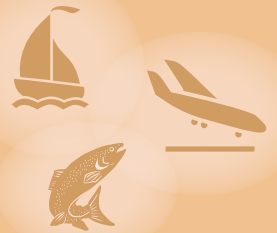


POINT HEYER - KVI BEACH DRIFT CELL ACQUISITION PROJECT

Protecting critical habitat for juvenile Chinook



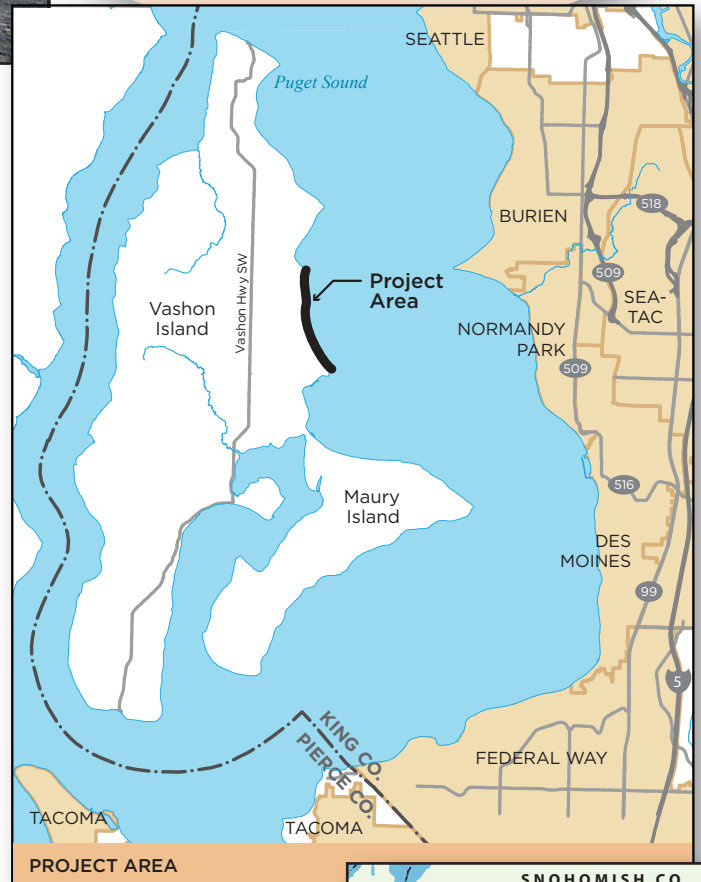
Project Highlights:

- King County, in partnership with the Vashon Island Land Trust, has purchased parcels and acquired easements to protect over 20 acres of marsh and tidelands at Point Heyer also known as KVI Beach.
- Protecting the two mile long drift cell that provides the sediment creating the marsh will provide long term protection of the marsh.
- Estuarine wetlands host large amounts of nutrients and insects that are a food source for birds and fish, including salmon.

The area of Puget Sound around Vashon and Maury Islands is a melting pot for threatened Chinook salmon converging from eight area watersheds.

Purchasing the properties around Point Heyer is a priority because protecting nearshore functions is more certain than efforts to restore damaged resources. Acquisitions provide the greatest certainty for permanent habitat protection. The WRIA 9 Salmon Habitat Plan lists this project as part of NS-17: Functioning Nearshore Habitat Protection on Vashon/Maury Island.

- The large sandy area around the Point Heyer marsh is used heavily by juvenile Chinook and acts as a nursery area for other fish species.
- WRIA 9 habitat management strategies addressed by this project include protecting sediment recruitment and transport processes from bluffs, shallow water habitats, intact vegetated areas, stream mouths, and water quality.

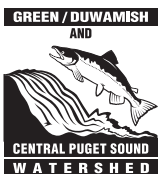


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For more information:

<http://www.govlink.org/watersheds/9/>



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Salmon Recovery
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