

Why Salmon Habitat?



Most people are aware that Chinook salmon are listed as endangered in accordance with the Endangered Species Act. Here in Kitsap, we may not have the major river systems that usually support Chinook, but they and other species do use our rich nearshore environment to feed and grow. Making sure it is healthy requires looking at a variety of factors that range from aquatic plants that are used for refuge and food supply, to the way the sediments and wood are moving along the shoreline.

By making sure the habitat is healthy for salmon, we ensure that it is good for many other forms of life, including ourselves!

Contact Information:

If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please refer to the contacts below:

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Official Web page:

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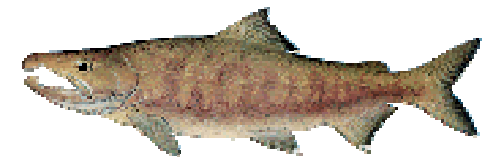
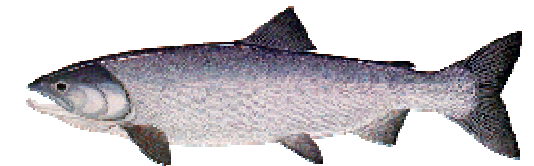
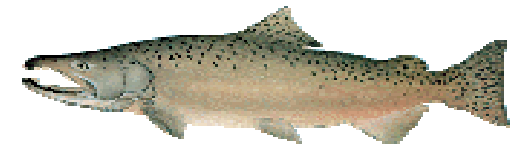
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EAST KITSAP NEARSHORE SALMON HABITAT ASSESSMENT

Shoreline Data Collection



What Is It?

The state Salmon Recovery Funding Board has awarded a grant to Kitsap County Department of Community Development to do a **baseline inventory of the East Kitsap nearshore environment**.

Data will be collected in the field using a GPS data collector and digital cameras. This data will be combined with other information from previous studies to give the most complete picture of our nearshore environment.

We have divided up our shoreline based on reaches that were established by Washington Department of Natural Resources in

2001. These reaches will be given individual scores based on the data and will be **used to identify and prioritize restoration and conservation opportunities that would best benefit salmon recovery**



WHO

This assessment has many partners, including shoreline landowners just like you! The Natural Resources Division of **Kitsap DCD** is the primary facilitator of the project. The **Suquamish Tribe** is providing like-resources and time, including use of a boat. The University of Washington **Sea Grant** program is assisting in public outreach. **Battelle** (Pacific Northwest National Laboratories) will be assessing all the available data and providing the scores.

HOW WILL THIS AFFECT ME?

Data Collection teams of 2-3 scientists will be walking or boating along the beach near your home or business Summer 2007, covering about 15-20 miles/week. You will see one person using the GPS, while others will be taking notes and pictures to document each shoreline reach. Your cooperation in this process is very much appreciated.

This study is specifically funded to determine the habitat currently or feasibly available for use by salmon in East Kitsap. Integration of the shoreline data into county systems could assist on-going permitting programs such as the Shoreline Master

Program (to be updated 2011) and the Critical Areas Ordinance. New data can be added as needed to keep the inventory up to date.



Examples of Data Being Used

*Not all these will be collected in the field, but are available from other studies and sources. Much of our collection is focused on **noting** stressors and physical landscape types.*

Biological: aquatic plants, terrestrial cover, forage



fish, sensitive species and habitats.

Stressors: armoring, outfalls, over-water structures, fill, pilings, roads, ramps, stairways.

Physical: Drift Cells, sediment sources, topography, slope, wave exposure, high bluff/low bank.

