

**KING CONSERVATION DISTRICT
GRANT SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
April 27th, 2020**

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://zoom.us/j/96123774496>

Meeting Agenda

Call to Order

1. Preliminary Matters 4:00-4:02

- a) Introductions
- b) Additions or Corrections to the Agenda
- c) Adoption of the Board Agenda

2. Public Comment: 4:02 – 4:05

3. Discussion – Policy recommendations to adapt to COVID-19

4. Grant Subcommittee Items:

Close outs

- 1. King County – McSorley Creek Restoration Project Field Assessments and Technical Analysis to Support Design



**King Conservation District
Member Jurisdiction & WRIA Forum Grant Program
Grant Agreement Close Out**

Grant Summary Information

Recipient: King County

Project Title: McSorley Creek Shoreline & Pocket Estuary Restoration Project Field Assessments and Technical Analyses to Support Design

Project Description: Field assessments, analysis, modeling, and some 30% design work to support design for the shoreline and pocket estuary restoration project Saltwater State Park. Field assessments will include McSorley Creek habitat assessment and mapping, wetlands delineation, eelgrass and nearshore habitat characterization, geotechnical assessment, and structural assessment of existing features in the park. The analysis and modeling will cover coastal processes, sea level rise analysis and considerations, McSorley Creek hydraulic analysis, upland/park conveyance requirements, and a constructability assessment. Thirty percent design work will include Draft Basis of Design report, ADA review, preliminary cost estimate, and baseline schedule for upland/park redevelopment.

These technical studies and analyses are needed support the design for the currently underway shoreline and pocket estuary restoration project at Saltwater State Park. This grant application will round out 30% design, which is the current design phase, which will cost a total of approximately \$1 million, and the entire project through construction is estimated to cost \$11 million. The project will improve natural shoreline processes and habitat opportunities in the McSorley Creek estuary and Puget Sound shoreline areas within Saltwater State Park through removal of creek and shoreline armoring. Currently, these areas are extensively modified in ways that significantly impair stream and nearshore habitats and processes.

The purpose of the project is salmon habitat restoration. Restoration of the park's estuary and shoreline is a high priority for Chinook salmon recovery efforts in the watershed (Green/Duwamish and Central Puget Sound Watershed WRIA 9 Steering Committee 2005). This project will reconnect natural shoreline processes in two primary ways. First it will remove a large amount of intertidal fill that was placed on the mid and upper beach and protected from erosion with a bulkhead. The current location of this fill dramatically reduces the amount of forage fish (surf smelt and Pacific Sand Lance) spawning habitat as well as reduces the quality of the remaining habitat. Forage fish are a key prey resource for adult salmon and larger juvenile salmon. The armor is located relatively low in the intertidal zone which greatly affects many ecological aspects of how shorelines function (e.g. no riparian habitat, no drift log accumulations, altered invertebrate communities). The second primary process this project addresses is sediment recruitment. Puget Sound beaches are primarily created by bluff materials, which have been disconnected in much of King County by bulkheads. The 30% design envisions removing the vast majority of existing shoreline armoring which will allow natural bluff erosion and subsequent beach creation to happen. This will likely be the largest bluff restoration project in King County undertaken due to relatively small parcels that exist in most other parts of the County.

Another component of the project is to restore the mouth of McSorley Creek. Currently McSorley Creek is channelized through the park; this project will restore the mouth of the creek from a channelized form and recreate a pocket estuary, which have been all but eliminated in Central Puget Sound. These pocket estuaries are important rearing habitat for juvenile salmonids as they migrate through the Sound. Pocket estuaries also provide valuable saltwater marsh habitat for birds and other wildlife as well. Further, the creek itself will be allowed to meander naturally in the lower 400 ft,

