

WRIA 9 Recommended Projects
 2009 Salmon Recovery Funding Board: Round 10
 May 7, 2009

Estimated Funding Available¹

Salmon Funding Recovery Board	\$ 300,000
Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration	\$1, 250,000
TOTAL	\$1, 550,000

Project Summary

Project Name	Sponsor	Request	Sub-area	Phase	Points
Fenster Levee Setback 1B	Auburn	500,000	Lower/Middle Green	Construction	58
Seahurst Park	Nearshore	1,000,000	Nearshore	Construction	57
Riverview Park	Kent	1,190,000	Lower Green	Construction	57
Beaconsfield on the Sound	Normandy Park	150,000	Nearshore	Design	47
Mill Creek	Kent	300,000	Lower Green	Design	59
Piner Point	King County	200,040	Nearshore	Construction	58
TOTAL		\$3,340,040			

Technical Advisory Group Members

Bob Fuerstenberg, King County
 Tyler Patterson, Tacoma Public Utilities
 Jodie Salz, Cascade Land Conservancy
 Gordon Thomson, Army Corps of Engineers

¹ Estimated amount from SRFB. The final funding amount cannot be determined until the federal funding component is finalized.

Project NS-17: Piner Point Bulkhead Removal

Project Description

Located on the southeastern tip of Maury Island in Central Puget Sound, the Piner Point Natural Area contains a total of 7.76 acres of nearshore habitat with feeder bluff and mature riparian vegetation, adjacent the Maury Island Aquatic Reserve. This preservation effort was funded by a previous SRFB grant (#04-1335A) to protect the 6 combined shoreline properties that make up the Piner Pt Natural Area, successfully protecting over 1,500 lineal feet of ecologically valuable shoreline adjacent an extensive herring pre-spawn holding area. The feeder bluff that backs the Piner Point shoreline provides sediment supply for beach nourishment processes that extend over seven miles downshore, as longshore drift moves eroding bluff material along the shoreline to Pt Robinson at the eastern most tip of Maury Island. All parcels in the Piner Point Natural Area remain undisturbed, and in a natural state with the exception of the northern most parcel. This 1.05 acre parcel contains a shoreline cabin to be deconstructed and removed by June, 2009, leaving only the low, 225 ft. wooden bulkhead that fronts the back beach and low bluff.

As a final phase, the project goal is to remove the 225 ft bulkhead and restore riparian vegetation along the area of disturbed shoreline allowing natural drift processes to re-establish.

The Piner Point preservation is part of the WRIA 9 Salmon Habitat Plan, listed under Project NS-17.



Project MG-18: Setback and Removal of Fenster and Pautzke Levees to Reconnect the Floodplain and Allow Channel Migration near RM 32 (Left Bank)

Project Description

This project builds upon previous phases of restoration that removed levees, lowered the elevation of terraces and constructed engineered logjams to reinstate floodplain connectivity and channel migration. The first segment of the Fenster Levee was set back from the river in 2004, and a second, considerably longer phase, Phase 1B, was set back in 2008. Both previous efforts were funded by the SRFB, and have been the focus of numerous hands-on habitat stewardship efforts by local community groups with the City of Auburn and King County providing technical support.

The site is near the downstream end of an intact two-mile long riparian corridor along the Green River within the Fenster Nature Park (Auburn) and the Auburn Narrows Natural Area (King County). This proposed project entails setting back the final 700-foot long segment of the Fenster Levee that has not already been set back from its existing location at the top of the bank in order to restore instream, riparian and floodplain habitat. This future levee setback project would complete years of work by the city and county to set back or completely remove all of the levees within a two-mile stretch of high quality habitat between this proposed project site and the SR-18 bridge. This project site, as well as the levee setback and removal project upstream are on undeveloped park and open space land along the left bank of the Green River are either within park land owned by Auburn, or open space owned by King County. Washington State Parks owns the contiguous parcels along the right bank.



Restoration work in progress just upstream of the proposed phase of work.

