

## Slavin Wetlands Conservation Area Fact Sheet

Meeting Place: 12806 S. Keeney Rd Spokane WA 99224

Distance: Short loop=Quail Loop 1.4 Miles or Hike to the southern pond and back on a multitude of trails with a distance between 3.5-4.2 miles

- The James T. Slavin Conservation Area is 628 acres in size and was historically a farm operated by the Slavin Family. The family lived on High Drive on the South Hill, and only one family member ever lived on the property, Jim Slavin – one of four children in the family.
- The property was acquired in the early 2000's by Spokane County with partnership from INLC and Ducks Unlimited.
- This area is very popular for hikers and birders with well over 100 different species of birds to be found on the property.
- The elevation gain/loss is minimal at this conservation area which makes it one of the most doable for those who are unable to "climb mountains."
- In springtime deer ticks can be quite numerous on this property. It is best to lead hikes during the other three seasons of the year if one is trying to avoid ticks.
- The ponds on the property have been enhanced for wildlife habitat and they now provide great wildlife viewing opportunities.
- This conservation area is part of the larger landscape of the Channeled Scablands of Eastern Washington. This area was carved out by the Ice Age Floods and is known for the basalt rock outcroppings as well as the chains of small ponds and lakes extending southwest from this location.
- It is very common to see moose on this property and it is also known as a birthing location for Elk, so always be alert for these large mammals who may defend their young and charge human visitors.
  
- The channeled scablands are an example of a climate resilient landscape due to the water that is stored long into the late summer months which many plants and animals depend on for life.
- Fun Fact: the Vireo East trail takes you through a stand of trees with wooden signs nailed 10-12 feet up in the trees. Those are the names of the departed family pets from the Slavin Family. More of a memory garden of pets long gone than a true pet cemetery.