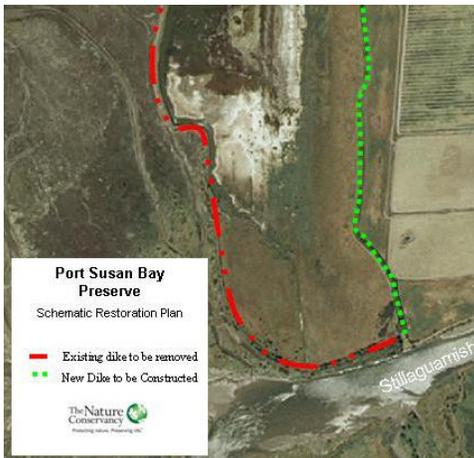


## PSAR: A regional solution to a regional problem



Watershed recovery doesn't fit inside a pretty package. It does not stay inside city or county boundaries. It pays no heed to partisan preference or property lines. Puget Sound recovery is a concept that reaches from the snowcaps to the white caps and impacts our economy, our health, our quality of life and our legacy. Failure is not an option.

### What is PSAR?

The Puget Sound Acquisition and Restoration program was created in 2007 to help implement the most important habitat protection and restoration priorities. Funding is appropriated by the Legislature through the Salmon Recovery Funding Board. The Puget Sound Partnership works with local entities to identify and prioritize projects. This funding is critical to advancing the most effective projects throughout our region.

### Why does PSAR matter?

Restoring the health of Puget Sound – our nation's second-largest estuary – is a priority for our region, state and nation. The Partnership's 2012 State of the Sound Report shows that regional efforts have slowed the decline of Puget Sound, but emphasizes that current progress is not sufficient to meet 2020 ecosystem recovery goals.

### PSAR funds target priorities for salmon recovery including:

- Estuary restoration
- Stream bank improvements
- Fish passage
- Nearshore protection
- Shoreline armoring removal
- Floodplain function

### Want to learn more?

For more information about the Puget Sound Partnership and how you can get involved in recovery efforts, visit:

[www.psp.wa.gov](http://www.psp.wa.gov)

## PSAR is based in science, brings people together

- Projects are selected and overseen by watershed groups based on salmon recovery goals.
- The watershed groups include stakeholders such as citizens, counties, cities, tribes, NGOs and government agencies.
- Habitat restoration and protection projects that are selected for PSAR funding are science-based following the hypotheses laid out in the Puget Sound Salmon Recovery Plan.
- Projects are ranked locally based on both their technical and community benefits. Large-scale projects are also regionally ranked based on their contribution to 2020 Action Agenda ecosystem recovery targets.

## PSAR projects have significant regional and local benefits

- **They create jobs.** NOAA has found that for every \$1 million invested, oil and gas projects create roughly five jobs, road infrastructure creates seven jobs, and watershed restoration creates 17 jobs. More labor intensive restoration work can create as much as 33 jobs per \$1 million invested.
- **They improve quality of life.** Improved water quality means healthier salmon and healthier humans, increased fishing and shellfish harvesting, improved public access to shorelines and beaches, and protection of other recreational opportunities.
- **They reduce flood risk** and private property damage by protecting floodplains and allowing water to infiltrate and disperse more naturally.
- **They impact the economy.** Waterways that contain healthy salmon and healthy shellfish have indirect economic impacts from tourism, recreation, and commercial and recreational fishing.

## PSAR is the most efficient use of capital dollars to restore Puget Sound

- **Multiple levels of review.** Projects are set forth by citizen committees in each watershed and evaluated by the technical workgroups in each watershed, as well as the independent regional technical group and the State Review Panel that examines design proposals.
- **Leverages local, state and federal dollars.**
- **Timing is critical.** Funds allows for purchase of critical, strategic properties that might not be available in the future and allows projects to keep moving for maximum impact.

## PSAR works!

Since 2007, PSAR has contributed funding to projects that protected more than 5,000 acres and treated more than 2,000 acres of estuary habitat, removed more than 2.5 miles of shoreline armoring and restored in-stream and riparian habitat in and along thousands of river miles. The Washington Office of Management and Budget conservatively estimates more than 845 jobs will be created with this fund over the biennium as projects are implemented — this is not including matching funds for project execution, indirect benefits to the economy through job creation, or other multipliers.

In the upcoming biennium (2013-2015), PSAR is pointed to advance protection and restoration of:

- **1,283 estuary and nearshore acres**
- **11 miles of shoreline**
- **3,007 floodplain acres**
- **99 miles of rivers and streams**