

COMMENCEMENT BAY NRDA RESTORATION

Fact Sheet OLV-1

Olympic View Resource Area - City Project 5

Working Draft February 19, 1998

OLYMPIC VIEW RESOURCE AREA

VISION: The City of Tacoma will develop the Olympic View Resource Area project as part of their Commencement Bay Natural Resource Damage Assessment (CB/NRDA) settlement. The project will be located on the north end of the peninsula separating Thea Foss and Middle Waterways in Tacoma, Washington. The project will be located on lands owned by the State of Washington and on land which the City is acquiring from a private party. The land owned by the State will be leased to the City and the City will be the primary entity responsible for developing and managing the property. The project area is 12.4 acres in size, of which approximately 10.9 acres is intertidal or shallow subtidal habitat. This site is designated "M-1" in the CB/NRDA Trustee Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement and Restoration Plan (1997).

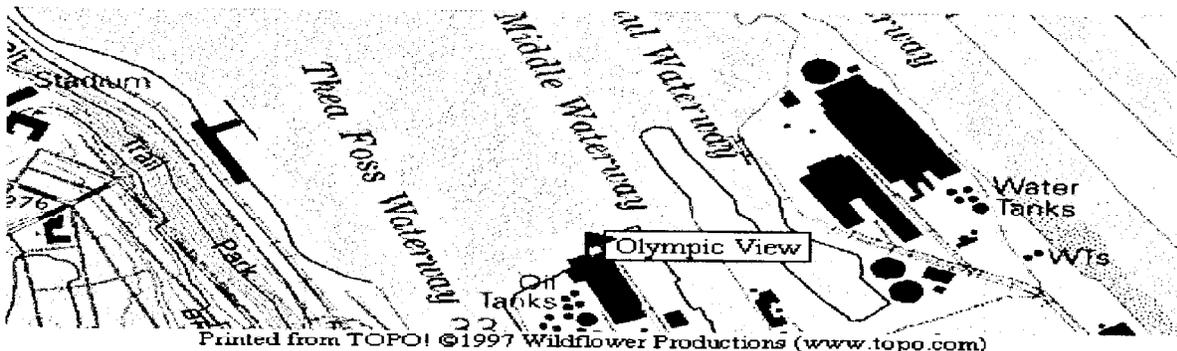
GOALS:

1. Ensure the protection of aquatic habitat including locally significant eelgrass beds on state lands within the resource area.
2. Restore biological productivity in that part of the intertidal area now shaded by the Puget Sound Plywood building.
3. Provide an aquatic habitat linkage between the Thea Foss and Middle Waterways.
4. Develop public access to the area in a manner consistent with the protection and maintenance of intertidal habitat.

OBJECTIVES:

1. Assume lease management authority over the state aquatic lands to ensure that the eelgrass beds and surrounding aquatic area are protected from actions that could compromise long-term habitat.
2. The City will acquire property adjacent to the State's lease area and remove part of the former Puget Sound Plywood building presently located over-water on those properties.
3. The City will replace the over-hanging portion of the building with a new wall located within what is now the building interior.
4. The City will develop existing vacant and under-utilized upland property for public access, viewing, and recreation consistent with resource management objectives.
5. The protection of the eelgrass beds is a critical objective. Eelgrass tolerates a wide variety of salinities but is found generally in soft sediments in the lower intertidal zone of the bays, estuaries and sloughs with overlying waters of low turbidity. Except for this location, it is apparently absent from the intertidal areas within or near the waterways of Commencement Bay.
6. The Trustees may develop or enhance intertidal habitats in conjunction with the City's project.

PROJECT LOCATION:



**PART 1: SPECIFIC PROJECT ELEMENTS UNDER INITIAL
CONCEPT PLAN TO ACHIEVE GOAL:**

1. Acquire 0.7 acres of property bordering state aquatic lands.
2. Execute a lease for 11.7 acres of WDNR aquatic lands within the proposed resource area.
3. Remove that portion of the Puget Sound Plywood building that presently extends over intertidal areas to restore daylight and associated primary productivity to these aquatic lands.
4. Establish public access to and within the resource area consistent with habitat management objectives.
5. Coordinate additional restoration actions with CB/NRDA Trustees.
6. Monitor and maintain the management area.

PART 2: SCHEDULE AND STATUS REPORT:

1. The start date for this project is the date of the Consent Decree entry, December 30, 1997, plus four years except that deed restrictions will be filed within 180 days of the entry of the Consent decree or acquisition.
2. A permit application to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will be filed within 30 days of the City of Tacoma notice of exemption or approval of the shoreline/wetlands permits.
3. Application for State Water Quality Certification and Hydraulic Permit application will be filed during the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' review.
4. Construction, Maintenance, Monitoring/Adaptive Management Plans will be filed with the Natural Resource Trustees within 90 days of the Corps permit application.
5. Notice of completion will be filed with the Natural Resource Trustees within 300 days of permit and plan approval.
6. Tasks include:
 - a. Baseline Habitat Data Collection
 - b. Preliminary Design
 - c. Shoreline/Wetlands Permit Applications
 - d. Deed Restriction filing
 - e. Shoreline/Wetland Permit Review
 - f. City Shoreline/Wetland Permit approval
 - g. State Shoreline Permit Approval
 - h. Corps of Engineers' Permit Review
 - i. Final Design
 - j. Construction, Maintenance, Monitoring/Adaptive Management Plan drafting/approval
 - k. Bid and Contract
 - l. Construction oversight
 - m. Monitoring

How can the public stay informed and be involved?

Public participation is an important component of restoration planning by helping the Trustees select and shape restoration projects. You are encouraged to become involved in the restoration planning process because the natural resources in Commencement Bay are your resources. The CB/NRDA Trustees hold quarterly public meetings. If you have questions or would like to be on a mailing list to receive notice of opportunities to participate, please contact:

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Public notices and meetings will also be announced at <http://www.darcnw.noaa.gov/cb.htm>.
Project Plans (Attachments to the Consent Decree) may also be downloaded from this site.
