

INVESTING IN HABITAT RESTORATION AND PROTECTION TO BRING BACK PUGET SOUND'S DYNAMIC NATURAL SYSTEMS — FOR SALMON, PEOPLE, AND COMMUNITY

**PSAR PROJECTS COMPLETED IN THE 2013 – 15 BIENNIUM RESTORED AND PROTECTED 1,289 ESTUARY AND NEARSHORE ACRES, 770 FLOODPLAIN ACRES, AND 14 RIVER AND STREAM MILES.**



## WHAT IS PSAR?

The Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration program was created in 2007 to help implement the most important habitat protection and restoration priorities for Puget Sound. Funding is appropriated by the Legislature and allocated through the Salmon Recovery Funding Board. The Puget Sound Partnership works with local entities to identify and prioritize projects.

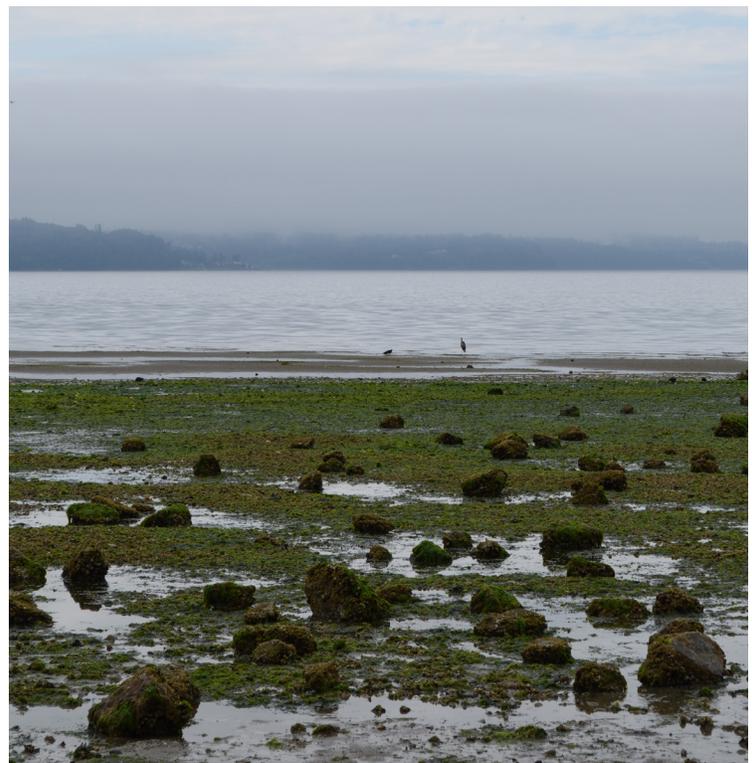
## WHY IS PSAR AN EFFECTIVE INVESTMENT?

- **PSAR-funded projects restore critical habitat and salmon populations in Puget Sound.**

Because the projects are thoroughly reviewed, their benefit to improved salmon habitat in Puget Sound is significant. The projects:

- ✓ Are **locally vetted** and locally supported
  - ✓ Are informed by science and the NOAA-approved Chinook recovery strategy
  - ✓ Are **endorsed** by citizens, cities, counties, tribes, non-profit organizations, and government agencies
  - ✓ Generate multiple benefits, such as **local jobs** and recreational opportunities
- **PSAR projects make efficient use of public money.**

To be eligible for funding, proposed projects must first advance through a series of **rigorous, science-driven reviews**. The reviews occur at the local and regional level and ensure that all PSAR projects align with the **Puget Sound Salmon Recovery Plan**, as well as with the Puget Sound Partnership's ecosystem recovery targets, listed in the **Puget Sound Action Agenda**.



PSAR projects completed in the 2013 – 15 biennium restored and protected 1,289 estuary and nearshore acres, 770 floodplain acres, and 14 river and stream miles. Many restored habitats are already being used by salmon and other species.

*Staff with the Puget Sound Partnership manage the PSAR grant fund program; PSAR funds are administered through the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office. For more information about the funding process, or to apply for a PSAR grant, go to [www.rco.wa.gov/grants/salmon.shtml](http://www.rco.wa.gov/grants/salmon.shtml)*

# PROPOSED FOR FUTURE FUNDING

## MCSORLEY CREEK

**PROJECT SPONSOR:** King County Water & Land Resources

**PROPERTY OWNER:** Washington State Parks

The mouth of McSorley Creek, a salmon-bearing stream that flows through Saltwater State Park, is lined with rock rip-rap installed many years ago to help prevent erosion and channel migration. The rip-rap has caused the loss of habitat for salmon and many other species that depend on a natural connection between nearshore and upland areas. In addition, a nearly 1,000-foot seawall was previously installed at the base of a nearby coastal bluff to prevent erosion of the bluff. The eroding sediment, however, is an important source of beach material. Without it, the character of the beach has changed to the point that it no longer supports the type of habitat necessary for forage fish—sand lance and surf smelt—to spawn. Forage fish are a critical food source for salmon.

The McSorley Creek project is very similar to the nearshore restoration project at Seahurst Park, which received nearly \$2.3 million through the Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration (PSAR) fund in the 2013–15 biennium.

### PSAR IS A POTENTIAL SOURCE OF FUTURE FUNDING TO:

- Remove fill material at the creek delta to restore natural processes to 1 acre of intertidal habitat.
- Restore the stream channel by removing rock armoring along both banks.
- Remove marine shoreline armoring to restore sediment delivery from the coastal bluff to beach habitats.
- Enhance low-impact marine recreation opportunities.
- Evaluate the cost-benefit of relocation of the park buildings to elevations where flood risk due to sea-level rise is reduced.

### PROJECT BENEFITS:

- Restore natural connections between upland and aquatic habitats.
- Restore sediment delivery from the coastal bluff to the beach habitats.
- Restore the pocket estuary to provide habitat for young Chinook salmon.
- Protect park facilities from flooding due to sea-level rise.
- Enhance opportunities for public recreation and education.



**COUNTY:** King

**LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT:** 33

**CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:** 09

**COST:** \$1.67 million requested for final design

### PSAR FUNDING IS REQUESTED FOR THE FOLLOWING WRIA 9 PROJECTS IN 2017:

- Downey Farmstead Floodplain Restoration Project – \$4,835,743
- Lower Russell Road Floodplain Restoration Project – \$9,847,832