

8

Shoreline Restoration

INTRODUCTION

This restoration plan has been prepared in accordance with the Washington State Department of Ecology shoreline management guidelines. The guidelines direct local government review and updates of shoreline master programs. A significant feature of the guidelines is the requirement that local governments include within their shoreline master program, a “real and meaningful” strategy to address restoration of shorelines. WAC 173-26-186(8). The state guidelines emphasize that any *development must achieve no net loss of ecological functions*. The guidelines go on to require a *goal of using restoration to improve the overall condition of habitat and resources* and makes "planning for and fostering restoration" an obligation of local government. From WAC 173-26-201(2)(c):

Master programs shall also include policies that promote restoration of ecological functions, as provided in WAC 173-26-201 (2)(f), where such functions are found to have been impaired based on analysis described in WAC 173-26-201 (3)(d)(i). It is intended that local government, through the master program, along with other regulatory and non-regulatory programs, contribute to restoration by planning for and fostering restoration and that such restoration occur through a combination of public and private programs and actions. Local government should identify restoration opportunities through the shoreline inventory process and authorize, coordinate and facilitate appropriate publicly and privately initiated restoration projects within their master programs. **The goal of this effort is master programs which include planning elements that, when implemented, serve to improve the overall condition of habitat and resources within the shoreline area of each city and county.**

WAC 173-26-2012(f) states further that “...master programs provisions should be designed to achieve overall improvements in shoreline ecological functions over time when compared to the status upon adoption of the master program.” For guidance on preparation of a Restoration Plan, the city looked to WAC 173-26-186, WAC 173-26-201(2)(c) and (f) and *Restoration Planning and the 2003 Shoreline Management Guidelines*, A Department of Ecology Report, in addition to other resources listed at the end of this chapter. Restoration planning should be focused on tools such as economic incentives, broad funding sources such as Salmon Restoration Funding, volunteer programs, and other strategies. WAC 173-26-186(8)(c) and WAC 173-26-201(2)(f) (explaining the “basic concept” of restoration planning). Furthermore, because restoration planning must reflect the individual conditions

of a shoreline, restoration planning provisions contained in the guidelines expressly note that a restoration plan will vary based on:

- Size of jurisdiction
- Extent and condition of shorelines
- Availability of grants, volunteer programs, other tools
- The nature of the ecological functions to be addressed

The restoration chapter is designed to meet the requirements for restoration planning outlined in the Ecology guidelines, in which restoration planning is an integrated component of shoreline master programs that include inventorying shoreline conditions and regulation of shoreline development. The restoration plan builds off of the City of Sultan Shoreline Characterization which provides a comprehensive inventory and analysis of shoreline conditions in Sultan, including rating specific functions and process of each shoreline segment.

This restoration plan provides a vision for ecological restoration, includes goals, objectives and opportunities. It also establishes city strategies for implementation, including recognition of existing and ongoing programs, and it provides a framework for long-term monitoring of shoreline restoration and shoreline conditions. While this restoration plan includes broad objectives, specific implementation measures, budgets, schedules, and individual monitoring programs will be needed for individual restoration projects as they occur. Periodically, it is important for the city to evaluate the effectiveness of this plan and to adapt to changing conditions. At a minimum, this restoration plan (as well as the entire Shoreline Master Program) will be reevaluated according to the schedule adopted by the state Legislature.

Vision Statement

The vision statement establishes the overarching idea of the future restored ecosystem and provides a basis for the framework, including the restoration goals. The Characterization Report identifies impaired ecological processes and functions. The majority of processes and functions on Sultan shorelines are impaired based on the analysis, and they are not operating as they should. Goals that “promote restoration” of these ecological functions must be included in the master program. This vision statement seeks to make clear the intent of addressing ecological restoration.

Restoration Vision: *The degraded processes of the Sultan Shoreline will be restored to the extent that when protected under the policies of this plan, a net improvement to the shoreline ecosystem is obtained to benefit water quality, vegetation, and the residents of Sultan. Restoration occurs through a combination of public and private opportunities that enhance the shoreline through improvements to the key processes.*

Restoration Goals

- Protect and improve water quality
- Reduce impacts of flooding events
- Preserve natural areas and vegetation

- Preserve and restore habitat functions
- Preserve and improve physical and visual public access to the shoreline

Alteration of Key Processes

There are six key processes that have been altered in the Sultan shoreline jurisdiction. The summary of key processes comes from sections 4.10 and 4.11 in the 2005 Sultan Shoreline Characterization Report. The key processes for the Sultan shoreline are:

- Nutrient Delivery and Removal
- Groundwater Flow
- Surface Water Flow
- Sediment Delivery and Removal
- Wood Delivery
- Fish and Wildlife Habitat

These processes are being threatened by development and logging outside of the city, as well as by changes within the city such as loss of vegetation and increased impervious surfaces. Segments of the Sultan shoreline are described below, along with the restoration opportunities for these segments.

