

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

MONTHLY PROGRESS REPORT – DECEMBER 16, 2009

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 WCC and CHB. City staff performed site visits on December 3, 10, and 16. The next required bi-monthly site visit will be performed in February and will include photo documentation. Any specific observations for each site are noted below.

Yowkwala:

- Site visits conducted: November 20 (CHB) and December 3 (COT).
- December 5 – Planted 166 native plants, mulched, and removed invasives near south access to property (CHB).

Skookum Wulge:

- Site visits conducted: November 20 (CHB) and December 3 (COT).
- Invasive species removal, replanting, and beach protection continue to be the main concerns at this site.
- Plants installed on November 7 still looking good (CHB planting plan attached). Silt fence will remain in place until next spring when slopes have stabilized.
- The south half of the site still remains covered with ivy and other invasives. It is anticipated that this portion of the site will be prepped and planted in late summer and fall 2010 (COT).
- Some dunegrass planted along the face of the erosion area was lost to tidal action and additional erosion.
- Fencing was removed, sandblasted, repainted, and reinstalled. A new chain was added with City locks (COT).
- Gravel was added to the turn-out and the area re-graded (COT).
- COT will be contacting a consultant to conceptualize and estimate large woody debris (LWD) placement with the purpose of minimizing erosion.

Squally Beach:

- Site visits conducted: November 20 (CHB) and December 3 (COT).
- COT plans to continue with herbicide injections on adjacent site to the north in 2010.
- Removal of other invasive species is ongoing and continues to be a primary concern at this site.
- Cordgrass identified and removed (COT).

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

MONTHLY PROGRESS REPORT – DECEMBER 16, 2009

- Clearing activity was noted on the adjacent parcel to the south and surveying was reported.
- COT will be contacting a consultant to conceptualize and estimate LWD placement with the purpose of minimizing erosion and preventing the accumulation of a large amount of LWD that could be detrimental to the established plant community.

Mowitch:

- Site visits conducted: November 28 (CHB steward) and December 10 (COT).
- Invasive species removal is ongoing and continues to be a primary concern at this site.

Jordan/Lower Hylebos Marsh:

- Site visit conducted: December 10 (COT).
- Blackberry control on east side of trail. Will need supplemental planting in the spring. COT will coordinate this effort with interested parties, City of Fife, and WCC.

Middle Waterway – City of Tacoma:

- Site visits conducted: November 25 (CHB stewards) and December 10 (COT).
- Two new CHB stewards are sharing the responsibility of both Middle Waterway sites (MWC and MWS).
- Invasive species removal is ongoing and continues to be a primary concern.
- Supplemental planting planned for fall 2010 as identified on 2010 task list (COT).

Middle Waterway – Simpson:

- Site visits conducted: November 25 (CHB and CHB stewards) and December 10 (COT).
- COT has received a signed access agreement from Simpson that is currently routing through City signature.
- Encampment located in the south woods near 11th Street is still present. The Tacoma Police Department has been notified.
- Minor erosion and subsequent exposure of approximately 1 foot of a metal beam (railroad spur?) was identified jutting out of the riparian berm.

Olympic View – City of Tacoma and DNR Triangle*:

**Please note that in previous reports these were two separate entries. For consistency with other documents, including the inspection forms, they have been combined.*

- Site visit conducted: December 10 (COT).
- Invasive species removal is ongoing and continues to be a primary concern at this site. Invasives are primarily concentrated around the perimeter of the site.

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

MONTHLY PROGRESS REPORT – DECEMBER 16, 2009

- Corner of Capital Warehouse closest to the DNR triangle continues to experience erosion.
- DNR was contacted regarding the push of gravels at the mouth of the Triangle. It is recommended that someone look at the fish entrapment possibility as well as the erosion that is occurring at the western edge of the mouth.

Tahoma Salt Marsh:

- Site visits conducted: November 20 (CHB and CHB stewards) and December 3 (COT).
- Supplemental planting with drought tolerant species such as shore pine, red flowering currant, evergreen huckleberry, and nootka rose recommended in fall 2010 on the island.
- December 12 – Mulching of riparian plants completed by CHB, WCC, and volunteers.

Swan Creek:

- Site visit conducted: December 16 (COT).
- Damaged fencing is in process of repair.
- Expired salmon noted in stream main channel.
- Invasive removal by WCC is ongoing. Supplemental plants will be needed for a spring 2010 planting.

