Puget Sound Nearshore Ecosystem Restoration Project (PSNERP): Moving beyond ‘Feasibility’ with the Army Corps of Engineers

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RAE Conference 2018
A “GENERAL INVESTIGATION” FEASIBILITY STUDY
Puget Sound Nearshore Ecosystem Restoration Project

Project Management Team

Community of Partners
Puget Sound Nearshore Ecosystem Restoration Project

~2,500 MILES OF SHORELINE

Vancouver Island (Canada)

Seattle

Washington State
Puget Sound Nearshore Ecosystem Restoration Project

**PURPOSE**

Restore natural process in the nearshore zone and sustain the biologic, economic, and aesthetic resources important to the people of the Puget Sound region and the Nation.
Shoreline has become shorter, simpler, and more artificial.
Puget Sound Nearshore Ecosystem Restoration Project

PROJECT PLANNING TRAJECTORY

- 2001: Start
- 2016: Design/Construct
- Feasibility Phase
  - 36 projects identified
  - Feasibility report complete
  - Authorization

Puget Sound Nearshore Ecosystem Restoration Project 2001-2016
Puget Sound Nearshore Ecosystem Restoration Project

Feasibility Phase

Start

Data/analysis

36 projects identified

Feasibility report complete

Authorization

Design Phase

3 GI "Tier 1"

CAP Sec 544

CAP Sec 206

9 GI "Tier 2"

 others

 done

Army Corps General Investigation
TECHNICAL RESOURCES & DATA STEWARDSHIP
Puget Sound Nearshore Ecosystem Restoration Project

Technical Publications (Available on Website)
Puget Sound Nearshore Ecosystem Restoration Project

ACCESS TO PLANNING TOOLS
State Capital Funding

Built on PSNERP principles and guidance

Competitive Grant

3 ‘tracks’
- Capital projects
- Learning projects
- Small grants (<$50,000)

$44.5 million since 2006 supporting 89 projects
LESSONS LEARNED
Lesson: Know Your Challenge

Army Corps Annual Funding by Business Line

President’s Budget (2010-2019)

- Navigation
- Flood Risk Management
- Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration
Puget Sound Nearshore Ecosystem Restoration Project

LESSON: RELEVANCE

Southern Resident Orca Task Force
Report and recommendations
November 16, 2018

Puget Sound Salmon Recovery Plan

Great blue heron

Orca

Chinook salmon

Forage fish

Dungeness crab

Olympia oysters

Eelgrass and kelp

Coastal forests

Beaches and bluffs

Habitat, nesting sites

Food

Feeding, habitat refuges

Spawning, feeding, refuges

Spawning sites

Habitat, sediment

Habitat, sediments

Shade for spawning

Feeding habitat

Food

Food

Food

Food

Food

Food (as larvae)

Food

Food
Puget Sound Nearshore Ecosystem Restoration Project

LESSON: BE PROACTIVE

Duckabush Estuary Restoration Concept
Learn and be Persistent
Build Relationships
Relevance
Keep Momentum

WRAP UP
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