SEGMENTS OF THE SULTAN SHORELINE

The City of Sultan shoreline is divided into 5 segments, A through D and the UGA segment. Only segments A through D are included in the Shoreline Master Program, since they are within the city limits. These segments are further divided into opportunity areas, based on the type of restoration that could take place, see Table 2. These segments were determined primarily by water body and current land uses and zoning. There are five shoreline environment designations found in the Sultan SMP – Urban Center, Shoreline Residential, Urban Conservancy, Natural, and Aquatic.

Sultan River

Segment A is on the west side of the city, along the Sultan River. This area is characterized by large land areas mostly used as parks and open space and, there are many mapped wetlands in this area. The SMP designation is predominantly natural, with patches of urban and rural designations. Most of the segment is in private residential ownership, with developments away from the river.

Confluence of Sultan and Skykomish Rivers

Segment B is in the southwest corner of the city at the confluence of the Sultan and Skykomish Rivers. This segment contains a variety of land uses; it is part of the downtown urban core and is also the location of a utility use. The area is designated urban and contains many wetlands. Since this segment is at the confluence of two major rivers, it often experiences flooding events. The park in this area is frequently used and could use some improvements to protect the shoreline functions.

Skykomish River

Segment C is along the south side of the city. This segment is primarily residential, and is designated as urban and rural. This segment has experienced the most growth and conversion

of riparian land to residential, resulting in more impervious surfaces. There is a boat launch located within this segment.

Wallace River

Segment D is in the southeast side of the city. This segment is designated as natural and currently contains riparian forest and wetlands. The predominant land use in this segment is commercial.

UGA Area

The UGA segment is outside of the Sultan City limits and is outside the jurisdiction of the Sultan SMP, however it is important since it is upstream from other Sultan shorelines. The predominant land use is residential, and is adjacent to the Sultan River.

RESTORATION OPPORTUNITIES

Restoration opportunities are identified below by segment. A complete table of opportunities by segment is listed after this section, see Table 2. A lot of these restoration opportunities are associated with publicly owned lands in parks or river access points. These areas are also highlighted in Figures 12-15.

Open Space and Parks, Low-Density Residential (Segment A)

In segment A there are 6 separate opportunity areas identified in the shoreline characterization. These opportunity areas are identified as areas for enhancement, protection and/or restoration. These areas have been identified for vegetation, habitat, wetlands, and flood areas. Segment A contains two existing parks, Reese Park – 32 acres and Osprey Park - 90 acres. In all, Segment A contains 1.3 miles of the Sultan River in the shoreline jurisdiction. These two parks could potentially be enhanced, and shoreline access could be developed. Much of the segment is located within floodplain on both private and public lands which would require buffering. This segment shows the highest need since there are more opportunities available and more processes at risk.

Opportunity Area A-1 (Enhancement). Encourage planting of native vegetation and limit clearing and disturbance on privately-owned residential properties with shoreline frontage.

Opportunity Area A-2 (Protection and Enhancement). City-owned land within Reese Park along the length of the right (east) bank of the Sultan River offers continued potential for habitat preservation. Disturbed areas offer opportunities for habitat enhancement.

Along with Opportunity areas A-3 and A-4, A-2 falls within the Sultan River floodplain and has the potential for channel migration and avulsion. Areas A-2, A-3, and A-4 are all areas with the potential for allowing riverine processes to act unhindered in order to create a mosaic of riverine habitats and are opportunities for protection. A remnant oxbow along the western edge of A-2 offers potential for off-channel habitat or forested wetland enhancement.

Opportunity Area A-3 (Restoration). The *Snohomish River Basin Chinook Salmon Near Term Action Agenda* (SBSRF, 2001) makes several general recommendations, one of which is the restoration or enhancement of the area, functions, and values of degraded or destroyed wetlands to improve watershed processes and fish habitat. Wetlands located within privately-owned pasture in this shoreline planning segment offer potential future opportunities for restoration or enhancement from emergent to future forested wetland.

Additional areas to the east and south of A-3 within the shoreline offer opportunities for potential wetland and/or riparian habitat restoration from pasture to future forested habitat. Adequate buffer areas will be needed to protect existing wetland area A-3, and this additional area would provide an important opportunity for such buffering.

Protection of the floodplain, which extends between the main channel of the Sultan River all the way to Trout Lake Road in this segment, will ensure protection of the processes of overbank flooding and hyporheic flows (subsurface flows that extend for sometimes significant distances from the obvious river channel). These processes support the hydrology of existing wetlands and streams.

Opportunity Area A-4 (Protection and Enhancement). City-owned land within Osprey Park along the length of the right (east) bank of the Sultan River offers opportunity for habitat preservation and restoration. This segment is located within an area noted to offer significant rearing habitat for salmonids. Recommendations from *Snohomish River Basin Chinook Salmon Near Term Action Agenda* (SBSRF, 2001) include enhancing riparian areas with additional native vegetation, especially conifers. Areas dominated by alders could be underplanted or replanted with conifers as the alders die off (SBSRF, 2001).

