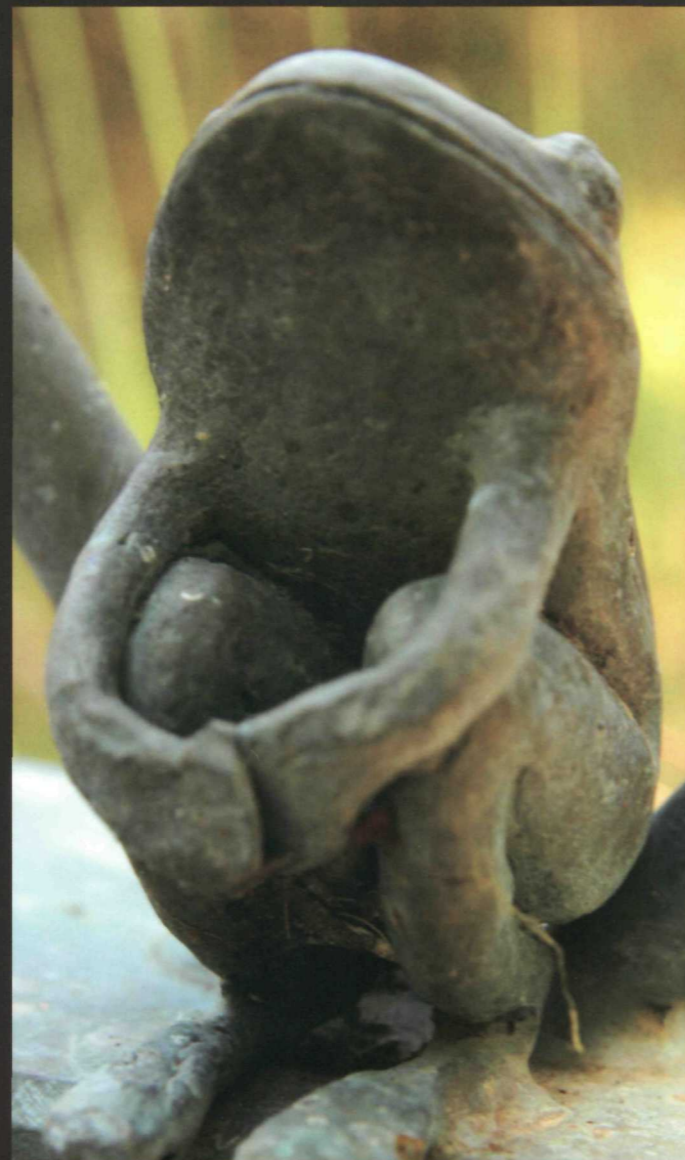


Art Trail

Willapa National Wildlife Refuge



“An artist struggles to capture what nature effortlessly creates.”

— Brian M. LaSaga



Top: The cut out word “oncorhynchus” is the genus name for salmon and trout. This skeleton celebrates life not death.

Slow down. Take it easy
Wildflowers in spring, a shady grove of alder in summer, geese flying south in fall, or a snort of steam from an elk’s nostrils on a cold winter’s day—experiences in wild places give us fresh perspective and rejuvenate our spirit.

This trail is dedicated to you. It meanders, widens and narrows because your walk is about the journey not the destination. Clear your mind of life’s hassles and ease down the Willapa National Wildlife Refuge’s Art Trail. It’s simple: Look and reflect. Stop and listen. Enjoy!

Bottom: A dragonfly table is surrounded by bay creatures that may be small but are very important.

