

CULLABY LAKE COUNTY PARK

Location:	End of Hawkins Road off of Cullaby Lake Lane, ½ mile east of Hwy. 101 between mileposts 13-14, south of Warrenton
Size:	165 acres
Ownership Status:	County
Land-use zone:	Recreation Management (RM) Lake and Wetlands (LW)
Classification:	Shared-use, Gateway

Description/Natural Features:

Cullaby Lake County Park is a popular day-use waterfront park with natural and developed recreation facilities. Features include access to the 219-acre Cullaby Lake with 4,400 linear feet of shoreline, beaches, natural areas, and community park amenities dominate this high intensity park site.

Public boat launches, docks, swimming beaches, fishing areas, wetlands interpretative trail and diverse recreation and park amenities. This park is the only developed public lake waterskiing and power boating facility in the county.



Facility Inventory:

- 2 concrete motorized and non-motorized boat launch ramp facilities
- 2 docks for transient moorage and fishing access
- Paved automobile and trailer parking areas
- Play equipment located at north picnic area
- 3 horseshoe pits
- 2 swim beaches (1 at north picnic area, 1 at south picnic area)
- Sandy bottom; mowed grassy bank; roped designated swim area; no lifeguard provided by county
- Bank access fishing areas
- 2 volleyball courts
- North picnic area: picnic shelter, 1 large covered grill, 4 pedestal grills and 29 picnic tables.
- South picnic area: picnic shelter, 5 pedestal grills and 19 picnic tables
- Restrooms: 1 accessible restroom at north picnic area and boat launch, 1 restroom at



- south picnic area
- Drinking fountains: 2 in north picnic area, 1 in south picnic area
- Trash receptacles: 10 at north picnic area, 6 at south picnic area
- Primitive and developed trails with signage and wetlands viewing platform
- Historic Lindgren Cabin
- Wetlands interpretative trail
- Park caretaker and maintenance facility
- Fee collection site



Cultural/Historical Significance:

The Clatsop people had summer camps at Cullaby Lake, and Lewis and Clark reference this site in their writings. As many as 50 cedar dugout canoes, whose purpose may have been ceremonial burial by the native Clatsop people, were exposed when lake levels were artificially lowered.

Cullaby was the name of a son and grandson of a sailor who washed ashore near Tillamook after a shipwreck. The sailor and his wife moved north to live with the Clatsop people making the lake their home for part of each year. The son was mentioned in the diaries of Lewis and Clark and is the origin of the lake's name. The grandson was living by the lake when settlers began arriving in the area.



The historic Lindgren Cabin, an example of early pioneer home construction, was moved from its original site near Soapstone Lake to Cullaby Lake County Park. This building is owned by the Finnish American Cultural Society and is opened periodically for tours.

Geological Significance:

Between 4,000 and 5,000 years ago, the eastern side of Cullaby Lake was the ocean shore, as evidenced by the unearthing of non-native species of logs buried in the area that had been washed ashore by the ocean that many years ago. The gradual development of sand dunes on what is now the western side of Cullaby Lake was the precursor to bogs, estuarine sloughs, streams and lakes.



Cullaby Creek feeds Cullaby Lake and outlets into the Skipanon River and eventually the Columbia River at Warrenton.

History:

Around the late 1800s or 1900, a ditch was created between Cullaby Lake and the old Skipanon Creek for the purpose of logging transport and wetland drainage. In addition to logging, cranberry bogs on the west side of the lake were productive for residents in the 1900s. Around 1960, a Soil and Water Conservation project resulted in a water control structure at Cullaby Lake's north outflow, which created the Cullaby Lake recreation area, with a parking lot, picnic areas, restrooms, boat ramps and a boat basin. In 1966 the annual Astoria Regatta was held on Cullaby Lake, and in March of 1968 the Board of County Commissioners designated the 165-acre site as the "Cullaby Lake County Park and Recreation Area."

Acquisition by County:

Cullaby Lake County Park was created from several parcels acquired by the county due to delinquent property taxes. The lake's waterfront has been used for recreation for many years and was officially designated a county park in 1968.