

RIVER RESTORATION



Historically, the lower East Fork Lewis River in southwest Washington flowed through a network of winding channels and wetlands, providing important habitat for

wildlife and an ideal nursery for young salmon. Over time, gravel mining and development confined the river to a single narrow channel, resulting in warmer water, degraded habitat, and increased flooding and erosion.

The Estuary Partnership, together with local partners, is restoring the river to its natural flow to rebuild healthy habitats, reduce flooding and erosion, and create more places for people to enjoy the river.

How the river is being restored:

- Removing levees and berms that once confined the river.
- Filling unused gravel pits.
- Constructing side channels, wetlands and floodplain habitat.
- Installing large wood structures.
- Planting thousands of native plants.

Learn more about the East Fork Lewis River restoration:



LARGE WOOD STRUCTURES



You will see many “large wood structures” at the site. They may look messy but are essential for the restoration.

These structures:

Create Shelter



Logs create hiding places that protect young salmon and other fish from predators.

Calm the River



Logs form slow pools where fish can rest and grow and reduce river erosion.

Provide Food



Logs trap leaves that feed insects which then feed fish, turtles, and birds.

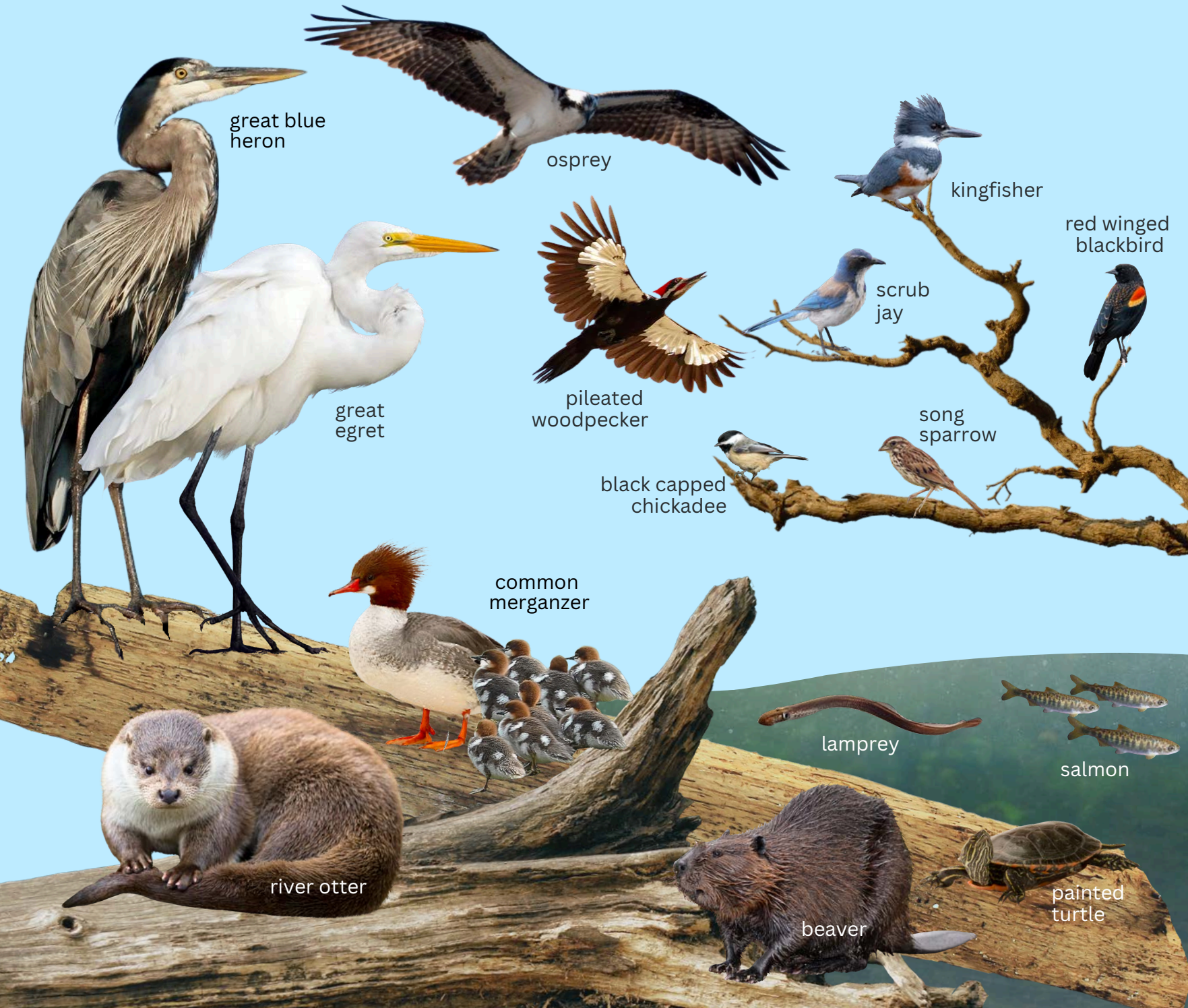
EAST FORK LEWIS RIVER FIELD TRIP



Lower Columbia
Estuary
Partnership

estuarypartnership.org

EAST FORK LEWIS RIVER WILDLIFE



great blue heron

osprey

kingfisher

red winged blackbird

scrub jay

pileated woodpecker

song sparrow

black capped chickadee

common merganser

lamprey

salmon

river otter

beaver

painted turtle

ABOUT THE FIELD TRIP



The Estuary Partnership is excited to welcome you to a hands-on science field trip at the East Fork Lewis River!

You'll help restore river health by planting trees and shrubs; explore local wildlife; and learn how ecosystems and water quality connect—all while enjoying time outdoors.

How to prepare for this all-weather, outdoor trip:



- ✓ **Food & Water:** Bring lunch, snacks, and a water bottle. Hiking makes us hungry!
- ✓ **Clothing:** Dress in warm layers and wear clothing that can get dirty.
- ✓ **Shoes:** Wear sturdy, comfortable shoes for hiking and getting muddy.



See a video preview of your field trip:

