

## **Project Information Sheet**

**Project Name: West Oakland Bay**

**Applicant: Squaxin Island Tribe**

**Strategic Initiative: Habitat Protection and Restoration**

**Priority Near-Term Action: Sub-strategies A2.2; A6.1; B1.2; B2.1; B2.2; B2.3; B3.1;**

### **Ecosystem threat summary**

The project area and adjacent shoreline/marine areas have been extensively used for intensive industrial and commercial purposes for at least the last century. Primary uses in the area were associated with the lumber mill, a logging railroad, timber transport, and commercial development of the waterfront. Rapid and widespread development of the waterfront by early commercial interests in the late 1800's/1900's likely led to profound and abrupt changes in the ecological systems of Oakland Bay, Goldsborough Creek, and the adjacent shoreline ecosystem.

Specific impacts to ecological resources resulting from land use actions include a reduction in salt marsh habitat and river delta formation, loss of riparian habitat, alterations to shoreline shore forms by shoreline armoring, legacy pollution, and interruptions in salmonid foraging and migratory corridors. The exception to this is Eagle Point, which represents the highest rated habit in West Oakland Bay and is rated as one of the top five parcels throughout the greater Oakland Bay/Hammersley Inlet watershed. This site is slated for two home sites if not preserved.

- Unnatural formation of tidal channels in estuaries
- Restricted flow of freshwater rivers and streams into estuaries.
- Restricted movement of saltwater through tidal channels in estuaries.
- Reduced ability to accumulate and retain organic material from fish and wildlife.
- Restricted movement and migration of plants and animals.

### **Project Description**

This project consists of 4 projects of restoration, planning and conservation in the Goldsborough Creek estuary in Oakland Bay, South Puget Sound. The restoration component of the project consists of two related projects designed to rebuild lost salt marsh habitat.

*Phase 1:* Construction of 14-engineered logjams at the mouth of Goldsborough Creek designed to capture sediment to rebuild the creek mouth.

*Phase 2:* As the first component of a multi-component project we will enhance the estuary and tidelands by removing a ¼ mile dike and importing bed material to create intertidal benches/shelves at appropriate elevations to allow for natural vegetation that will mesh with the Phase 1 project. This phase will also place the entire 61 acre worksite, which is currently an industrial harbor, into conservency.

*Phase 3:* A planning project will produce a final design for the removal of a bulkhead on Port of Shelton property on the North shore of the harbor. A future phase will reconfigure the shoreline to a more natural slope designed to fit with Phase 2.

*Phase 4:* This consists of a fee simple conservation acquisition of 14 acres of high priority habitat on Eagle Point in Shelton Harbor. The property includes 2 acres of freshwater wetland, 4 acres of tidelands, 8 acres of riparian upland and 1,600 feet of marine shoreline.

## **Budget**

Phase 1 structures \$235,000

Phase 2 salt marsh restoration- \$5,300,000

Phase 3 Port shoreline design - \$66,000

Phase 4- Eagle Point acquisition- \$265,000

## **Project Schedule**

January – December 2016 final design and permitting for phase 1 structures.

July 2016 – December 2017 final design and permitting for phase 2 salt marsh.

January – December 2016 Phase 3 Port shoreline final design.

January – September 2016 Phase 4 Eagle Point acquisition.

March 2017 – September 2017 construction of phase 1 structures.

March 2018 – September 2018 construction of phase 2 saltmarsh scaled to funding.

## **Project Partnerships and Roles**

Simpson Lumber- land owner- permission, funding

Sierra Pacific Industries- land owner- permission

Port of Shelton – land owner, partner - permission, Eagle Point

Squaxin Island Tribe – applicant- coordination

Capitol Land Trust – partner – Eagle Point

Mason Conservation District – partner – Port Shoreline

South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group – partner – estuary restoration



Figure 1. Existing conditions.



Figure 2. Proposed condition