

The Treasure of Cama Beach

Everybody needs beauty as well as bread, places to play in and pray in, where nature may heal and give strength to body and soul. - John Muir

A Haven for Wildlife

Keep an eye on the water. You may spot a curious Harbor Seal or River Otter. In the spring, look for Gray Whales headed north and south to sift mouthfuls of sandy bottom for Ghost Shrimp. Watch the woods for deer, squirrels and woodpeckers. Explore our Cranberry Lake upland marsh for beavers and their toothy work. Overhead, you'll see majestic Bald Eagles and Great Blue Herons. In the lower intertidal zone, look for the Lewis's Moon Snail, the world's largest moon snail.

Centuries of History

For more than 1,600 years Cama Beach supported a summer village of Coast Salish peoples who gathered fish, shellfish, berries and other bounty from nearby shores and woods. In the late 1800s it became a logging camp, and in the 1930s a family fishing resort that operated until 1989.

Biologically Diverse Habitat

Washington State Parks acquired Cama Beach in 1994. In

2008 they opened it to the public. This park is a treasure for many reasons.

It is biologically diverse. With more than 6,000 feet of shoreline and extensive eelgrass beds, it attracts finger-size forage fish and the salmon that feed on them. Look for clams, crabs, marine plants, shorebirds, marine mammals and other wildlife. Cama Beach is part of a larger habitat system that remains largely undisturbed, including some 433 acres of upland forest.



Bald Eagle



Gray Whale Fluke



River Otter



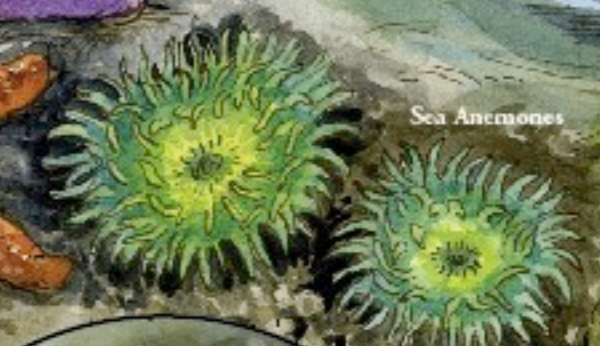
Black-tailed Deer



Douglas Squirrel



Sea Stars



Sea Anemones



Red Rock Crab



Lined Chiton

Chitons feed on algae. Often they return from grazing to the same homing place.

Please leave all living creatures where you find them.



Lewis's Moon Snail

Egg case collar

Clam with bored hole

Salal

www.islandcountymrc.org



Cama Beach is protected today as a natural area thanks to the vision and stewardship of private benefactors, area tribes, community volunteers and Washington State Parks. This signage by Island County Marine Resources Committee is funded in part through a cooperative agreement with the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration, CZM 310 grant agreement G1009002.