

**COMMENCEMENT BAY NATURAL RESOURCE TRUSTEE  
LONG TERM SITE STEWARDSHIP PROJECT**

**MONTHLY PROGRESS REPORT – OCTOBER 10, 2010**

As required under Task 2 of the Commencement Bay Natural Resource Trustee Long Term Site Stewardship Project, this memorandum reports on the progress of the project for the previous month. This project was undertaken in connection with the settlement of an enforcement action taken by the United States Environmental Protection Agency for violations of CERCLA.

**I. GENERAL SITE OBSERVATIONS**

**DESCRIPTION OF ACTIONS TAKEN AT EACH SITE DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD**

Per the scope of work, the City coordinated work with both the Washington Conservation Corps (WCC) and Citizens for a Healthy Bay (CHB). In accordance with the project schedule, site monitoring visits were not performed during the month of September. The next required bi-monthly site monitoring visits will be performed in October by CHB or City staff as needed. Specific observations or other actions taken at each site during the reporting period are noted below.

**Yowkwala:**

- No required site monitoring visit was performed during the reporting period.
- A car was found upside down on the beach just around the corner near the driftwood shelter. It appeared to have rolled down the embankment. This was reported to the Tacoma Police Department and the property owner (Puyallup Tribe). Removal was performed early September 29.

**Skookum Wulge:**

- No required site monitoring visit was performed during the reporting period.
- Planning for upcoming invasive removal and planting activities is underway.

**Squally Beach:**

- No required site monitoring visit was performed during the reporting period.
- The City notified the Trustees of the presence of *Spartina angelica* at the site. The Washington State Department of Agriculture (WSDA) was also notified as this was the first documented presence of this invasive species in Commencement Bay. The WSDA Puget Sound *Spartina* Coordinator arranged for a small crew to remove the plants. This work was completed on September 30, with the removal of more than 90 *Spartina* patches/plants at the site resulting in 21 garbage bags of plant material for disposal. A bay-wide survey is in the planning stages. Surveys for re-growth in the Squally Beach area will be needed next year.
- Planning for upcoming invasive removal and planting activities is underway.

**COMMENCEMENT BAY NATURAL RESOURCE TRUSTEE  
LONG TERM SITE STEWARDSHIP PROJECT**

**MONTHLY PROGRESS REPORT – OCTOBER 10, 2010**

**Mowitch:**

- No required site monitoring visit was performed during the reporting period.
- The WCC performed invasive control including knotweed injection and phragmites removal.
- Planning for upcoming invasive removal and planting activities is underway.

**Jordan/Lower Hylebos Marsh:**

- No required site monitoring visit was performed during the reporting period.
- The WCC performed knotweed injection.
- A NOAA representative (Paul Cereghino) performed a site visit to review the alder thinning that occurred in August. Concern was expressed that activities performed did not meet the Trustees' site expectations. As requested by NOAA, the City is mapping the affected areas and will then meet with the involved parties on site to discuss plans to remedy the issue.

**Middle Waterway – City of Tacoma:**

- No required site monitoring visit was performed during the reporting period.
- The WCC performed invasive removal.
- Planning for upcoming invasive removal and planting activities is underway.

**Middle Waterway – Simpson:**

- No required site monitoring visit was performed during the reporting period.
- Planning for upcoming invasive removal and planting activities is underway.

**Olympic View – City of Tacoma and DNR Triangle:**

- No required site monitoring visit or other activities were performed during the reporting period.

**Tahoma Salt Marsh:**

- No required site monitoring visit was performed during the reporting period.
- The WCC performed invasive removal and tying of reed canary grass.

**Swan Creek:**

- No required site monitoring visit was performed during the reporting period.
- The WCC performed knotweed injection.

**COMMENCEMENT BAY NATURAL RESOURCE TRUSTEE  
LONG TERM SITE STEWARDSHIP PROJECT**

**MONTHLY PROGRESS REPORT – OCTOBER 10, 2010**

**II. ACTIVITIES AND DELIVERABLES**

**DESCRIPTION OF WORK ACTIVITIES COMPLETED DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD**

- Specific site work activities are described above in Section I.
- An ESP Coordination Meeting was held on September 7, with City, CHB and FOH representatives present.
- Access agreements with the Port of Tacoma and the Puyallup Tribe of Indians are still in process of finalization. The Port agreement has been finalized and is continuing to route for City signature. Puyallup Tribe representatives are performing final review on that agreement and approval is expected in the near future.

**DESCRIPTION OF WORK ACTIVITIES PLANNED FOR THE UPCOMING REPORTING PERIOD**

- Upcoming community involvement events are being planned for October at the following locations:
  - Yowkwala – invasive removal and supplemental planting – October 2 and 9;
  - Middle Waterway, City – riparian area planting and mulching – October 23;
  - Skookum Wulge – invasive removal and planting - October 19 and 30; and
  - Jordan – planting – October 30 (Note: may be delayed pending Trustee communication).
- ESP Coordination Meetings are scheduled for the first Tuesday of each month.
- The City will continue to work with CHB on implementation of their annual work plan and schedule for community involvement activities.
- The City will coordinate an on-site meeting at the Jordan site to resolve issues related to alder thinning activities.
- The City will continue to coordinate WCC work to complete Priority 1 tasks as identified in the approved 2010 work plan and address Priority 2 tasks as time permits.
- The City will continue work toward full execution of the remaining site access agreements.
- CHB and the City will perform bi-monthly monitoring in accordance with the Settlement Agreement.

**DESCRIPTION OF DELIVERABLES SUBMITTED DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD**

- Monthly progress report for August was submitted on September 9.

**DESCRIPTION OF DELIVERABLES PLANNED FOR THE UPCOMING REPORTING PERIOD**

- Year 2 Annual Report is due on October 26 (Note: This report will also include the fourth quarter report).

**COMMENCEMENT BAY NATURAL RESOURCE TRUSTEE  
LONG TERM SITE STEWARDSHIP PROJECT**

**MONTHLY PROGRESS REPORT – OCTOBER 10, 2010**

**PROBLEM AREAS IDENTIFIED AND PROPOSED SOLUTIONS**

- Issues associated with the alder thinning at the Jordan site will be resolved as outlined above.
- As the access agreement for those sites owned by the Puyallup Tribe of Indians remains unsigned, please note that the projects planned on those sites will have limited on-site assistance by the City staff and crews, and therefore the scope may be reduced or the timeline delayed. Currently, the City requests approval from the Puyallup Tribe representative on a case by case basis, so depending on the extent and timeframes that those approvals are granted we will continue the work on the task list.
- Continued monitoring for *Spartina angelica* at the Squally Beach site will be performed. In addition, the City will assist with a bay-wide survey for this invasive species.

Copies submitted as follows:

Jennifer Steger, NOAA (1 via electronic mail, 1 via U.S. Mail)  
Gail Siani, NOAA (1 via electronic mail)  
Jeanine Riss, Citizens for a Healthy Bay (1 via electronic mail)  
Lili Allala, Friends of the Hylebos (1 via electronic mail)  
Kira Lynch, EPA (1 via electronic mail)  
Jason Lehto, NOAA (1 via electronic mail)