

EBEY'S LANDING NATIONAL HISTORICAL RESERVE



*Protecting
America's Cultural
Heritage*

Whidbey Island, WA



The Reserve

Ebey's Landing is the first national historical reserve, created in 1978 to protect a rural working landscape and community on Central Whidbey Island in Washington State. The reserve contains over 17,500 acres, 18 working farms, more than 400 nationally significant historic structures, native prairies, two state parks, miles of shoreline, a network of hiking and biking trails, and the second oldest town in Washington. Ebey's Reserve is managed by a nine-member volunteer Trust Board representing four governmental partners.



A Historical Working Landscape

Ebey's National Historical Reserve is a national model for sustainable development in rural communities. It is the only remaining area in the Puget Sound region where a broad spectrum of Northwest history is clearly visible and protected within a landscape that is lived in and actively farmed. It is preserved using new conservation tactics, and by leaving the land in primarily private ownership while preserving its historic, cultural and rural character. Conservation tools include easements, land use planning, sustainable development models and education.



Rural Heritage at Risk

The greatest threat to the Reserve's rural heritage is from encroaching development of working farms dating back to the 1850's. In order to provide an exceptional learning environment, and a destination where visitors and local citizens have fun, explore nature, discover history, find inspiration, and improve health and fitness, we must preserve these cultural resources on which all of these endeavors are based.



Land & Water Conservation Fund

Since the establishment of Ebey's Landing NHR, LWCF has helped protect approximately 1,500 acres within the reserve, ensuring public access to a historic cultural landscape. Ebey's seeks critical funding from LWCF to purchase conservation easements and access on high priority heritage lands that remain unprotected.