Project Number: 20062008
Project Title: Statewide Aquatic Restoration Projects

Description

Starting Fiscal Year: 2008
Project Class: Program
Agency Priority: 11

Project Summary
The Department of Natural Resources (in partnership with the Marine Resource Committees, Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group, Port of Bellingham, Washington State Parks, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, and groups in Commencement Bay) will work to promote restoration of state-owned aquatic lands.

Project Description
This proposal would continue the $300,000 Aquatic Lands Enhancement Account (ALEA) capital funds per biennium dedicated toward restoration on state owned aquatic land. Each of the three Aquatic Districts would utilize their carry forward level operating funds for restoration staff. The three Districts would also utilize $100,000 of the requested capital funds to leverage funds from other partners to conduct restoration projects.

The program plans to continue and expand 2005-07 and 2007-09 biennia partnerships. Past partners have included the Marine Resource Committees, Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group, Port of Bellingham, WA State Parks, Department of Ecology, Department of Fish and Wildlife, University of Washington and several groups in Commencement Bay.

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Aquatics program actively works with local governments, the environmental community, and other interest groups to promote restoration of state-owned aquatic lands. This funding gives the program the ability to initiate projects and contribute funds to on-going restoration efforts. Projects which are currently in process and set to be completed by June 30, 2009 include:

- Jarrell's Cove Shoreline Restoration in Mason County where DNR is working with the Hink Family to remove a 240 foot long creosote bulkhead and restore the shoreline to its natural slope. This project will result in a shoreline accessible to the public and the replacement of a hardened shoreline natural features.
- Discovery Bay Derelict Mill Removal where DNR is partnering with the North Olympic Salmon Coalition to remove two derelict mill buildings located within the Snow/Salmon Creek estuary of Discovery Bay in Jefferson County. One of these buildings has collapsed into a pocket estuary that provides habitat for juvenile salmonids as well as a naturally occurring population of Olympia Oysters. DNR will continue seek partnerships for aquatic land restoration opportunities in the estuary.
- Cowlitz River Side Channel Restoration where DNR is working with the Lower Columbia Fish Enhancement Group (LCFEG) to re-establish a side channel to be used by salmonids.

In conducting restoration, DNR leverages the capitol funds allotted from ALEA to achieve restored habitats. The projects outlined above total over $500,000 worth of work which DNR contributed $65,000.

The DNR Aquatics Program is requesting $300,000 of capital funds for restoration projects during the 09-11 biennium. Projects DNR plans to be involved in include the following:

- Partnering with the Lower Elwha S'Klallam Tribe and the Ciallaim County Beach Watchers to remove fill and re-grade and replant 1,200 feet of shoreline along Ediz Hook, located in Port Angeles.
- Working with State parks to soften the altered shoreline at Penrose State Park by removing two creosote treated bulkheads and creosote-treated groins.
- Working with the Northwest Straights Foundation on derelict gear removal in areas such as Cypress Island, Fidalgo Bay, and Cherry Point.
- Restoring 4 acres of state-owned aquatic lands on Lake Washington that are neighboring the mouth of the Cedar River. This site is also a migratory and rearing corridor for Chinook salmon and listed on the WRIA 8 Conservation Plan.
- Working with various partners to restore salmon habitat on the Yakima River.
- Working with the Department of Ecology to restore degraded sites along the Spokane River.
Conducting bulkhead removal and beach restoration on Whidbey Island, removing hardened shoreline surfaces and replacing them with natural features.

Partnering with the University of Washington and Save Union Bay to restore a waterway shoreline in King County by removing invasive species, planting native vegetation, two creosote treated bulkheads and improving public access creosote-treated groins.

DNR 2009-11 Strategic Goal: Aquatic Resources are managed to optimize the full range of public benefits.

This capital request would provide funding for aquatic land restoration projects. DNR’s goal is to partner with local, state and federal entities to secure a 100% funding match, thereby doubling the funding dedicated to restoration of aquatic land.

Strategy: Work with communities and governmental entities to improve the ecological health of aquatic resources by taking an assertive stewardship role in promoting the conservation, restoration and enhancement of ecosystem processes and services.

POG: Improve the quality of Washington’s natural resources

The very purpose of this project is to improve Washington’s natural resources. The capital project would be conducted statewide, providing funding for aquatic land restoration projects in marine and freshwater environments.

Each aquatic land restoration project will restore and preserve the infrastructure of Washington shorelines and aquatic habitats that have been degraded over time. The projects will result in restored or increased habitat functionality.

DNR’s goal is to obtain 100% funding match from various local, state and federal partnering entities. DNR will utilize 2.5 FTE's of Natural Resource Specialists to implement this capital project.

DNR’s goal is to partner with local, state and federal entities to secure a 100% funding match, thereby doubling the funding dedicated to restoration of aquatic land.

Estuarine restoration efforts will support progress towards several of the Puget Sound Partnership’s Action Agenda’s statutory objectives and strategic priorities. Supported PSP objectives include:

- Restore habitat functions and values – Habitat restoration will return critical habitat functions and processes;
- Protect ecosystem biodiversity and recover imperiled species – most restoration projects will directly benefit critical habitat of listed species and support their recovery.