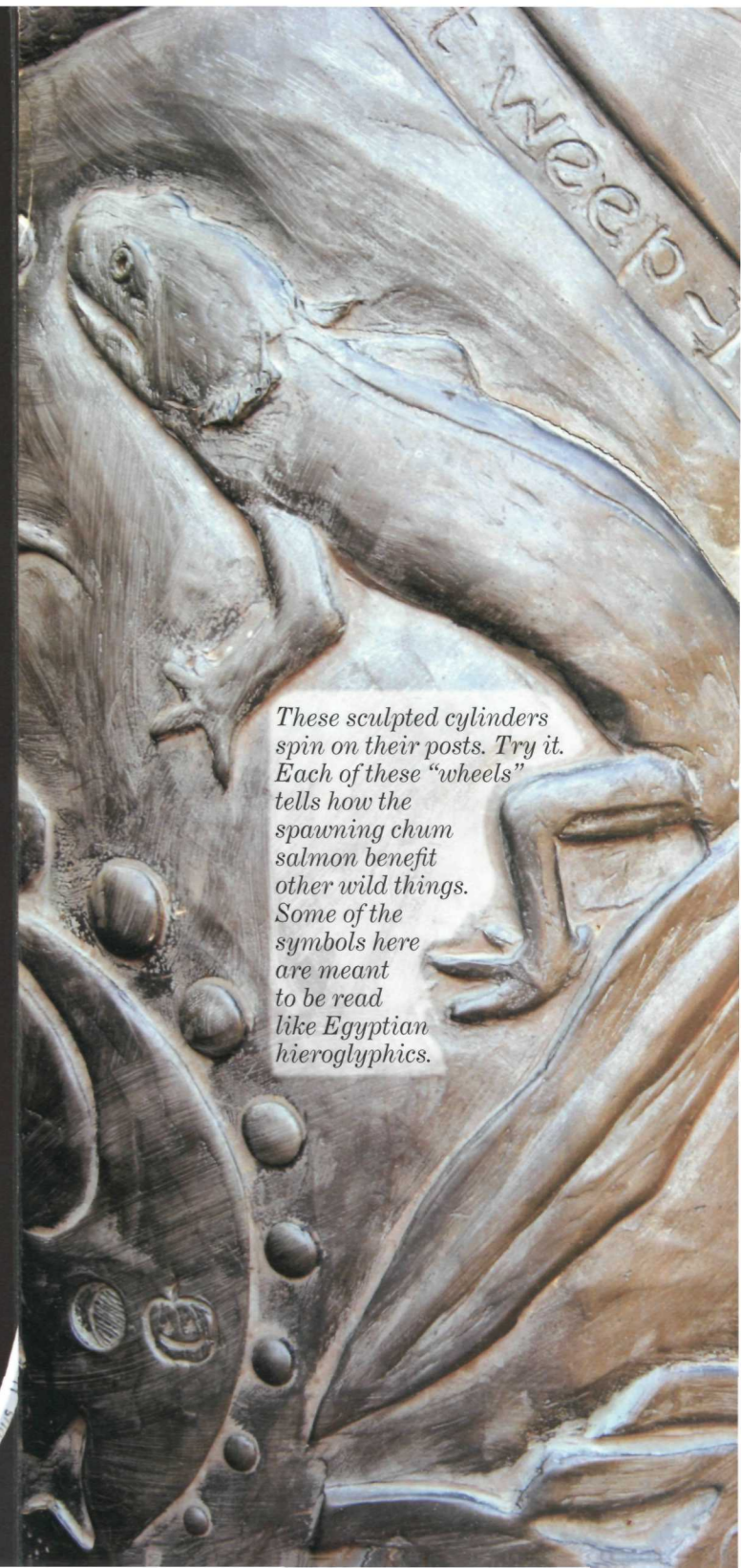


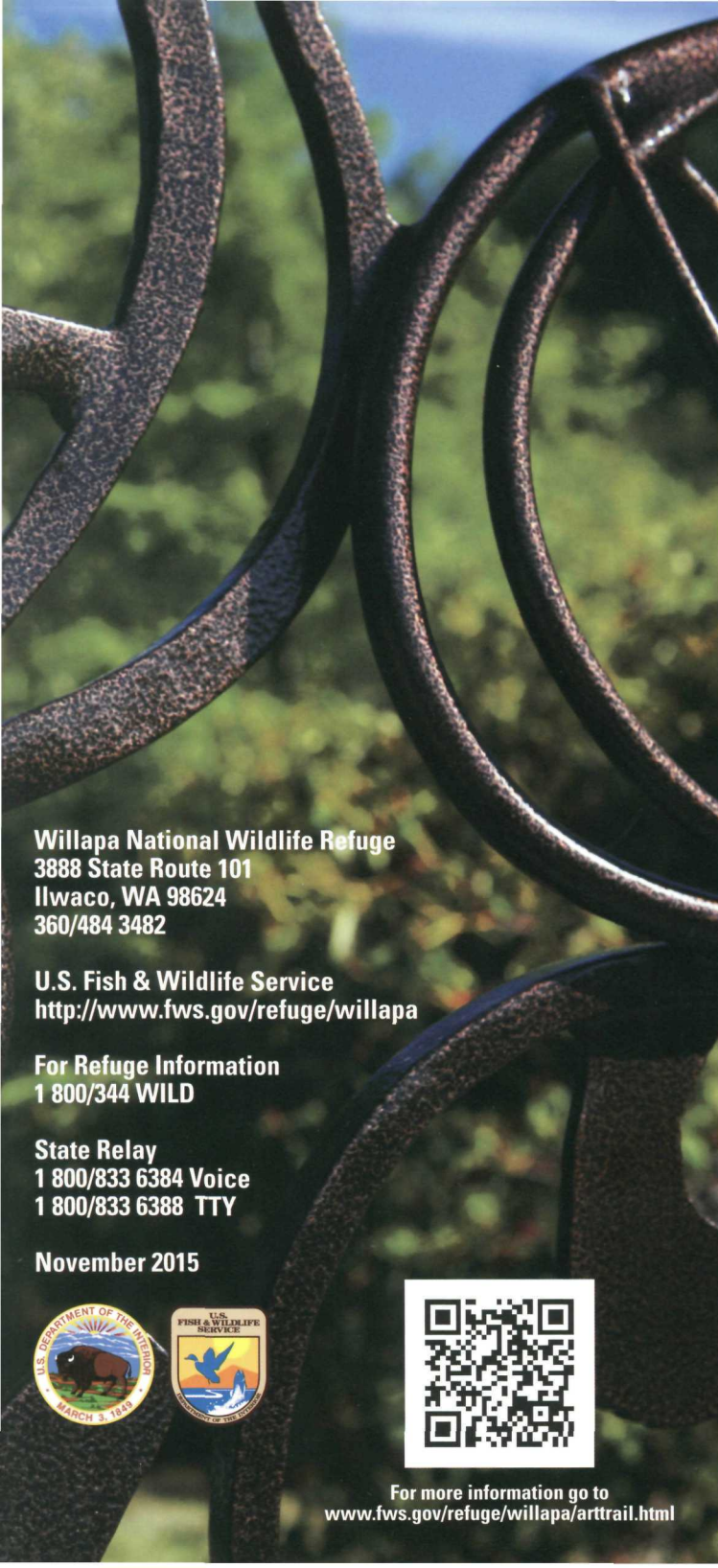
You can find this guy in the “Amphibitheater.”

Follow the colorful birds as trail guides.



These sculpted cylinders spin on their posts. Try it. Each of these “wheels” tells how the spawning chum salmon benefit other wild things. Some of the symbols here are meant to be read like Egyptian hieroglyphics.





Willapa National Wildlife Refuge
3888 State Route 101
Ilwaco, WA 98624
360/484 3482

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
<http://www.fws.gov/refuge/willapa>

For Refuge Information
1 800/344 WILD

State Relay
1 800/833 6384 Voice
1 800/833 6388 TTY

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For more information go to
www.fws.gov/refuge/willapa/arttrail.html



Back Cover:
Plankton forms
cover the entry
gate.

Top: Famed
biologist, E. O.
Wilson called
extinction "the
death of birth."
These oversized
feathers ask us to
reflect upon the
extinction rate of
birds as 1 in 8.

Bottom:
Labyrinths
are for
contemplation.
Walk the maze
and reflect upon
the natural world
around you. Note
the quotation by
Pascal nearby.



