a. To educate visitors about the natural and cultural history of the Preserve.**
- b. To increase visitors' appreciation for land conservation efforts on the island.**

### **2. Objectives**

#### **a. Interpretive signs:**

Through signage, the Trust encourages an understanding of the history and the natural habitats of the Curry Preserve. Two rustic kiosks containing maps and Heritage Trust materials are installed at the Tuttle and North Nugent entrances to the Preserve. Interpretive information is also be included in printed materials and on the Trust's website.

#### **b. Sponsor educational tours and activities:**

The Heritage Trust sponsors environmental education programs that seek to educate visitors to the Preserve about natural processes. Specific activities include guided natural history walks, bird watching tours, and conservation education field trips.

#### **c. Encourage local groups to take field trips on the Preserve:**

The Trust encourages local schools and community organizations to take walks and field trips on the Curry Preserve in an effort to increase appreciation for land

conservation efforts on the island. Educational and research activities on the Curry Preserve are conducted on a permission-only basis and may be limited to size and duration. The Heritage Trust partners with educators and scientists to conduct appropriate research. Collection of botanical, zoological, geological, or other specimens are prohibited except on a permission-only basis for scientific purposes.

**d. Involve volunteers in the maintenance and enhancement of the Preserve:**

A major factor in the long-term vitality of the Preserve is the education of people, young and old, about the importance of the lessons that involvement with the land can teach. Volunteer stewards, including horseback riders, orchard and garden workers, neighbors, and islanders, are regularly involved in the ongoing care of the Preserve. Volunteers maintain and enhance the property, and frequently participate in Curry Preserve events and programs.

**3. Monitoring protocols**

**a. Educational Activities:**

Groups will be on a permission only basis.

**b. Record keeping:**

The Trust will keep a record of educational tours, activities and field trips conducted on the Preserve. Any impacts from these activities will be addressed in management plan updates.

**c. Reporting:**

Curry Garden members, orchard stewards and frequent trail users are asked to report interesting or unusual occurrences, and issues of concern, to the LIHT stewardship coordinator.

**E. Public Access**

**1. Goal: To allow low-impact public access where appropriate.**

**2. Objectives:**

**a. Regularly maintain trails:**

The Trust will maintain walking trails for use by visitors, hikers, and horseback riders.

**b. Post Preserve guidelines in trailhead kiosks.**

**c. Encourage adherence to the Community Orchard policies.**

LIHT handles financial arrangements for the orchard. Harvest is for community use.

**d. Encourage adherence to Curry Garden policies.**

Member gardeners collect their own funds and reimburse LIHT for utility costs. Harvest is for members only.

**3. Monitoring Protocols:**

**a. Staff Liaison:**

Staff liaison for the Curry Garden and Community Orchard communicates regularly with both groups and attends group meetings as needed. Staff liaison facilitates written and verbal communication between stewards, volunteers and LIHT Board of Directors.

**b. Violations and Complaints:**

Issues of concern, violations or complaints are directed to the Land Protection Committee, the Executive Director and/or the Board of Directors as needed.

**F. Climate Change**

**1. Goal: Understand and address climate change impacts at the Curry Preserve.**

**2. Objective**

**Develop projects, including educational ones, that help to mitigate and understand the negative effects of a changing climate.**

In the spring of 2021, volunteers planted nearly 400 trees in the south area of the lower Curry meadow with the express purpose of sequestering atmospheric carbon well into the future. The Trust will continue to evaluate areas of the Preserve for future afforestation projects specially with climate change in mind.

**VII. Financial Analysis**

Curry Preserve management expenses will be reviewed annually as part of the Heritage Trust's regular budgeting process.

In 2003, when the Curry Preserve was created the Trust designated the Curry Preserve Endowment Fund for the long-term stewardship of the Preserve. The interest from the endowment fund is available for a variety of stewardship expenses. The Heritage Trust annual operating budget includes costs for maintaining our Preserves.

