# HENDERSON PROPERTY

**CITY OF TUMWATER, WASHINGTON**

## MAZAMA POCKET GOPHER REPORT

*Prepared By:*

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Senior Biologist and Principal

EnviroVector
OPTIMIZE USABLE LAND

10 July 2023

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10 July 2023

Jeff Pantier
Hatton-Godat-Pantier
3910 Martin Way E, Suite B
Olympia, WA 98502

Reference: 7501 HENDERSON BLVD SE
Subject: Mazama Pocket Gopher Screening

Dear Mr. Pantier:

At your request, EnviroVector has prepared this Mazama pocket gopher report on the subject property (**Table 1; Figure 1**).

**Table 1. Subject Property**

| No# | Address | Parcel Number | Map Coordinates | Area |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 7501 HENDERSON BLVD SE | 12711110300 | S11 T17N R2W | 10 |
| 1 Parcel | Total Size | | | 10 acres |

The permitting jurisdiction is the City of Tumwater.

## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this study is to evaluate whether Mazama pocket gopher mounds occur on the subject property and to summarize the findings of the field evaluation. However, the entire subject property is entirely forested with dense understory vegetation.

The USFWS (2019) Mazama Pocket Gopher Screening Protocol Checklist states that conditions that would not require screening includes "Sites with greater than 30 percent forested cover with dense understory and no openings." The subject property is a site with greater than thirty percent (>30%) forested cover with dense understory and no openings (**Figures 2 & 3**; **Appendix A, Photos 1-12**). The subject property satisfies the USFWS forested condition to preclude any additional gopher screenings.

Mazama pocket gopher screening occurred on 15 June 2023.

## 2.0 METHODOLOGY

A Mazama pocket gopher screening was performed per City of Tumwater recommendations in compliance with the USFWS (2019) Mazama Pocket Gopher Screening Protocol Checklist during the USFWS prescribed survey window (June 1st through October 31st).

Soils known to be associated with the Mazama pocket gopher are listed in **Insert 2**.

**Insert 2. Mazama pocket gopher soils**

Table 1. Soils known to be associated with Mazama pocket gopher occupancy.

| Mazama Pocket Gopher Preference | Soil Type |
|---|---|
| More Preferred<br><br>(formerly High and Medium Preference Soils) | Nisqually loamy fine sand, 0 to 3 percent slopes<br>Nisqually loamy fine sand, 3 to 15 percent slopes<br>Spanaway-Nisqually complex, 2 to 10 percent slopes<br>Cagey loamy sand<br>Indianola loamy sand, 0 to 3 percent slopes<br>Spanaway gravelly sandy loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes<br>Spanaway gravelly sandy loam, 3 to 15% slopes |
| Less Preferred<br><br>(formerly Low Preference Soils) | Alderwood gravelly sandy loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes<br>Alderwood gravelly sandy loam, 3 to 15 percent slopes<br>Everett very gravelly sandy loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes<br>Everett very gravelly sandy loam, 3 to 15 percent slopes<br>Indianola loamy sand, 3 to 15 percent slopes<br>Kapowsin silt loam, 3 to 15 percent slopes<br>McKenna gravelly silt loam, 0 to 5 percent slopes<br>Norma fine sandy loam<br>Norma silt loam<br>Spana gravelly loam<br>Spanaway stony sandy loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes<br>Spanaway stony sandy loam, 3 to 15 percent slopes<br>Yelm fine sandy loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes<br>Yelm fine sandy loam, 3 to 15 percent slopes |

## 3.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

### 3.1 Thurston County Geodatabase Soils

Gopher indicator soils are mapped over almost the entire subject property by the Thurston County Geodata Center database (**Appendices B & C**). Two (2) "more preferred" and one (1) "less preferred" gopher indicator soil type has been mapped on the entire subject property by the Thurston County Geodata Center database (**Appendix B & C; Table 2**).

