

PUGET SOUND

National Estuary Program

RESTORATION PLANNING AT PUGET SOUND COASTAL STREAMS IMPACTED BY THE RAILROAD

This project builds upon a previous Near Term Action, 2016-0198, in which all coastal streams and embayments with a railroad track crossing at the marine shoreline of Puget Sound were identified, rated, and prioritized for restoration. This project builds upon that success and will continue the planning efforts to restore coastal streams and embayments impacted by the railroad.

What we're doing

We will engage many BNSF, agencies, tribes, and restoration partners in a regional dialogue. We will develop general restoration approaches based on watershed size and site complexity. In addition, we will prepare conceptual designs for three of the high priority sites identified in the first phase of the project.



Photo Source: Confluence

Two perched culverts conveying a small coastal stream through the shoreline railroad embankment

WHY IS THIS ISSUE IMPORTANT?

Coastal stream mouths and embayments are important habitats at the interface between the marine nearshore and freshwater watersheds. Juvenile chinook salmon and many other species rely on the estuaries of streams when available. These areas are often affected by railroad crossings that restrict the exchange of materials (e.g., water and wood) and organisms (e.g., fish).



Photo Source: Confluence

Example of a wider stream funneled into a box culvert crossing through the shoreline railroad embankment

WHAT YOU CAN DO

Support Puget Sound shoreline restoration and help restore water quality and habitat in our coastal streams. Contact the project team if you are interested in more information about the project.

ABOUT THE PROJECT TEAM

The Tulalip Tribes Natural Resources program carries out the tribes' co-management responsibilities in a manner consistent with treaty rights as well as protection and perpetuation of the resources upon which the people have depended for over ten thousand years. The Tulalip Tribes are working with a consultant team that includes Environmental Science Associates, Confluence Environmental Company, and Shannon & Wilson.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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Project based on NTA 2018-0965