Above: What if
a stream were
vertical and
sections of it
placed side-by-
side? This is the
idea behind these
columns.



Below: Look for this
"sister to the butterfly"
on floating rocks.

Left: Steel fish in
the trees remind
us year-round
that salmon
spawn in the
stream.

The names
of artists and
benefactors
are on these
obelisk-like
post caps.



The Art Trail a bayside gallery at Willapa National Wildlife Refuge



do not rush past this maze of lines, stop, meditate, listen
 woody debris is important in a stream, cross here at the
 use caution descending these

through this spongy wet terrain, you'll cross three
 on the return loop notice the new life on the
 at the resting bench, you can see the details of the
 cool shade, the sound of the stream, take a break at this
 potent symbols of the northwest come together here: the forest and the fish join to be
 bronze inhabitants of this stream are displayed for you in the four pillars of the

look for the bronze larval houses of this stream insect at the
 not all the amphibians are in the amphitheater some are out like this
 willapa is particularly rich in amphibian species; how many bronze replicas can you find in the
 just like the real thing, you'll find hiding under this log a
 perched on the rail here is a small

ocean nutrients are great for plants; salmon bring the ocean inland for trees, flowers, grasses and shrubs; spin this leafy tale
 all kinds of bugs and crawlies living in the stream get a boost when the spawning salmon return; spin the invertebrates
 the return of the spawning salmon benefit many species who enjoy a tasty meal; turn and learn at
 from the bones of the parents spring the next generation of salmon; the bay is their nursery; rotate the salmon life cycle at the boardwalk's
 many species rely on the death of spawning adult salmon; far from the end, life is celebrated with the
 each contributor is acknowledged on these bird and salmon
 written onto this salmon rib is the genus of pacific salmon & trout...
 the boardwalk up to the cutthroat bridge was designed to be
 three warty jumping slugs adorn this
 relax and have a picnic lunch at the
 during your visit, notice little creatures like this
 a dark-eyed junco and a killdeer are the first of many
 stand with your back to the entrance, face north and look at
 there is more information at the kiosk in the

red-breasted sapsucker
 labyrinth
 varied thrush
 intersected logs
 steep steps
 bridges
 nurse stumps
 violet-green swallow
 salmon silhouettes
 tree salmon
 resting bench
 upturned stream
 caddisfly rocks
 bronze newt
 amphitheater
 bronze northwestern salamander
 bronze chorus frog
 spinner no. 4
 spinner no. 3
 spinner no. 2
 spinner no. 1
 big wide spot
 meandering boardwalk
 giant salmon bones
 oncorhynchus
 post caps
 universally accessible
 brochure rack
 dragonfly table
 giant waterbug
 directional bird signs
 diatom & algae gate
 long island
 parking lot

marbled murrelet
 barred owl
 stair bridge over downed tree
 hand-tailed pigeon
 track panel
 stellar's jay/winter wren
 common yellowthroat
 start cutthroat climb trail
 missing
 headquarter's stream
 red-legged frog leap arcs
 one-in-eight
 oxbow pool
 view willapa bay
 sedge meadow

shorebird swirl: staging shorebirds take off for the arctic
 bronze shards tell how the oily sheen in the bay is natural plant decomposition
 winter tides lap at the boardwalk
 muddy: people commonly sink to their knees in this tidal mud flat
 rufous hummingbird points the way to the boardwalk
 worm bench celebrates a seldom seen invertebrate
 juga snail, on this bench, signals a healthy stream

three total
 nine total
 arch points to the cutthroat climb
 2/3-mile loop in steep terrain
 home to many creatures large and small
 in bronze show how far these amphibians can leap
 is home to many rough-skinned newts near this overlook
 a good spot to take it all in
 where grassy waves lap at the boardwalk

where grassy waves lap at the boardwalk

points the way to the boardwalk
 celebrates a seldom seen invertebrate
 signals a healthy stream

there is more information at the kiosk in the