**Table 2. Summary of Soil**

| Soil Unit | Gopher Indicator Soil | Preference | Comments |
|---|---|---|---|
| Indianola loamy sand 3-15% slopes | Yes | Less Preferred | Completely Forested |
| Nisqually loamy fine sand 3-15% slopes | Yes | More Preferred | |
| Indianola loamy sand 0-3% slopes | Yes | More Preferred | |

### 3.2 WDFW Priority Habitats and Species (PHS) Database

No Mazama pocket gophers have been mapped on the subject property by the WDFW Priority Habitat Species (PHS) database (**Appendix D**).

The Mazama pocket gopher has been mapped offsite approximately across Henderson Boulevard.

## 4.0 FIELD RESULTS

### 4.1 Mazama Pocket Gopher Site Evaluation

The USFWS (2019) Mazama Pocket Gopher Screening Protocol Checklist states that conditions that would not require screening includes "Sites with greater than 30 percent forested cover with dense understory and no openings." The subject property is a site with greater than thirty percent (>30%) forested cover with dense understory and no openings (**Figures 2 & 3**; **Appendix A, Photos 1-12**). The subject property satisfies the USFWS forested condition to preclude any additional gopher screenings.

### 4.2 Mazama Pocket Gopher Habitat Evaluation

No Mazama pocket gopher habitat occurs on the subject property. The subject property is a site with greater than thirty percent (>30%) forested cover with dense understory and no openings (**Figures 2 & 3**; **Appendix A, Photos 1-12**).

## 5.0 CONCLUSION

This Mazama pocket gopher summary report was prepared to summarize the results of Mazama pocket gopher screening.

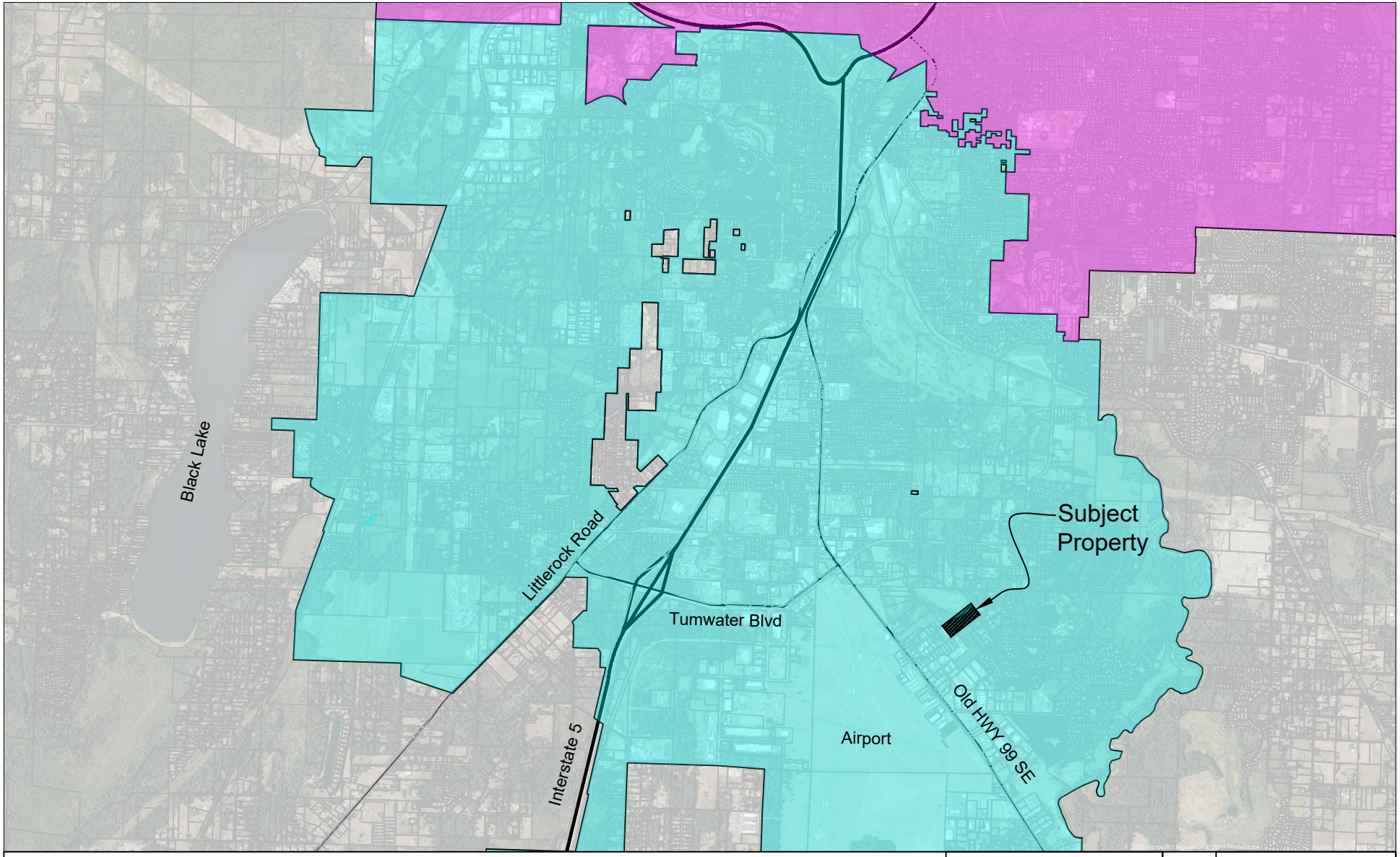
The USFWS (2019) Mazama Pocket Gopher Screening Protocol Checklist states that conditions that would not require screening includes "Sites with greater than 30 percent forested cover with dense understory and no openings." The subject property is a site with greater than thirty percent (>30%) forested cover with dense understory and no openings (**Figures 2 & 3**; **Appendix A, Photos 1-12**). The subject property satisfies the USFWS forested condition to preclude any additional gopher screenings.