Opportunity Area A-5 (Protection and Restoration). A culvert barrier has been identified in area A-5 along Winters Creek. Protection of the entire area of A-5 has a high potential to improve salmonid and wildlife habitat. This area is identified as part of “Focus Area IX,” an area with potential for protection and acquisition, in the *Snohomish River Basin Chinook Salmon Near Term Action Agenda* (SBSRF, 2001).

Unlabeled Opportunity Area (Protection). Although located outside of the shoreline jurisdictional boundary, protection of outwash deposits in the upper Winters Creek watershed (as indicated by mapped surficial geology, Figure 7) would protect water flow processes originating outside of the shoreline jurisdiction but would sustain hydrology to riparian wetlands and Winters Creek within the shoreline jurisdiction, as well as wetlands at the base of the steep till slopes to the north.

Urban and Utility Uses, River Access (Segment B)

In segment B three opportunity areas have been identified for restoration and acquisition. Areas have been identified to restore vegetation and acquire frequently flooded areas. Segment B contains two parks, River Park – 6 acres and Sportsman’s Park – 5 acres. Most of the land within this segment is publicly owned and provides access to the rivers. However, this is a frequently flooded area that experiences a lot of erosion. This segment could benefit

from vegetation restoration. Restoration in this area is more likely to succeed since a lot of it is publicly owned land and could more easily be restored.

Opportunity Area B-1 (Restoration). Sportsman's Park, located adjacent to the City's Wastewater Treatment Plant, is used as a picnic area and for fishing access. Denuded areas could be planted with riparian vegetation, such as Pacific and Sitka willow, Pacific ninebark, and beaked hazelnut, all species that are already present in this area. Access to the water could be restricted to one or two areas to reduce the potential for disturbance and erosion.

Opportunity Area B-2 (Restoration). River Park, along the east bank of the Sultan River, has a lawn to the shoreline. The river bank could be planted with riparian vegetation, as recommended for B-1 above. This reach of the Sultan River floods most of the adjoining lands, on both sides of the river. The wetland swale within this park could be planted with a diversity of wetland species to provide improved habitat and water quality functions.

Opportunity Area B-3 (Acquisition and Restoration). This area has been called out in the City of Sultan Repetitive Flood Loss Mitigation Plan as a frequently flooded area. Options include property acquisition that would allow the potential for increased flood storage as well as increased wildlife habitat. Recommendations include replanting with native vegetation, especially conifers, in riparian areas. Increasing vegetative cover in urban areas can serve as an effective tool to control stormwater. These replanted areas should have a maintenance plan until the plants are established (SBSRF, 2001).

Residential, Boat Launch (Segment C)

Four opportunity areas have been identified in segment C for enhancement, protection and restoration for vegetation and habitat. Segment C is already fairly developed on the north shore which is located within the city limits. Most of the lands are in private ownership and have been developed, so there are not many opportunities for city sponsored restoration. Opportunities that do exist include vegetation enhancement. The only public amenity/access in segment C is a public boat launch.

Opportunity Area C-1 (Enhancement). This area includes privately-owned residential properties with shoreline frontage. The City could encourage planting of native vegetation and limit clearing and disturbance along the banks.

Opportunity Area C-2 (Protection and Restoration). These two areas offer opportunities for habitat protection and restoration, within the limits of the future projected land use (low-moderate to moderate density development) (Figure 14). The westernmost area is mapped as wetland on the NWI, and both areas retain native trees and shrubs.

Opportunity Area C-3 (Enhancement). Limited opportunities exist along this reach; however, plantings of native shrubs could enhance riparian functions in Area C-3.

Unlabeled Opportunity Area (Protection). Although located outside of the shoreline jurisdiction, protection of the terrace area mapped in Figures 6, 7, and 8 is important to maintaining the hydrology of critical areas, including riparian and associated wetlands along

the Wagleys Creek corridor. The terrace area has a high potential for supporting existing wetlands and for expanding wetland areas.

Industrial and Residential (Segment D)

In segment D three areas have been identified for vegetation and floodplain protection. There is one park, Cemetery Park – 1.5 acres, but it is privately owned and retains the right to future development. There is also a commercial development in this segment.

Opportunity Area D-1 (Protection). The Snohomish River Basin Chinook Salmon Near Term Action Agenda (SBSRF, 2001) identifies “Focus Area XI,” which includes the Wallace River from its mouth to Gold Bar, as offering potential for acquisition and protection of forested riparian areas. The report notes that this area is under development pressure.

The pasture area immediately north of area D1, in Snohomish County, on the north shore of the Wallace River, appears to present an opportunity for wetland restoration and offers an inter-jurisdictional restoration opportunity. Though elevation data was not available this pasture area appears to be within the floodplain for the Wallace River; additionally, due to its location below a till slope, groundwater discharge at the base could provide hydrology for restored or enhanced wetlands on the site. Existing wetlands on this pasture area indicate that hydrology is present; a ditch running through the middle of the pasture directly to the Wallace River is an additional indication that this site may be fairly wet.