### **VIII. References**

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Estes, Ben (2009). Cartography project for LIHT student internship, Huxley College, Western Washington University, Bellingham, WA.

Lummi Island Heritage Trust (2005). Purpose and Goals Statement. Lummi Island, WA.

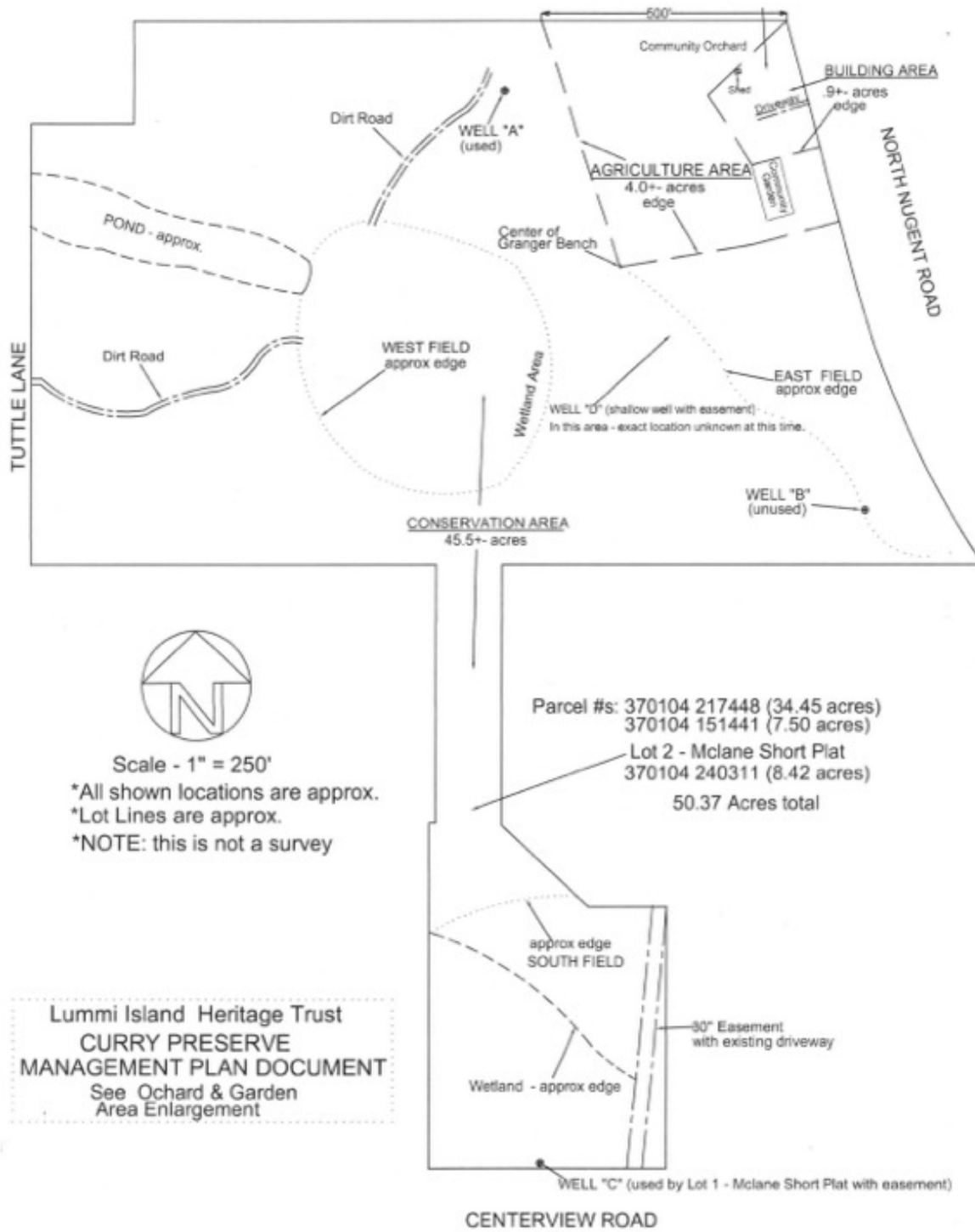
U.S. Department of Justice, Civil Right Division, Disability Rights Section, Frequently Asked Questions about Service Animals and the ADA. [www.ADA.gov](http://www.ADA.gov)