If you have any questions or require further services, you can contact me at (360) 790-1559.

Sincerely,

Curtis Wambach, M.S.
Senior Biologist and Principal
EnviroVector

# FIGURES

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City of Tumwater

City of Olympia

**Figure 1**

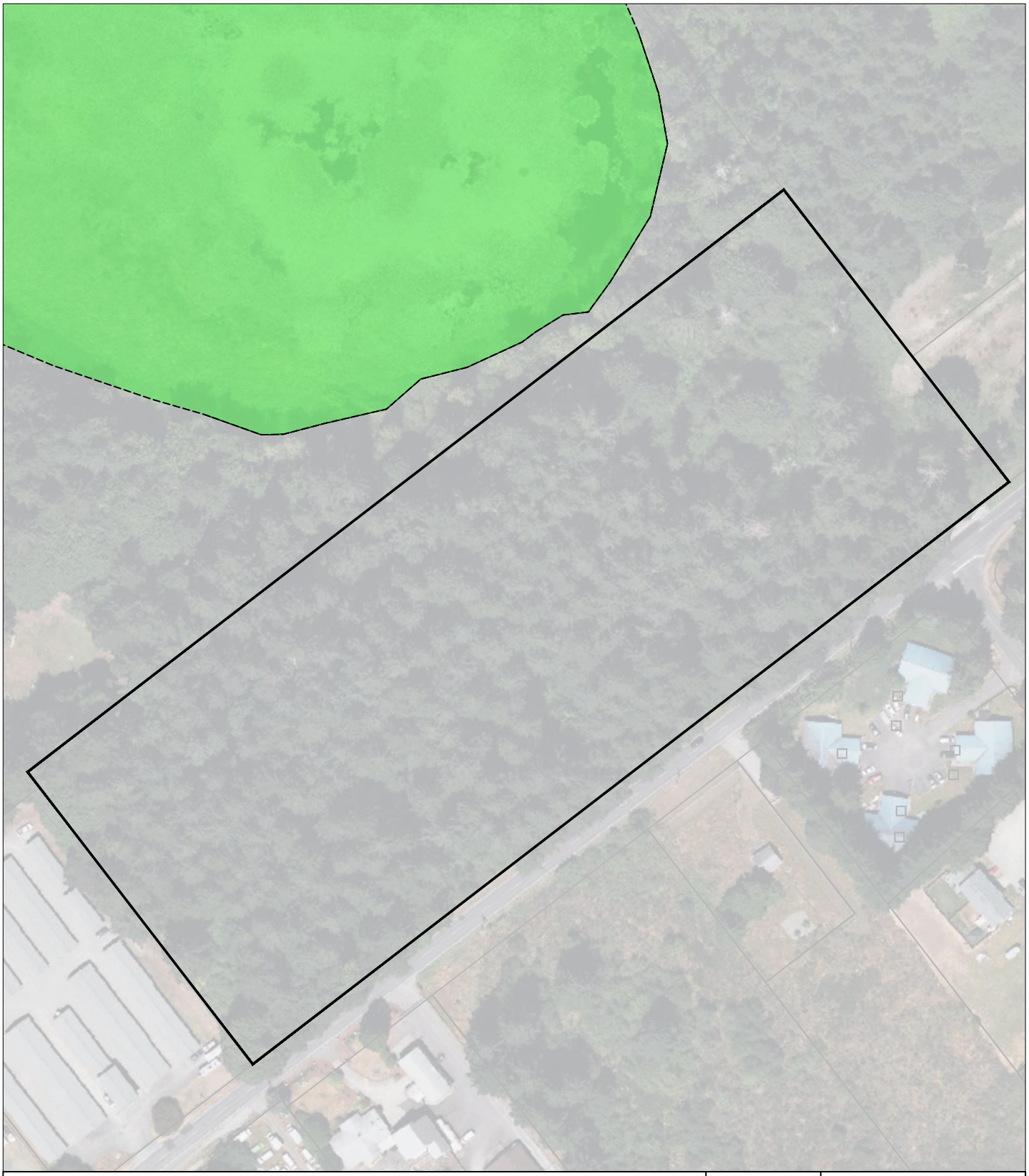
Henderson

Vicinity Map

Scale: 1" = 4000'

0 4000'

26 June 2023



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Wetland (Confirmed)

Wetland (Agency Mapped & LiDAR)

