Transforming an Industrial Past to a Conservation Future

Restoration and Stewardship

In order to restore more natural tidal flows and minimize pollution, the Washington State Department of Natural Resources has removed many remnant structures from this site’s industrial past. Some structures remain because of their historic value or because animals are using them for important habitat.

RESTORATION BY THE NUMBERS

- 2,140 tons of creosote removed to reduce pollution
- 1,220 creosote-laden pilings removed to reduce pollution
- 12,000 cubic yards of fill removed from Chapman and Woodard bays to restore tidal flow
- 50 Purple Martin nesting boxes installed on pilings retained for seal haulout

Creating a legacy for the future

Protecting habitat at Woodard Bay leaves a legacy for future generations of people, plants and wildlife.

- Workers removed the old railroad trestle that crossed the mouth of Woodard Bay, as well as thousands of cubic yards of dirt and other fill material that connected the trestle to the shore. Now the tide moves freely in and out of the bay, and creosote from the trestle no longer leaches into the water.
- Fifty nest boxes were installed for Purple Martins, the largest swallow in North America. These boxes help this rare bird reestablish in the area.
- Ninety percent of the creosote-treated anchor pilings were removed from the inlet and bays. The remaining pilings and attached log booms were retained for seal haulout habitat.
- The earthen berm fill and creosote-treated trestle were removed from Woodard Bay, restoring sediment transport and water flow.
- Invasive species control and native plant restoration continues along five miles of shoreline.

*Images (left to right): Chapman Bay photo by Jane Chavey/DNR; Before and After photos by Michele Zukerberg; Aerial image of Woodard Bay by DNR Resource Mapping; Chapman Bay Pier by Michele Zukerberg; Purple Martin boxes and seals by Dyanna Lambourn/WDFW; Native plant restoration photo by Roberta Davenport/DNR; Woodard Bay trestle and fill by Michele Zukerberg; Kids at Beach by Ann Robertson; Great Blue Heron silhouette from photo by Walter Siegmond.*