Adopted by Board of Directors March 13, 2012  
Revised by LPC and approved by Board of Directors March 27, 2017  
Revised by LPC and approved by Board of Directors December 2022

# IX. Appendices

## B. Curry Management Plan Map

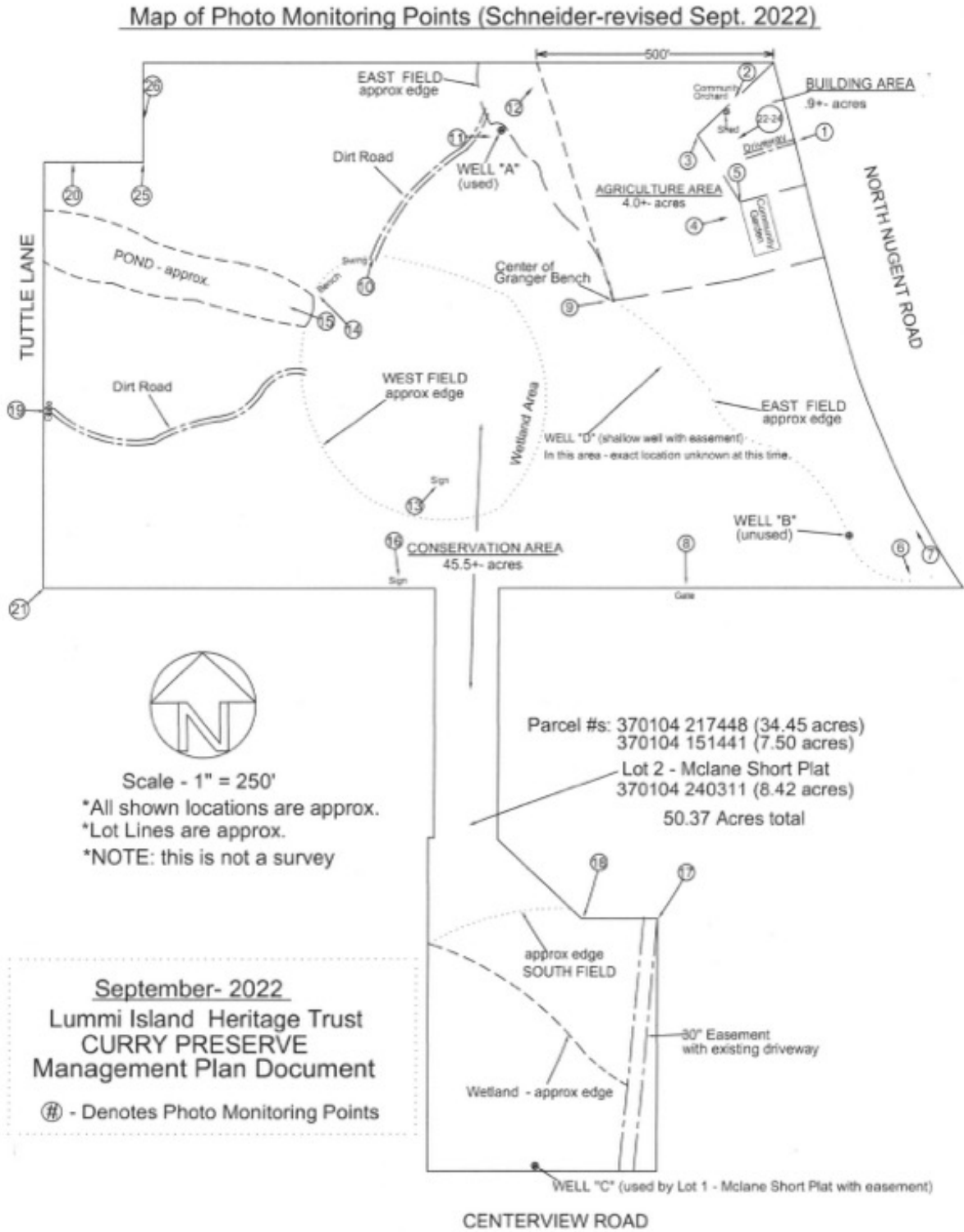
Management Plan Document (Schneider- updated Sept. 2022)