II. ACTIVITIES AND DELIVERABLES

DESCRIPTION OF WORK ACTIVITIES COMPLETED DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD

- ESP Coordination Meeting was held on December 9. In attendance: Mary Henley (COT), Desiree Pooley (COT) and Jeanine Riss (CHB). Hillary Kleeb (FOH) was unable to attend.
- Access agreements with the Port of Tacoma and the Puyallup Tribe of Indians remain in the review/draft stage. The Simpson access agreement has been signed, returned, and is routing for City signature (COT).
- CHB and CHB stewards performed ESP site visits.
- COT advertised the Environmental Stewardship Project Community Assistance RFP on December 3. Submittal deadline was extended to January 5, 2010. Scheduling for review and interviews will be coordinated with Jason Lehto. It is anticipated that a selection will be made by the end of February.

DESCRIPTION OF WORK ACTIVITIES PLANNED FOR THE UPCOMING REPORTING PERIOD

- Next ESP Coordination Meeting on January 12.
- Continue to complete Priority 1 tasks as identified in approved 2010 work plan (COT, CHB, FOH).
- Continue work toward full execution of the remaining site access agreements (COT).

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

MONTHLY PROGRESS REPORT – DECEMBER 16, 2009

- COT to complete RFP advertisement period and begin review and selection process.
- COT to continue to coordinate WCC work.

DESCRIPTION OF DELIVERABLES SUBMITTED DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD

- Monthly Progress Report submitted on December 22.
- Quarterly Progress Report scheduled for submittal on or before December 29.

DESCRIPTION OF DELIVERABLES PLANNED FOR THE UPCOMING REPORTING PERIOD

- Monthly Progress Report due on January 26.

PROBLEM AREAS IDENTIFIED AND PROPOSED SOLUTIONS

- COT recommends the removal of the large posted goose exclusion devices at Mowitch. The plants in this area are successful and there is no longer a need for these devices. COT proposes that the large posts be dug down one foot and cut off at the lower mudline.

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)
Hillary Kleeb, Friends of the Hylebos (1 via electronic mail)
Kira Lynch, EPA (1 via electronic mail)

Skookum Wulge Planting Plan for Nov. 7, 2009 Clump-gap mosaic planting design

Polygon 1: 40' x 30' = 1200ft²

Polygon 38' x 17' = 646ft²

Polygon 3: 16' x 28' = 448ft²

Total square feet = 2294 (*does not include toe of the embankment where the dune grass will be or steep slope area)

Potential plant list:

Trees:		Spacing:	Quantity:	Ecology:
A & J	big leaf maple (2-3 only, 1 5gal from Anna Thurston)	15 ft oc	2	(dry to moist; often w/Doug fir, sites disturbed by fire, clearing or logging)
J	shore pine	15 ft oc	4	(highly adaptable, tolerant of low nutrient conditions, dunes, rocky hilltops, exposed shorelines)
A	madrone (w/festuca grass, from Anna Thurston)	15 ft oc	3	(dry, sunny & rocky sites, coarse soils, near Doug fir or Garry oak)
A	Alder (was in pot with goat's beard)	15 ft oc	1	
			10	