Streams

**Figure 2**

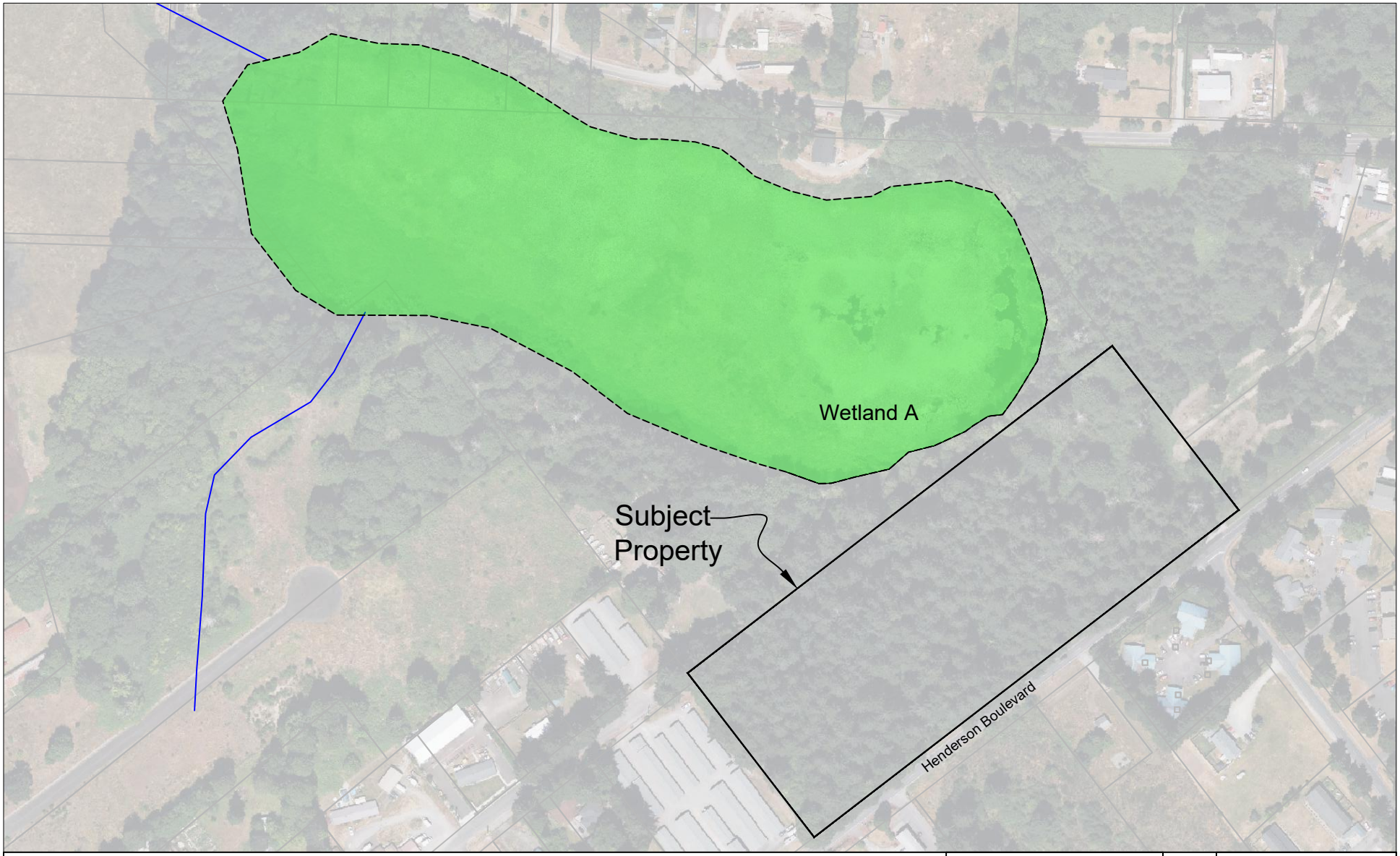
Henderson

Existing Conditions

Scale: 1"= 150'

0 150'

26 June 2023

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Wetland (Confirmed)

Wetland (Agency Mapped & LiDAR)

**Figure 3**

Henderson

Existing Conditions
Wetland A

N

Scale: 1" = 270'

0 270'