Opportunity Area D-2 (Protection). Area D-2 includes residential property bounded by US 2 and commercial business to the west, north, and east. Retention of native trees and shrubs, especially along the steep slopes, is recommended to reduce impacts on water temperature and protect the adjacent floodplain.

Unlabeled Opportunity Area (Protection). Although located outside of the shoreline jurisdiction, protection of the terrace area mapped in Figures 6, 7, and 8 is important to maintain the hydrology of critical areas falling within the shoreline jurisdiction, including the wetlands located at the base of the of the outwash slopes adjoining the Wallace River. The terrace area has a high potential for supporting existing wetlands and for expanding wetland areas. Protection of the floodplain along the Wallace River will ensure protection of the processes of overbank flooding and hyporheic zones.

Residential (UGA Segment)

In the UGA segment, areas have been identified for habitat and vegetation restoration. There are also areas of wetlands that receive flow from area creeks that are used for salmon habitat. Most of this land is privately owned, and zoned for future residential development.

Opportunity Area UGA-1. (Enhancement / Restoration). This area is referred to as CIP Number EV-SU-8 in the Snohomish County Drainage Needs Report. The area is defined as the riparian corridor along the east bank of the Sultan River in the City’s UGA, approximately 100-foot wide. The area currently has cleared or sparsely forested areas that

lack large woody debris potential. Snohomish County recommends selective plantings of native trees and shrubs in this area (up to two acres). Planting native woody vegetation would provide future in-stream large woody debris, decrease temperatures in the river, contribute to stabilization of the bank, support and enhance wildlife habitat, and add hydraulic roughness to the floodplain (Snohomish County, 2002). Implementation of this recommended CIP would require coordination with private landowners. The City could work with Snohomish County and residents of the UGA to help implement the CIP.

Opportunity Area UGA-2. (Protection). This area is referred to as CIP Number EV-SU-9 in the Snohomish County Drainage Needs Report. This area is also known as “Kein’s side channel.” This area is a side channel of the Sultan River with associated wetlands on the west side of the river, outside of the City’s UGA. The area also receives flow from Ames Creek and supports salmon use (chum spawning and coho overwintering). The area is zoned by Snohomish County for Rural Residential development, and is vulnerable to impacts from future development (Snohomish County, 2002). Snohomish County recommends acquiring the side channel and bar (approximately 12 acres) to protect existing instream spawning and rearing habitat, riparian habitat, and associated wetlands. While this area is outside the City’s UGA, the recommended CIP is an important opportunity area since management of adjacent areas in the City’s jurisdiction will contribute to conditions in the Sultan River overall.

As the City identifies areas for annexation within the UGA, it could further evaluate conditions in these areas with respect to the elements of this shoreline inventory for the purposes of administering the Shoreline Management Act in newly incorporated areas.

EXISTING AND ONGOING PROJECTS

Existing and ongoing outreach organizations have been identified for the Sultan shoreline. These groups are currently involved in shoreline issues and are stakeholders in the Shoreline Master Program. Table 1 below lists ongoing and potential outreach groups for the Sultan shoreline jurisdiction. These organizations could be used as resources for shoreline restoration. Some of these groups have previously been involved in other related projects or may have resources to assist the City in furthering the goals and policies of the Sultan SMP.

The majority of the current restoration efforts in the City of Sultan are related to flood management. Some of these projects include:

- Acquiring properties in the repetitive flood loss areas along the Sultan and Skykomish Rivers
- Floodwall levee construction along the Sultan River
- Wetland connectivity for wetlands associated with Wagley’s Creek
- Riparian restoration along Wagley’s Creek in the Industrial Park

The City could also benefit from a community education program and incentives to identify and develop restoration opportunities on private property. This could be done through school education and class projects, and by informing residents affected by the Sultan SMP.

OUTREACH

The table below identified existing and potential outreach groups with interests in Sultan Shorelines. These groups are currently involved in shoreline issues and are stakeholders in the Shoreline Master Program.

Table 1 - City of Sultan Shoreline Stakeholders

Organization	Name	Phone Number	Email or Website
Tulalip Tribe	Abby Hook	360-651-4802	ahook@tulaliptribes-nsn.gov 7515 Totem Beach Rd Tulalip, WA 98271
Project Lead, Snohomish County SMP	Karen Stewart	425-388-3311 ext. 2420	Karen.stewart@co.snohomish.wa.us
Adopt-a-stream, in Everett		425-316-8592	www.streamkeepers.org
Dept. of Fish and Wildlife, Regional Contact	Darick White	425-379-2321	
Habitat Bank	Steve Sego	206-321-0995	www.habitatbank.com
Snohomish PUD (for the dam)	Bruce Meaker	425-782-1722	bfmeaker@snopud.com
Sultan High School Science Class	Science Teacher	360-793-9860	
Sultan Economic Development Board	Ken Mayes	360-793-2560	product@amayesingwoodworks.com , www.amayesingwoodworks.com
Riverfront property owners (Skywall Drive, Dyer Road)			
Werner Paddle	Andy, Bruce Furrer (President)	360-793-9488	andy@wernerpaddles.com , bruce@wernerpaddles.com ,
Area Habitat Biologist, WDFW		425-379-2309 o 425-379-2323 f	

OPPORTUNITY AREAS

Opportunity areas for the Sultan shoreline have been identified in the Shoreline Characterization Report. These opportunity areas are intended as sites for restoration of current natural processes and ecological functions, not as sites for future mitigation.

