

148.5: Norwood Island (private land)

This island is privately owned but has a conservation easement for restoration activities. This easement includes a provision for camping use for Water Trail purposes. We suggest camping on the downstream end, where the take-out point is a little easier because of a gentler slope of the gravel beach. The island itself is amazing, with an abundance of habitat throughout its 80 acres. Some restoration work has already begun. Benton County, Willamette Riverkeeper, and the Institute for Natural Resources are developing restoration goals for the island. The backchannel is also very pleasant, and you can see the confluence of the Long Tom River.



Osprey can be found all along the Willamette River from mid-March through October. In the other months they migrate to and from the southern U.S. and Mexico. They are about two-thirds the size of Bald Eagles and fly slowly over the water, scanning for fish. Osprey will typically dive quickly and hit the water. If they emerge with a fish (usually a sucker), they will adjust the fish, head in front, as they fly away.



Navigation Hazard:
Old wood bridge.
Watch for strainers in this backchannel—the current can be swift.