



Willapa Bay and Grays Harbor — By the Numbers

Willapa Bay and Grays Harbor are two large coastal estuaries in southwest Washington, surrounded by Pacific County and Grays Harbor County. Located a mere 25 km apart, these “Twin Harbors” account for 37% of Washington’s wetlands.

Willapa Bay

- **2,360 km²** Size of watershed
- **34,742 ha** Average surface area at high tide
- **17.5%** Willapa National Wildlife Refuge (6,070 ha)
- State-owned aquatic lands make up **40%** of the bay and include:
 - **5.2%** Natural Area Preserves managed by DNR (1,803 ha)
 - **12.5%** Oyster Reserves (3,995 ha) & Wildlife Area Units (350 ha) managed by WDFW
 - **3** Washington State Parks:
 - Leadbetter Point (701 ha),
 - Loomis Lake (101 ha),
 - Pacific Pines (4 ha)
- (up to) **23%** Shellfish farming
- **3** Tribes with ancestral lands and waters in the area: Chinook Indian Nation, Shoalwater Bay Tribe and Lower Chehalis Tribe
- **23,365** Population Pacific County in 2020

Grays Harbor

- **6,174 km²** Size of watershed – the largest in Washington
- 25,100 ha Average surface area at high tide
- 2.4% Grays Harbor National Wildlife Refuge (607 ha)
- State-owned aquatic lands include:
 - **7.3%** Natural Area Preserves managed by DNR (1,838 ha)
 - **6.9%** Wildlife Area Units managed by WDFW (1,731 ha)
 - **2** Washington State Parks:
 - Bottle Beach (26 ha)
 - Westport Lighthouse (86 ha)
- **3%** Shellfish farming
- **2** Tribes with ancestral lands and waters in the area: Quinault Indian Nation and Lower Chehalis Tribe
- **75,636** Population of Grays Harbor in 2020



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