Little Squalicum Estuary



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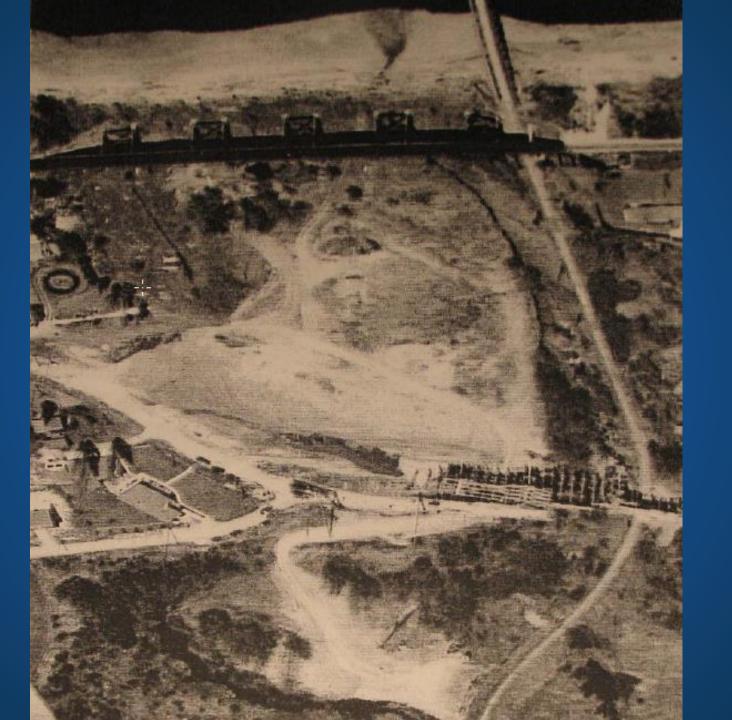
Outline



Location











Project Goals

Goal 1

 Restore lost estuarine wetland habitat near the Nooksack River mouth that can serve as juvenile salmon rearing habitat for ESA-listed Chinook salmon. Restoration will also benefit ESA-listed Southern Resident Killer Whale.

Goal 2

Enhance sediment supply and forage fish spawning processes.

Goal 3

Enhance wetland water quality function and remove contaminated soils.

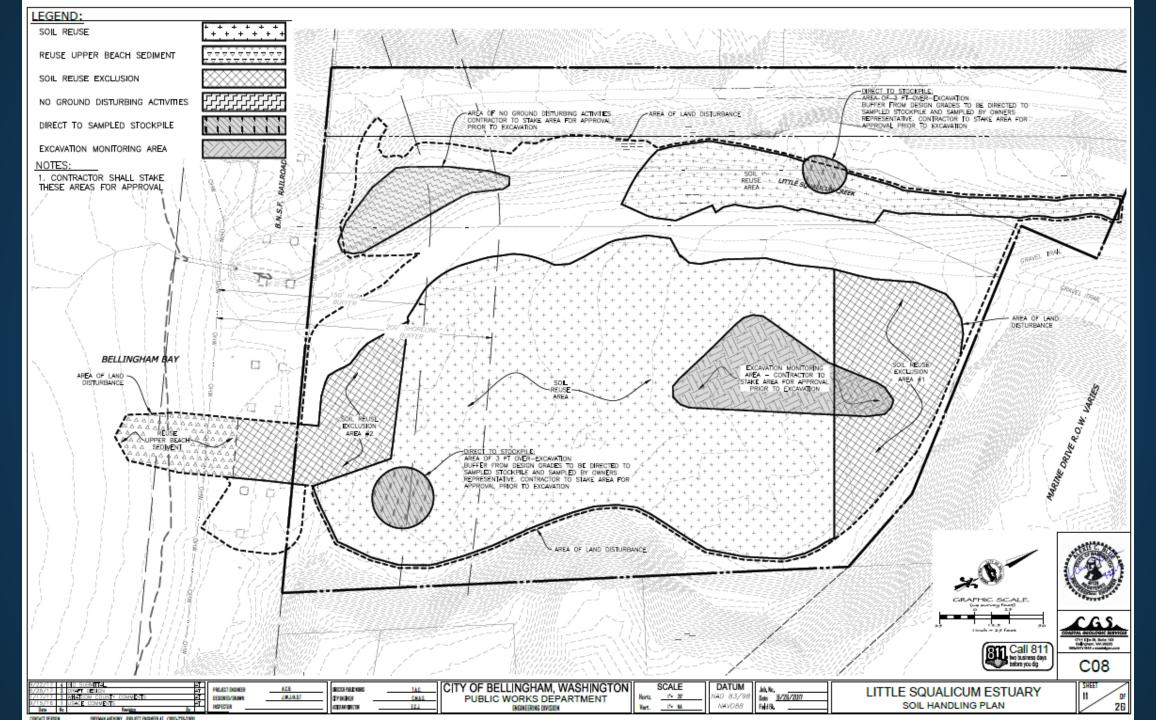
Process To Date



Project Elements LITTLE SOUALICUM PARK LITTLE NEW LITTLE SQUALICUM SQUALICUM CREEK REALIGNMENT AND CREEK VEGETATION ENHANCEMENT UP-STREAM **EXTENT OF** PROJECT LINEAR FEET OF SHORELINE 1,300 FT NEW LITTLE SQUALICUM-ESTUARY AND VEGETATION ENHANCEMENT beach nourishment BNSF RR TRACKS for forage fish habitat 2.4 acres Chinook NEW LOCATION OF rearing habitat LITTLE SQUALICUM CREEK created acres noreline NEW OUTLET OF LITTLE SQUALICUM revegetated **ESTUARY DECOMMISSION CURRENT CULVERT**







Construction

- \$3,474,179.48
- Glacier Environmental Services

 This project would not be possible without the partnership of landowners within the project area: Lehigh Northwest Cement Company, Port of Bellingham, Whatcom County, and BNSF.

Funding

- City of Bellingham
- Greenways Levy
- Washington Department of Ecology Centennial Clean Water Program
- Washington Department of Ecology One-Time Grant Program
- WA State Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account Grant Program (ALEA)
- WA State Estuary and Salmon Restoration Program (ESRP)
- US Fish and Wildlife Service National Coastal Wetland Conservation Grant Program
- Port of Bellingham
- Whatcom County
- Nooksack Salmon Enhancement Association (NSEA)















Next Steps

Community Work Party – January 16, 2023



Next Steps

Post-construction monitoring

SCHEDULE	YO	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y 5
Monitoring Tasks					
Salinity Measurements	X	X	Х	X	X
Photo monitoring	X	X	X	X	х
Snorkel Surveys		X	X	Х	X
Riparian & Estuarine Vegetation		X	X	X	X
Visual Inspections	X	X	X	X	
Forage Fish Surveys *	X				
Annual Report		Х	Х	Х	X

^{*} Whatcom MRC may conduct additional surveys

Thank you, questions?



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