26 June 2023

# APPENDIX A

# Photo Documentation


Photo 1. Dense forest and understory


Photo 2. Dense forest and understory


Photo 3. Dense forest and understory


Photo 4. Standing water in wetlands


Photo 5. Dense forest and understory


Photo 6. Standing water in wetlands


Photo 7. Dense forest and understory


Photo 8. Dense forest and understory

Photo 9. Diagonal tunnel opening on edge of mound

Photo 10. Diagonal tunnel opening on edge of mound

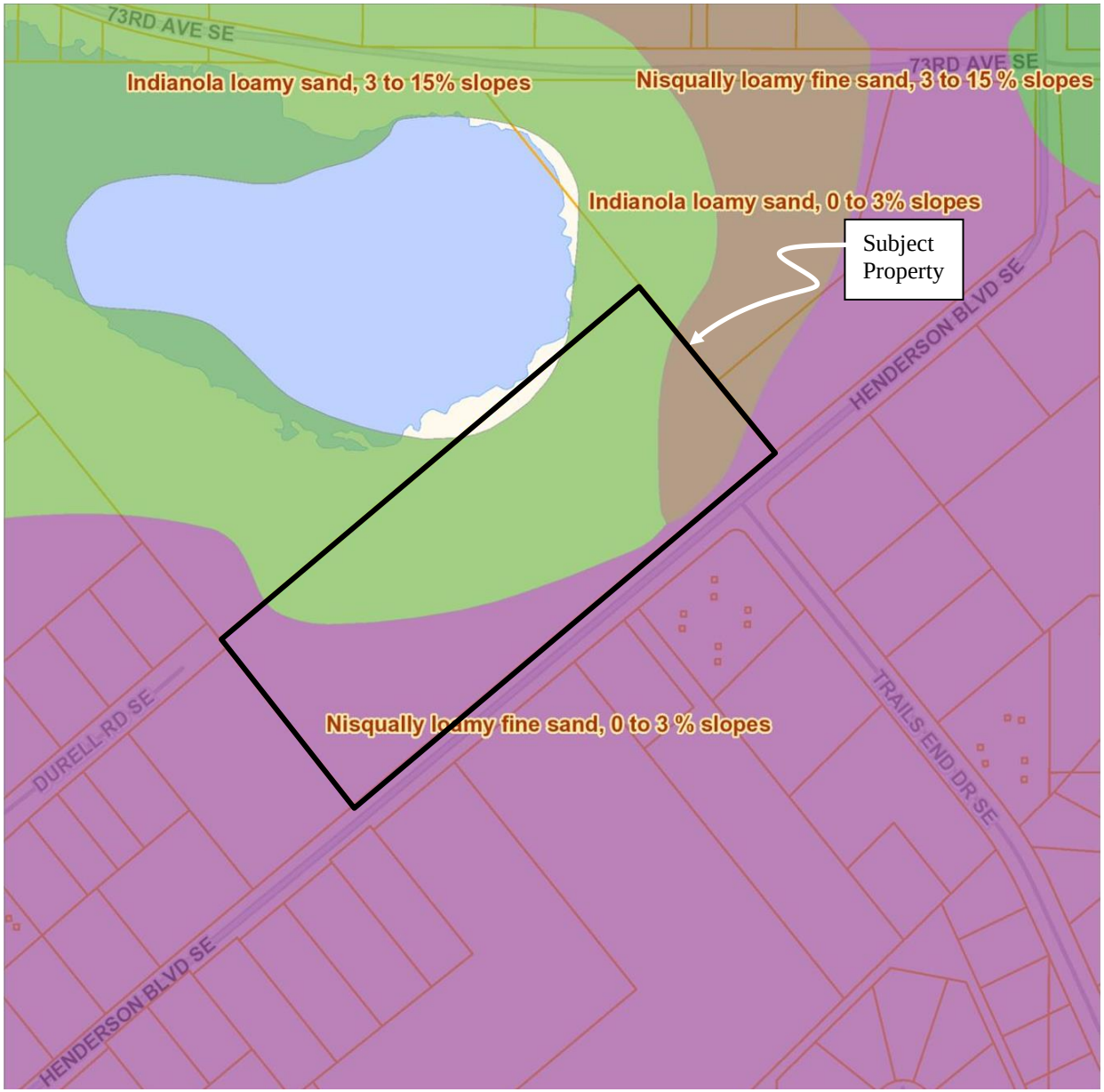
Photo 11. Diagonal tunnel opening on edge of mound

