

Effler Family Donates 18 Acres on Homer Bluff

Gene and Mim Effler began their life in Alaska by homesteading high on the Homer bluff in 1949. They were witnesses to many changes over their years here, but the legacy of these early homesteaders will live on due to careful planning and a wish fulfilled.

In order to honor the memory of these pioneers and long-time Homer residents, Gene and Mim Effler's children and grandchildren recently donated over 18 acres to Kachemak Heritage Land Trust. The property on Skyline Drive is within the Bridge Creek Watershed Protection District, and is at the headwaters of a major tributary to the Bridge Creek Reservoir, the drinking supply for the City of Homer. This property contains valuable wetlands and also provides excellent bird and moose habitat.

Preserving this property for its habitat values is important to KHLT, and we plan to work with the Effler family to construct a trail and viewing platform with interpretive signs describing the conservation values on this land. This nature trail was a long time aspiration of the Effler family, and Gene Effler devoted much time to considering how it could be done before he passed away in 2004. It is KHLT's hope that current and future generations of Homer residents will enjoy this property that Gene and Mim Effler and their family found so important to preserve.

We thank the Effler family for their dedication to preserving this important wetland. ♦



Effler Map



Mim and Gene Effler, 50th Anniversary (1997)

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