Below in Table 2, these degraded areas, opportunity areas, and restoration opportunities are summarized by type and category by segment. Opportunity types describe the type of restoration that could be done to the identified area. These would be options such as enhancing the site by planting new vegetation, protecting habitat by providing for appropriate functions, restoring wetlands functions for recharging, and acquiring properties in the floodplain.

Opportunity categories relate to the four functions described in the section above. For the City of Sultan these are divided into vegetation and habitat, wetlands, floodplains and geologically hazardous areas.

Table 2 - Shoreline Restoration Segments

Segment	Opportunity Area	Opportunity Type	Opportunity Category	Specific Opportunities
A	A-1	Enhancement	Vegetation	Limit clearing and encourage native vegetation
A	A-2 Reese Park	Protection and enhancement	Habitat, wetland	Off channel habitat or forested wetland enhancement
A	A-3	Restoration	Habitat, wetlands, floodplain	Future forested wetland, buffer areas
A	A-4 Osprey Park	Protection and enhancement	Vegetation, habitat	Under planting of alders with conifers
A	A-5	Protection and restoration	Habitat	Salmonid and wildlife habitat
A	A-unlabeled	Protection	Wetlands	Protection of outwash deposits
B	B-1 Sportsman's Park	Restoration	Vegetation	Restrict access to the water to reduce the potential for disturbance and erosion
B	B-2 River Park	Restoration	Vegetation and wetlands	Planting wetland swale with a diversity of species
B	B-3	Acquisition and restoration	Flooding and habitat	Increase vegetative cover
C	C-1	Enhancement	Vegetation and wetlands	Planting of native vegetation
C	C-2	Protection and restoration	Habitat and wetlands	Retention of native trees and shrubs
C	C-3	Enhancement	Vegetation	Planting of native shrubs
C	C-Unlabeled	Protection	Wetlands	Protection of the terrace area
D	D-1	Protection	Wetlands	Protection from development
D	D-2	Protection	Vegetation	Retention of vegetation to reduce impacts to water temperature and protect the floodplain
D	D-Unlabeled	Protection	Wetlands, floodplain	Protection of the floodplain to protect overbank flooding and hyporheic zones

FUNDING GROUPS

Below, Table 3 identifies potential funding groups for Sultan Shoreline Restoration. The second column identifies funding categories for each group and the last column identifies the opportunity type for each funding group. The groups in this table can be matched up with the opportunities listed in the table above.

Table 3 - Potential Funding Groups for Shoreline Restoration

Funding Group	Funding Category	Eligibility	Deadline	Contact	Restoration Goal	Opportunity Type
National Fish and Wildlife Foundation	Conserve fish, wildlife, plant habitats	Local governments, WA State	June 1/Oct 15	Suzanne Piluso 503-417-8700 Suzanne.piluso@nfwf.org	Preserve and Restore Habitat Functions	Habitat
Water Quality – DOE	Water quality, wastewater treatment source, wetland habitat preservation funding, public education	Local governments, recognized tribes	Feb 3	Jeff Nejedly 360-407-6566	Protect and Improve Water Quality	Wetlands
Flood Control – DOE	Fish habitat protection, enhancement	Cities	Feb 1	Bev Huether bhue461@ecy.wa.gov	Reduce Impacts of Flooding Events	Flooding Habitat
Community Salmon Fund – King County NFWF	Fund habitation protection and restoration to benefit watershed health	Local governments, WA State, South Snohomish Co.	Aug 15/Sept 15	Nick Pearson 206-691-0700 npearson@evergreenfc.com	Preserve and Restore Habitat Functions	Habitat
National Fire Plan	Reduce fuels on lands at risk	Cities	Feb 11	Lauren Maloney 503-808-6587 lauren_maloney@or.blm.gov	Preserve Natural areas and Vegetation	Vegetation
F&W Species of Concern	Land acquisition, habitat conservation, to conserve threatened and endangered species		Dec 17	Joanne Stellini Joanne_stellini@fws.gov	Preserve and Restore Habitat Functions	Habitat
Cooperative Endangered Species Fund	Conserve threatened or endangered species, protect lands for habitat conservation	Not for habitat restoration or enhancement	March 31	Elizabeth Rodrick 360-902-2696 Brad Pruitt 360-902-1102	Preserve Natural Areas and Vegetation	Vegetation
National Resource Conservation Service	Wetlands easements and restoration	Landowners, tribes	No date listed	Leslie Deavers, USDA 202-720-1067	Protect and Improve Water Quality	Wetlands
Assessment and Watershed Protection Grants - EPA	Erosion and sediment control management	Local governments, WA State	June 21	Katie Flahive 202-566-1206 flahive.katie@epa.gov	Protect and Improve Water quality	Floodplain Flooding
Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account - DNR				Leslie Ryan Phone: (360) 902-1064 Email: leslie.ryan@wadnr.gov	Reduce Impacts of Flooding Events	Flooding
Bring Back the Natives – National Fish and Wildlife Foundation				Pam McClelland Phone: (202) 857-0166 Email: mcclelland@nfwf.org	Preserve Natural Areas and Vegetation	Habitat Vegetation
Landowner incentive program - Washington State Department of				Ginna Correa or Jeff Skriletz Phone: (360) 902-2478 or (360) 902-8313 http://wdfw.wa.gov/land	Preserve and Improve Physical and Visual Public Access to the	Habitat Vegetation