In addition to restoring natural processes, this heavily used park will be significantly improved as the upland/park area is redesigned to accommodate the ecological restoration. The park gets an estimated 200,000 visitors per year. In addition to enjoying the waterfront, walking dogs, enjoying picnics, beach combing, bird watching, and using the play equipment, local residents also come to the park to scuba

diving, kayak camp, go fishing, attend one of several festivals held annually, and participate in the Beach Naturalist Program. All these uses and more have been taken into consideration during park planning so that park users should have positive and improved experiences at the park. And with the ecological restoration, park users would now be able to stroll a much larger beach area as well as view wildlife in the pocket estuary from a view point. Trails between the new marine and nearshore-focused interpretive center and the beach as well as the bridge and trail to the north side of the creek will all be ADA accessible. Furthermore, all modifications to the park will be made after conducting sea level rise analysis and planning accordingly. Currently, there are areas of the lower parking lot and beachfront that are already flooded annually with king tides. This project will use fill material currently behind the bulkhead to raise the lower recreation areas enough so they are not flooded at king tides or with sea level rise over a projected 50-year time frame.

Funding Source and Year: KCD-WRIA Funds

Start Date: 10/16/2017 **End Date:** 12/31/2018 **Date Awarded:** 10/09/2017

Grant Budget Summary		Returned Funds:		Payment Summary	
Award Amount:	\$481,187.50	Amount Returned:	\$26.69	Amount Paid to Date:	\$234,957.27 2/22/2019
Amount Spent:	481,160.81	Date Returned:	N/A	Final Payment Date:	\$246,203.54 / /

Amendment Request Summary:

Yes N/A Notes:

Scope of Work Revision: To reflect actual expenditures

Budget Revision:

Completion Date Extension: Extended to 06/30/2019 then to 9/30/2019

Copies of Work Product (check box or describe below)

Designs/Plans Brochures/Publications Curricula

Photos Video Sign Mock-Ups

Other:

KCD Acknowledgement: All reports and memos include acknowledgement of the KCD-WRIA funding. KCD is acknowledged on the website as a "Project Partners" and the logo is there as well (www.kingcounty.gov/saltwatersp). Going forward, future reports and memos as a part of final design will continue to acknowledge KCD funding.

Site Visit Date: N/A:

Description:

Planting Projects:

Maintenance/Monitoring Needs to be tracked: Ongoing until: _____

Completed: N/A:

Reporting Summary: Yes No Notes:

Progress Reports:

Expense Reports:

Final Report:

Project Accomplishments and Successes

Completion of a preliminary design that integrates both the shoreline and stream elements of restoration with the upland, recreational portions of the park is a significant accomplishment. This is a complex project, because it involves marine shoreline, a stream and pocket estuary, a bluff, and it's all inside a popular, well-used State Park, which means that active recreation must be retained and accommodated. Additionally, there are historic buildings on site, and there are neighbors whose sole access is through the park. That we have finished this preliminary design with this grant is a huge success.

Regional Benefits

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Obstacles and Challenges

Our primary challenges were with our consultant group. We frequently received sub-standard work, and when we asked them to make corrections, answer questions, and address concerns, they often came back with still-shoddy work. They often lost key members of their teams and did not replace them. King County’s internal design team provided oversight so were able to catch all the issues. These and all other issues in need of addressing will be carried forward to the next phase of design so that all work products that lead to final design and construction will be high-quality.

Lessons Learned and Recommendations for Future Projects

This project has thus far been fully funded through grants, and not enough grant funding was secured on project kick-off. That resulted in a piece-meal approach, and the result of that was first doing the restoration design followed by the upland design, then having to “stitch” them together. This approach seemed necessary to get the project going, but it is not a recommended approach as it did result in some higher costs for putting the designs together. Going forward, we will have all the funding we need before embarking on the next phase of design so that we may avoid this situation again.

I certify that the project has been completed, all expenditures have been paid, and the final report has been received by the District.

District Representative

Date: _____

I certify that the project has been completed, all expenditures have been reported, and the final report has been completed and submitted to the District.

Maureen Dahlstrom _____

Grant Recipient

Name: Maureen Dahlstrom

Title: Program Manager

Date: 4/23/2020 _____