

Kilisut Harbor Restoration



Project Description

This project is located at the salt marsh connection between Indian and Marrowstone Islands in Jefferson County, Washington. The project will remove road fill and twin 5-foot-diameter culverts from State Route 116 and replace them with a four-span bridge to allow for full water and sediment exchange. When completed, the Kilisut Harbor Restoration Project will increase tidal flushing, improve water quality and restore two important salmon habitats—tidal channels and salt marsh.

This project is supported by the Hood Canal Summer Chum Salmon Recovery Plan, the WRIA 17 Limiting Factors Analysis, the Puget Sound Nearshore Ecosystem Restoration Project, and the Hood Canal Lead Entity 3-Year Work Plan. Most of the 22 populations of Chinook salmon (including Skokomish and Mid-Hood Canal) and all stocks of Hood Canal summer Chum salmon [Quilcene, Dosewallips, Duckabush, Hamma Hamma, Lilliwaup, Union, Dewatto,



Tahuya, and Big Beef] must pass through Admiralty Inlet to reach the Strait of Juan de Fuca en route to the Pacific Ocean for maturation. In addition, migrating Steelhead from all four Hood Canal populations and possibly other Puget Sound populations may transit through the project site during outmigration.

Processes Restored

- Tidal exchange between Oak Bay and Kilisut Harbor
- Unrestricted movement and migration of wildlife and fish, including ESA listed Hood Canal summer chum and Puget Sound steelhead and Chinook salmon.
- Movement of sand and gravel along shorelines.
- Accumulation and retention of organic material from plants and aquatic animals.

Conditions Improved

- Improved water quality in Kilisut Harbor.
- Increased area, length, and complexity of shoreline.
- Improved resiliency of the shoreline and human infrastructure to respond to changes in the environment, including rising sea levels and increasing storm events.
- Re-established intertidal and shallow subtidal areas to encourage the growth of kelp and eelgrass, increasing nearshore productivity for fish, birds and other marine species.
- Restored sand and gravel beaches that serve as spawning grounds for forage fish (e.g., surf smelt and Pacific sand lance), which are a key element of the marine food chain.

Partners

- **North Olympic Salmon Coalition (NOSC)—Project Sponsor**
- Centrum
- 1st Security Bank
- Hood Canal Coordinating Council
- Jamestown S’Klallam Tribe (JS’KT)
- Jefferson County Parks
- Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe (LEKT)
- Marrowstone Vineyards
- Multiple private landowners
- National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Restoration Center
- Port Gamble S’Klallam Tribe (PGS’KT)
- Puget Sound Partnership (PSP)
- Recreation & Conservation Office (RCO)
- Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB)
- United States Department of Transportation (USDOT), Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)
- United States Fish and Wildlife Service
- United State Navy, Naval Magazine Indian Island
- Washington Department of Ecology
- Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW)
- Washington Department of Natural Resources (WDNR)
- Washington Department of Transportation (WSDOT)

Funding Sources

• Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration Program (PSAR):	\$7,247,901
• Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program (ESRP):	\$2,427,475
• WSDOT/USDOT, FHWA:	\$2,000,000
• US Navy:	\$1,000,000
• JS’KT/PGS’KT archaeology in kind: \$1,237	
• National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grant Program:	\$1,000,000
• NOAA Coastal Restoration Grant (through PGS’KT):	\$999,000
• NOAA Coastal Resiliency Grant:	\$548,000
• JS’KT Fish Monitoring In Kind:	\$40,000

Total: **\$15,263,613**