Fish and Wildlife, Lands Division				s/lip	Shoreline	
Regional Fisheries Enhancement Groups - Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife				Kristi Lynett Phone: (360) 902-2237 Email: lynetksl@dfw.wa.gov	Preserve and Restore Habitat Functions	Habitat
Salmon Recovery Funding Board - Interagency Committee for Outdoor Recreation				Rollie Geppert Phone: (360) 902-2636 Email: Salmon@iac.wa.gov	Preserve and Restore Habitat Functions	Habitat
Conservation Futures Fund				Snohomish County Parks and Recreation 425-388-6600		Vegetation Habitats
Snohomish Conservation District	Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP)			Jamie Bails Phone: 425-335-5634 ext. 106 Email: jaimeb@snohomishcd.org	Conservation Easements	Vegetation Habitat
Wetland Protection, Restoration, and Stewardship Discretionary Funding - Environmental Protection Agency				Christina Miller Phone: (206) 553-6512 Email: miller.christina@epa.gov	Protect and Improve Water Quality	Vegetation Habitat

TIMELINE FOR IMPLEMENTATION

The City of Sultan currently has a few ongoing and existing outreach projects. These can be added to by implementing the identified projects listed in the table above. As stated in the restoration opportunities section above, Segment A is most in need of restoration and Segment B is most likely to have successful restoration, and should be considered higher priority in the restoration process. These factors could be taken into consideration when implementing restoration projects. Table 4 below lists the restoration project timeline; projects are ranked by short term, medium term, and long term. These projects should be considered to be ranked by priority. The funding groups listed above have application deadlines which also need to be taken into consideration when timing projects.

Short term restoration projects include those that could be implemented by local landowners and volunteers and that would benefit the areas most in need. These projects could be implemented in Segments A and B where there is more need for restoration due to flooding and there are also larger areas of publicly owned lands, such as parks. Areas in Segment A are most in need of restoration and have a higher priority – this includes habitat and wetlands restoration in areas such as Reese Park and Osprey Park. Segment B is also high priority for restoration, and has a high chance of success due to the large areas of public ownership in this

segment. These projects could be implemented almost immediately or within a few months, depending on grant cycles. This would include:

- National Resource Conservation Service for wetland easements and restoration
- Water Quality Funding under the DOE for wetland habitat preservation and public education
- Fish and Wildlife Species of Concern for land acquisition and habitat preservation
- The Landowner Incentive Program under the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife

Medium term restoration projects could include those that enhance Sultan shorelines that have been designated or acquired previously. These could also be implemented in segment D where there are public access lands that are not likely to be developed in the near future. This would include:

- Flood Control Funding under the Department of Ecology for habitat protection and enhancement.
- Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account funding under the Department of Natural Resources.

Longer term restoration projects could be those that require coordination with other jurisdictions or that cover larger land areas. These projects may be more difficult to implement and could require more planning. These would include:

- Community Salmon Fund to benefit watershed health
- National Fire plan to reduce vegetation at risk
- Cooperative Endangered Species Fund to protect lands for habitat conservation
- EPA Assessment and Watershed protection grants for erosion and sediment control
- Bring Back the Natives with the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation

Table 4 - Restoration Project Timeline

	Restoration Goal	Strategy for Implementation	Short Term (1 – 3 years)	Medium Term (3-5 years)	Long Term (5-10 years)
Wetland Easement and Restoration (NRCS)	Preserve and Restore Habitat Functions	Backyard Sanctuary Program	*		
Wetland habitat preservation and public education (DOE)	Preserve and Restore Habitat Functions	Community Volunteers, Resource Directory	*		
Land Acquisition (F&W)	Preserve and improve physical and visual public access to the shoreline	Shore Stewards Education	*		
Landowner Incentive Program (F&W)	Multiple Goals	Shore Stewards Education, Backyard Sanctuary Program	*		