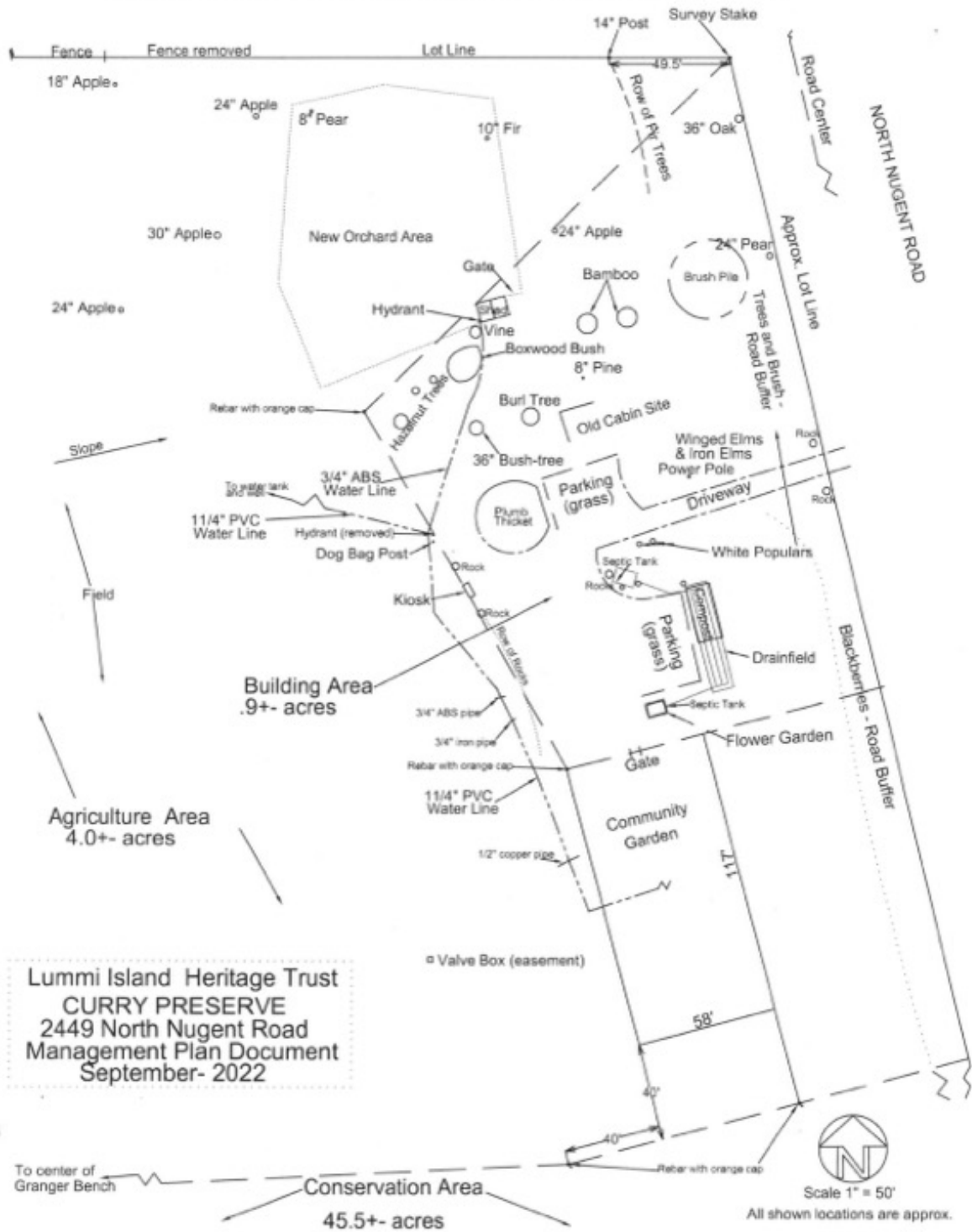


## D. Photo Monitoring Map



## E. Orchard and Garden Area Map

Orchard and Garden Area Map (Schneider- updated-6/2/22)



## Appendix F: Curry Community Orchard Policy

### *CURRY ORCHARD POLICY*

April 14, 2011

Dear Curry Orchard Stewards,

The blackberries are gone, the soil is tilled, young fruit trees are planted, and it is good to see your active support for the agricultural heritage of the Curry Preserve. Thank you!

The Heritage Trust strives to make sure our nature preserves are friendly, safe places for everyone to enjoy, and to develop positive, respectful relationships with all of our neighbors, especially the property owners who border our preserves.

In consideration for other preserve visitors and our neighbors, we ask that you observe the following policies for the Curry Orchard:

Please use non-reflective, natural **materials** in “earth-tone” colors for orchard construction and for coverings whenever possible, such as brown tarps for covering piles of compost or debris. Please do not use reflective ribbon to discourage birds.

Please **park** in the mowed areas to the right of driveway and left, near the compost station. Please do not park in the field. Whenever possible, please park out of view from neighbors’ homes, and do not cross neighbor’s property to enter the orchard area.

Please keep **voices** low and extra noise to a minimum. (We know that mowers, tractors, and tillers are an exception).

Please uphold the Heritage Trust dog policy: **dogs** are allowed at the Curry Preserve *on-leash* only.

As busy Orchard Stewards, you are frequent users of the Curry Preserve. Therefore Orchard Stewards, especially, are expected to model respect for all visitors and our neighbors by observing Heritage Trust policies.