Project MG-18: Burien Seahurst Park Shoreline Restoration, Phase II

Project Description

The Seahurst Park Shoreline Restoration Phase II project follows up on earlier shoreline restoration work completed in 2005 in partnership with the US Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) and funded through the SRFB(#04-1423), along the southern shore of the park. The project area includes 2800 feet of shoreline and extends from approximate elevation -10 feet mean lower low water (MLLW) to the lower slopes of forested bluffs. Restoration would include the removal of seawall, rock riprap, groins, paving and fill, where the beaches are restored and nourished. Riparian planting is added along most of the length of the project, with a small wetland/ estuary added and supported by the North Creek and two smaller, perennial streams.

Since being armored in the 1970s, beach elevations in Seahurst Park have dropped three to four feet due to wave scouring and the disconnection of the beach from primary sediment sources. The changes in the beach have significantly degraded its functional quality as habitat for salmon and the organisms they depend on, particularly forage fish.

Our project is to implement the next phase of the Park Master Plan (SRFB #00-1854) and return the northern portion of the park and shoreline to a restored, accessible and more natural condition. The Seahurst project (WRIA 9, NS-5) is included in the PSAR project list for priority Action Agenda restoration and protection projects, and will be completed in partnership with the Corps, with design scheduled for fall 2009 and construction beginning in summer 2010.



Project MG-18: Beaconsfield on the Sound

Project Description

Beaconsfield on the Sound is an undeveloped feeder bluff in Central Puget Sound, approximately 1,000 feet long, and is included in the WRIA 9 Salmon Habitat Plan (NS-11). It is located within a priority nearshore protection and restoration area for juvenile Green/Duwamish Chinook salmon. The 300' high bluff historically released over 4500 cy/yr of sediment, supporting nearshore processes and providing ideal feeder bluff spawning substrate. However, over 800 feet of the shoreline is now armored, impeding 98.7% of nearshore sediment input.

Previous SRFB grants to Cascade Land Conservancy funded landowner willingness assessments and negotiations, appraisals, project feasibility study for complete removal of the seawall, and acquisition. The land acquisition is expected to be completed in summer 2010, and will then be transferred to the City of Normandy Park. A feasibility study for removal of part of the seawall and design for implementation is requested in order to proceed towards restoration at the site.



Project LG-7: Mill Creek Confluence/Green River Restoration

Project Description

The project request is for Design of the Mill Creek Confluence/Green River Restoration Project - the creation of off-channel habitat in the Green River near the confluence of Mill Creek is to increase floodplain refuge habitat for Chinook and other salmonids, enhance riparian habitat and to restore floodplain functions. In order to restore floodplain functions, the project will create a side channel off the Green River east of confluence of Mill Creek. A bench is proposed at the mouth of the side channel to provide low-water salmonid habitat. The design of the project will include the removal of invasive plants down to the bottom of the root zone and a native riparian re-vegetation plan including emergents in the side channel. The upland portion of the project will include trees and shrubs. Woody debris structures will also be included in the plan, in both the side channel and the upland portions of the project. A Feasibility Report and 30% design for the project was completed in February 2009.

This project is identified in the WRIA 9 Green/Duwamish and Central Puget Sound Watershed Final Salmon Habitat Plan-August 2005 as a priority project, LG-7, Lower Mill Creek.



Project LG-7: Riverview Park Ecosystem Restoration

Project Description

The project request is to fund the construction phase of the Riverview Park Ecosystem Restoration project. The project will provide summer rearing habitat and high flow winter refuge for salmon through creation of a new off-channel area from the main stem of the Lower Green River and adjacent to the mouth of Mill Creek (Lower Mill Creek - Auburn). Improvements include the placement of large woody debris, spawning gravels, and riparian plantings (a maintenance bridge over the channel will be separated from SRFB funds). The project is a Green Duwamish Ecosystem Restoration Project (GDERP) and is consistent with the WRIA 9 Salmon Conservation and Recovery Strategy. As stated in the Salmon Habitat Plan (Project LG-7), the project is a top tier priority action and is located within a priority area since the project provides much needed salmon habitat and refuge in a key reach of the Green River and the mouth of Lower Mill Creek. As the local sponsor, the City of Kent is working with the US Army Corps of Engineers and their consultant Tetra Tech, to complete the designs for the project.