Flood Control Funding (DOE)	Reduce Impacts of Flooding Events	Capital Facilities Program		*	
Aquatic Lands Enhancement (DNR)	Preserve and Restore Habitat Functions	Volunteer Coordination, Backyard Sanctuary Program		*	
Watershed Health (Community Salmon Fund)	Protect and Improve Water Quality	Resource Directory, Backyard Sanctuary Program			*
Reduce Vegetation at Risk (National Fire Plan)	Preserve Natural Areas and Vegetation	Resource Directory, Shore Stewards Education			*
Habitat Conservation (Cooperative Endangered Species Fund)	Preserve and Restore Habitat Functions	Resource Directory, Backyard Sanctuary Program			*
Erosion and Sediment Control (EPA)	Protect and Improve Water Quality	Capital Facilities Program			*
Bring Back the Natives (NFWF)	Preserve and Restore Habitat Functions	Volunteer Coordination, Resource Directory			*

STRATEGIES FOR IMPLEMENTATION

This section discusses programmatic measures for the City of Sultan designed to foster shoreline restoration and achieve a net improvement in shoreline ecological processes, functions, and habitats. With projected budget and staff limitations, the City of Sultan does not anticipate leading most restoration projects or programs. However, the City's SMP represents an important vehicle for facilitating and encouraging restoration projects and programs that could be led by local private and non-profit entities. The discussion of restoration mechanisms and strategies below highlights programmatic measures that the City could implement, as well as parallel activities that would be led by other governmental and non-governmental organizations.

The city currently has a lot of public open space located within its shorelines, however current zoning does not reflect these open spaces. Although these areas are zoned residential, development is not likely. If the city were to create a less intensive zone for these open spaces or to rezone these areas to conservancy or natural designations, this would offer significant habitat protection and conservation.

Volunteer Coordination

Another way the city could accomplish restoration projects is by using community volunteers. Volunteers could be recruited for project implementation and monitoring and the city would provide equipment and expertise. The city would also need to fund a volunteer coordinator to organize projects, solicit various environmental groups and individual

volunteers to complete the projects and partner or coordinate with other government entities on projects. This would be a good opportunity for the Sultan High School class listed in the outreach section.

Capital Facilities Program

The City could develop shoreline restoration as a new section of the city's Capital Facilities Program, even if not immediately funded, to ensure that they are considered during the City's budget process.

Shoreline restoration could also be linked to capital facilities projects that take place in the city's shorelines, such as when there are updates to the waste water treatment plant, highway construction on State Route 2, and parks improvements.

Shore Stewards Education

Shore Stewards are shoreline property owners and residents of waterfront communities with shared beach access who voluntarily follow 10 wildlife-friendly guidelines in caring for their beaches, bluffs, gardens and homes. These guidelines help them create and preserve a healthy shoreline environment for fish, wildlife, birds and people. This program was created to help shoreline residents feel more connected to the nearshore ecosystem because they feel that when people understand the natural processes at work on their beaches, they may play a more active, positive role in the preservation of healthy, fish-friendly wildlife habitats.

The 10 guidelines for shoreline living are:

1. Use water wisely.
2. Maintain your septic system.
3. Limit pesticide and fertilizer usage.
4. Manage upland water runoff.
5. Encourage native plants and trees.
6. Know permit procedures for shoreline development.
7. Develop on bluffs with care.
8. Minimize bulkheads, docks and other structures.
9. Respect intertidal life.
10. Preserve eelgrass beds and forage fish spawning habitat.

Shore Stewards was created in 2002 with grant funding by the Island County Marine Resources Committee. The pilot program was launched on Camano Island by a dedicated group of Washington State University (WSU) Beach Watchers, who wrote the resource-packed Shore Stewards Guide. Shore Stewards is now expanding to other counties of Puget Sound. This would be a good opportunity for the riverfront property owners listed in the outreach table. This would include residents of Skywall Drive and Dyer Road in shoreline segment B.

Resource Directory

Develop a resource list for property owners that want to be involved in restoration. Two examples of grant programs that could be included are below, others are included in the funding groups table above.

Landowner Incentive Program (LIP) – This is a competitive grant process to provide financial assistance to private individual landowners for the protection, enhancement, or restoration of habitat to benefit species-at-risk on privately owned lands. Check the LIP website after mid-August for information about the next application cycle that will be open September through November 2005. Please direct questions to Ginna Correa at corregcc@dfw.wa.gov.