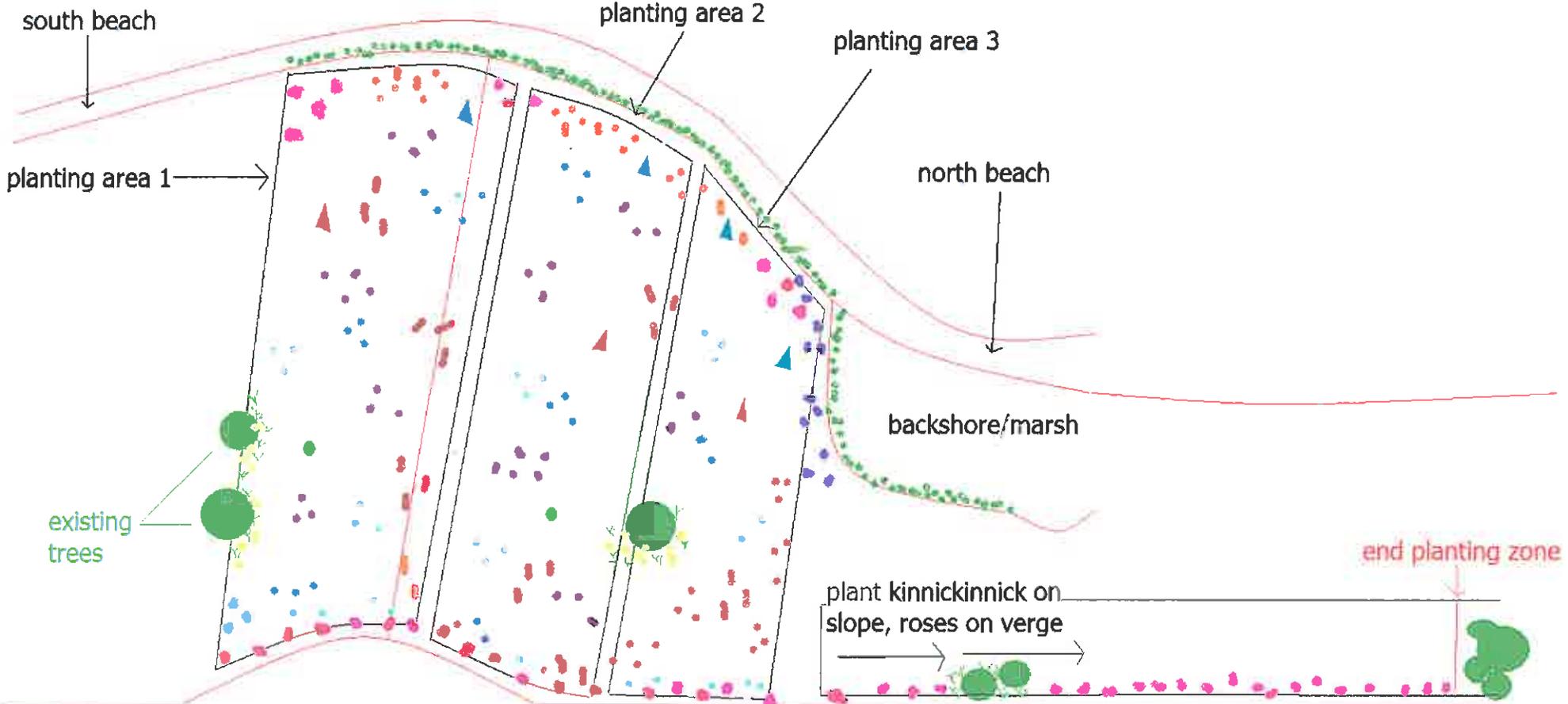
Shrubs:		Spacing:	Quantity:	Ecology:
J	Tall Oregon grape	3-4 ft oc	groups of 3-5	30 (drier open rocky sites)
W	snowberry	3-4 ft oc	groups of 3-5	30 (dry to moist; open forests, thickets, rocky slopes, along beaches)
W	ocean spray	3-4 ft oc	groups of 3-5	20 (dry to moist; clearings, bluffs, logged areas, thickets, open woods)
W	Nootka rose	4 ft oc	even spacing	40 (dry to moist; clearings, roadsides, shorelines, meadows, thickets) *20 for the verge above steep slope
A	thimbleberry	3-4 ft oc	groups of 2-3	10 (clearings, road edges, shorelines)
J	evergreen huckleberry	3-4 ft oc	groups of 2-3	11 (beach fringe, close to tidewater)
W	evergreen huckleberry	3-4 ft oc	groups of 2-3	20 (beach fringe, close to tidewater)
A	sword fern	3-4 ft oc	groups of 2-3	10 (moist forest at low to mid elevation)
A	bracken fern	3-4 ft oc	groups of 2-3	30 (dry to wet forests, roadsides, clearings, sandy soil)
A	goat's beard	4 ft oc	group of 3	3 (edge habitats-roadsides, forests & streams)
A	Bald hip rose	4 ft oc	even spacing	10 (dry to moist; open to wooded, low to mid elevations)
A	Trailing blackberry	4 ft oc	groups of 3-5	18 (disturbed sites, thickets, dry open forest, low to mid elevation)
			232	

CoT	evergreen huckleberry		?	(beach fringe, close to tidewater) (will plant on verge above steep slope in between roses)
CoT	kinnikinnick	2-3 ft oc	300	(sandy, well drained exposed sites, dry rocky slopes, clearings) (will plant on steep slope for erosion control)

Ground cover:

A	large leafed avens	3 ft oc	groups of 3	1tray, 16e (open areas and open forests, low to mid elevation)
A	coastal strawberry	2 ft oc	groups of 3	2tray, 16e (sand dunes and sea bluffs)
			48	
W	Dune grass	6 in. oc	150	(for toe of embankment and around marsh)

* J = Jeanine Riss, A = Anna Thurston, W = Wabash Farms, CoT = City of Tacoma



- baldhip rose
- nootka rose
- dune grass
- evergreen huckleberry
- ferns
- large yellow flower
- goat's beard
- coastal strawberry
- Tall Oregon grape
- ▲ shorepine
- snowberry
- ▲ madrone
- big leaf maple
- oceanspray
- trailing blackberry
- thimbleberry

Skookum Wulge Planting Plan October 2009