The Heritage Trust’s board and staff welcome your comments and questions about these policies and any other ideas you have about the Curry Preserve. We greatly appreciate the stewardship that you provide for the Curry Preserve!

## Appendix G: Curry Garden Policy

### *CURRY GARDEN POLICY*

April 13, 2010

Dear Curry Gardener,

The garden is flourishing, the apple orchard is healthy, and it is good to see your active support for the agricultural aspect of the Curry Preserve. Thank you!

The Heritage Trust strives to make sure our nature preserves are friendly, safe places for everyone to enjoy, and to develop positive, respectful relationships with all of our neighbors, especially the property owners who border our preserves.

In consideration for other preserve visitors and our neighbors, we ask that you observe the following policies for the Curry Garden:

- Please use non-reflective, natural **materials** in “earth-tone” colors for garden construction and for coverings whenever possible, such as brown tarps for covering piles of compost or debris.
- Please **park** in the mowed areas to the north (right of driveway) and northeast of the garden (near compost station). Whenever possible, please park out of view from neighbors’ homes.
- Please keep **voices** low and extra noise to a minimum. (We know that mowers, tractors and tillers are an exception).
- Please uphold the Heritage Trust dog policy: **dogs** are allowed at the Curry Preserve *on-leash* only.

As busy gardeners, you are perhaps the most frequent users of the Curry Preserve. Therefore gardeners, especially, are expected to model respect for all visitors and our neighbors by observing Heritage Trust policies.

The Heritage Trust’s board and staff welcome your comments and questions about these policies and any other ideas you have about the Curry Garden. We greatly appreciate the stewardship that gardeners provide for the Curry Preserve!