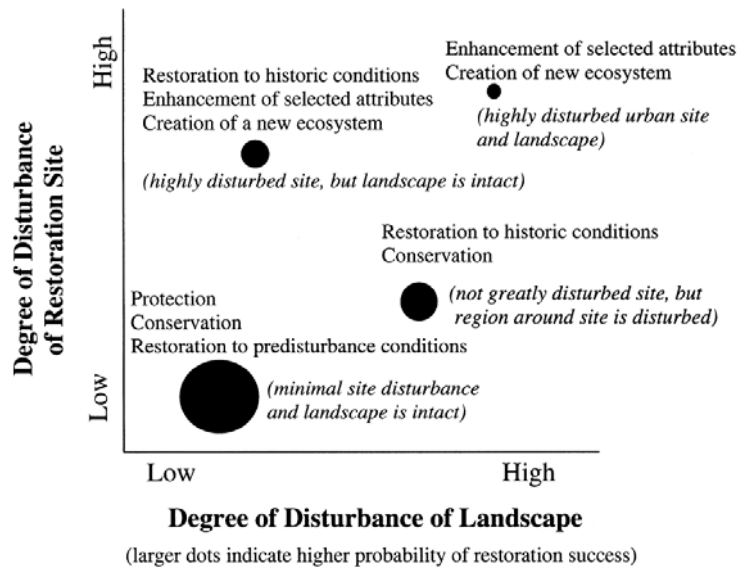
Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB) Grant Programs – SRFB administers two grant programs for protection and/or restoration of salmon habitat. Eligible applicants can include municipal subdivisions (cities, towns, counties, ports, conservation districts, utility, park and recreation, and school districts), Tribal governments, state agencies, nonprofit organizations, and private landowners. All projects require lead entity approval, and the lead entity for your region should be contacted before applying to explain the process. Applications for funding are due to the SRFB on September 30, 2005.

Backyard Sanctuary Program

Encourage participation in Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife backyard sanctuary program. Since the City recognizes that there are important opportunities to improve shoreline ecological conditions and functions through non-regulatory, volunteer actions by shoreline residents and property owners it might examine the potential for property tax breaks for shoreline property owners who actively manage their property for habitat protection or enhancement. To encourage volunteer actions that better shoreline ecological functions and values, shoreline property owners actively participating in the WDFW backyard sanctuary program or some similar program could receive, for example, a 5% credit on their City property taxes.

EVALUATION CRITERIA

When a project is proposed for implementation by the city, other agency or by a private party, the restoration project should be evaluated to ensure that the project's objectives are consistent with those of the Restoration Plan and, if applicable, that the project warrants implementation above other candidate projects. (It is recognized that, due to funding sources or other constraints, the range of any individual project may be narrow.)



It is also expected that the list of potential projects may change over time, that new projects may be identified and existing opportunities may become less relevant as restoration occurs and as other environmental conditions, or our knowledge of them, change.

When evaluating potential projects, priority should be given to projects most meeting the following criteria:

- Restoration meets the goals for shoreline restoration.
- Restoration of processes is generally of greater importance than restoration of functions.
- Restoration avoids residual impacts to other functions or processes.
- Projects address a known degraded condition.
- Conditions that are progressively worsening are of greater priority.
- Restoration has a high benefit to cost ratio.
- Restoration is feasible, such as being located on and accessed by public property or private property that is cooperatively available for restoration. Restoration should avoid conflicts with adjacent property owners.
- There is public support for the project.
- Avoids property conflicts.

The city should consider developing a project “score card” as a tool to evaluate projects consistent with these criteria. The project scorecard from the Lower Columbia River Estuary Partnership could be used as a starting point.

Project Monitoring

Project monitoring will be taking place in the City of Sultan through the city’s Critical Areas Regulations. The Critical Area Regulations will monitor individual projects taking place in the city’s shorelines. These monitoring efforts include: critical areas studies, mitigation

plans, buffer requirements, review criteria for development activities, and performance standards. Critical area studies are required under SMC 16.80.130, Ordinance 918-06, 11/4/06 (Appendix B) for developments, and are to be completed by a qualified professional. These studies are to include a discussion on the existing functional values of the critical area, and a discussion of the changes that could result from the development. Mitigation plans are required under SMC 16.80.140, Ordinance 918-06, 11/04/06 (Appendix B) to address restoration, rehabilitation, and compensation. These mitigation plans are to include: a baseline study, goals and objectives, replacement of lost functional values, and contingency provisions. Review criteria for critical areas is required under SMC 16.80.170, Ordinance 918-06, 11/4/06 (Appendix B), this includes evaluation of proposed developments under a hierarchy of goals.

In addition to project monitoring required for individual restoration and mitigation projects; the city should conduct system-wide monitoring, to the degree practical, recognizing that individual project monitoring does not provide an assessment of overall shoreline ecological health. The following three prong approach is suggested:

1. Track information using the city's GIS system as activities occur (both restoration and mitigation) for the individual shoreline segments, such as:
 - Removal of fill
 - Vegetation
 - Bulkheads/armoring

The city may require project proponents to monitor as part of project mitigation, which may be incorporated into this process.

2. Re-review status of environmental processes and functions at the time of periodic SMP updates.
 - Review progress by segment to evaluate the key processes
 - Review segment progress towards the restoration goals
3. Periodically review the regional ongoing monitoring programs, such as:
 - Snohomish County Monitoring
 - Watershed health

As monitoring occurs, the city should periodically reassess environmental conditions and restoration goals. Those ecological process and functions that are found to be worsening may need to become elevated in priority to prevent loss of critical resources. Alternatively, successful restoration may reduce the importance of some restoration objectives in the future.