# Amphibians of Union Bay Natural Area: Assessing and Restoring the Habitat Corridor

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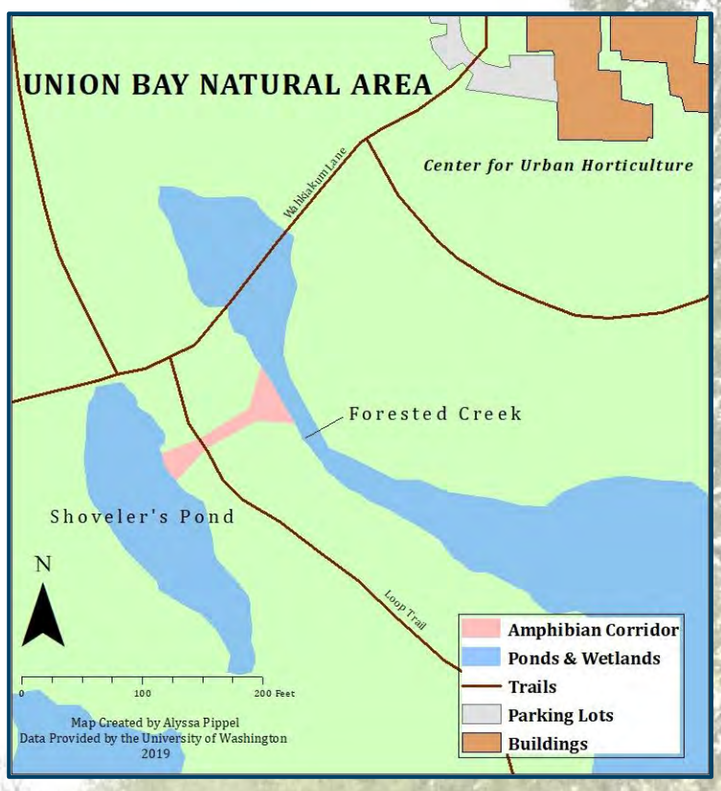
## Background

In 2015, an MEH student installed an amphibian corridor in UBNA to connect Shoveler's Pond with a nearby creek. This project assesses the state and amphibian use of the corridor to inform the enhancement of amphibian habitat and connectivity in this site and throughout UBNA.




## Assessment of Habitat Use: Amphibian Surveys

Light-touch adult and egg mass surveys were conducted. Several adult **long-toed salamanders** and at least one **red-legged frog** have been observed in the corridor.

*Long-toed salamanders in the corridor*

## Habitat Considerations & Requirements

Connectivity is essential to wildlife, especially amphibians because they use both terrestrial and aquatic habitats during their lifetime. Shade, leaf litter, and woody debris are crucial for amphibians.

## Restoration Approach

Invasive plant species will be removed and replaced with native plant communities that include deciduous and low-growing species. Large woody debris will be recruited to provide habitat and food.

## Ecological Value

Amphibians indicate healthy communities. With UBNA's recent history as a landfill, the presence of native amphibians demonstrates how remarkable and successful restoration in this area has been.

## Plant Selection

The corridor spans three microclimates that will be planted with different communities: Douglas fir-Hemlock forest, red alder riparian, and willow wetland.

**For questions or to get involved, email: abbell23@uw.edu**

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