The Partnership’s Strategic Priority supported:

Implement restoration processes – This effort will provide key fiscal support to initiate implementation of restoration projects.

Operating impact for this request is included in DNR’s carry forward level budget which provides for 2.5 FTEs of Aquatic Restoration Land Managers and necessary equipment to carry out the restoration projects on state-owned aquatic lands.

The Aquatic Resources restoration specialists actively work with local governments, environmental communities, and other interest groups to identify areas of needed aquatic land restoration. This gives the program the ability to initiate projects and contribute funds to restoration efforts consistently with state and local government plans.

Statewide aquatic restoration projects are included in the Department’s ten-year capital plan. This capital request would provide funding for aquatic land restoration projects. DNR’s goal is to partner with local, state and federal entities to secure a
OFM

490 - Department of Natural Resources
Capital Project Request
2009-11 Biennium

Version: 01 Agency Requested
Report Number: CBS002
Date Run: 9/5/2008 10:47AM

Project Number: 20062008
Project Title: Statewide Aquatic Restoration Projects

Description
100% funding match, thereby doubling the funding dedicated to restoration of aquatic land.

There are no capital FTE’s included in this capital budget request. DNR has 2.5 operational FTE’s dedicated to aquatic land restoration.

Location
City: Statewide
County: Statewide
Legislative District: 098

Project Type
Project Management

Growth Management impacts
None.

New Facility: No

Funding

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Operating Impacts

No Operating Impact

Narrative
Operating impact for this request is included in DNR’s carry forward level budget which provides for 2.5 FTEs of Aquatic Restoration Land Managers and necessary equipment to carry out the restoration projects on state-owned aquatic lands.
# Capital Sub Projects
## 2009-011 Biennium

**Capital Project:**

$300,000

**Total Request**

### Instructions
Enter the title, region location, nearest city, legislative district, project type number and estimated cost of all subprojects associated with the requested capital project. Total of all subprojects must equal total request. Round dollars to the nearest thousand.

**Project Types**
1. Health, safety & code req
2. Facility preservation
3. Infrastructure preservation
4. Program

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**Total** $300,000
**OFM**

490 - Department of Natural Resources  
**Capital Project Request**  
2009-11 Biennium

Version: 01 Agency Requested  
Report Number: CBS002  
Date Run: 9/5/2008 11:16AM

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<td><strong>Project Class:</strong> Program</td>
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**Project Summary**

The program removes and reduces toxic compounds from the beaches, waters, and sediments of the marine and estuarine areas of Puget Sound and Georgia Basin, decreases the amount of over-water shading which impacts eelgrass and other submerged aquatic vegetation, and reduces debris from derelict structures that can result in navigational hazards as well as hazards to beach-goers.

**Project Description**

Funding this proposal will continue the removal of creosote-treated debris from beaches and marine areas that has been on-going since FY 2004. The program removes and reduces toxic compounds from the beaches, waters, and sediments of the marine and estuarine areas of Puget Sound and Georgia Basin, decreases the amount of over-water shading which impacts eelgrass and other submerged aquatic vegetation, and reduces debris from derelict structures that can result in navigational hazards as well as hazards to beach-goers.

This project would improve access for the general public to state owned aquatic land. A decrease in the amount of beached creosote treated wood will decrease the risk of humans and other species being exposed. Additionally, removal of creosote treated wood and piling will improve the aesthetic value of the resource.

**Agency 2009-11 Strategic Priority:** Protect, restore and enhance aquatic ecosystems through innovative stewardship; foster water-dependent uses, navigation and commerce; and, manage renewable aquatic resources such as shellfish and aquatic vegetation in collaboration with stakeholders to ensure sustainable harvests and ecosystem health.

- Continue removal of creosote pilings and logs and derelict vessels that present hazards to aquatic resources and public welfare.

**Agency 2009-11 Strategic Goal:** Protect, restore and enhance aquatic ecosystems through innovative stewardship.

- Creosote is a toxic material that is believed to contribute to the decline in the health of forage fish and other aquatic organisms in Puget Sound. A decrease in the amount of creosoted piling and beached creosote-treated wood will decrease the risk of humans and other species being exposed, thereby supporting the recovery of the Puget Sound by 2020.

**Strategy:** Reduce hazards to navigation, public safety and the environment through the derelict vessel removal and creosote piling and log removal programs.

**Strategy:** Work with communities to enhance commerce, navigation, economic development and public use and access of state owned aquatic lands.

**POG:** Improve the quality of Washington's natural resources

- Creosote removal supports the Governor's stated goal of reducing toxics in the Puget Sound by the year 2020.

**Activity:** Aquatic Lands Environmental Management (Contaminated Sediments, Derelict Vessel, Dredge, Spartina)

- Creosote is a toxic material that is believed to contribute to the decline in the health of forage fish and other aquatic organisms in Puget Sound. Creosote removal supports the Governor's stated goal of reducing toxics in the Puget Sound by the year 2020.