Photo 12. Diagonal tunnel opening on edge of mound

# APPENDIX B

# Thurston County Geodatabase

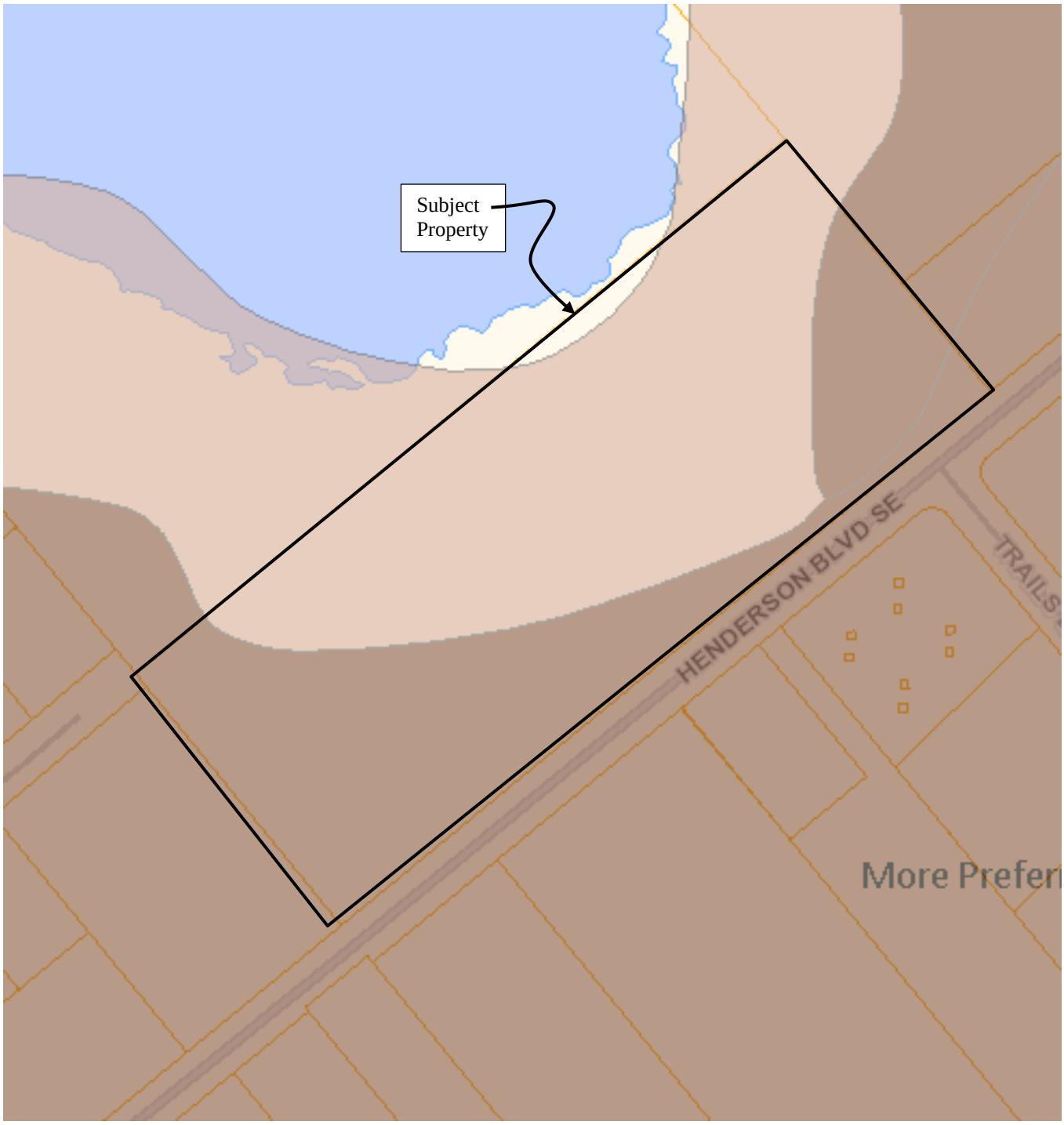
# Soils


73RD AVE SE
Indianola loamy sand, 3 to 15% slopes
73RD AVE SE
Nisqually loamy fine sand, 3 to 15 % slopes
Indianola loamy sand, 0 to 3% slopes
Subject Property
HENDERSON BLVD SE
Nisqually loamy fine sand, 0 to 3 % slopes
DURELL RD SE
TRAILS END DR SE
HENDERSON BLVD SE

# APPENDIX C

# Thurston County Geodatabase

# Gopher Indicator Soils


Subject
Property
HENDERSON BLVD SE
TRAILS
More Prefer

# APPENDIX D

# Priority Habitats and Species

# (PHS)

Berry Valley Road