

Kitsap Conservation District

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Board Chair: Albert Allpress



State Legislative District #23,26,35
Congressional District #6

2016 Feature Accomplishment

Clear Creek floodplain restoration planting

RESOURCE CHALLENGE

Clear Creek is a major stream system in Dyes Inlet. It was historically a productive salmon stream but now the natural floodplain has been severely constrained by retail development, road culverts, and agriculture. This activity resulted in removal of streamside vegetation, channelization of the main creek, and erosion from uncontrolled stormwater.

The east and west forks have been especially manipulated, resulting in severely degraded stream function and habitat for salmon.



West fork floodplain before planting

Photo: Jenny Morgan



Newly created channel for
Clear Creek west fork

Photo: Jenny Morgan

PROJECT SUMMARY AND RESULTS

Restoring floodplains is one of the most important things to recover salmon populations and reduce the risk of flooding downstream properties. Many partners participated in this project that has nearly a \$4 million price tag. The role of the Kitsap Conservation District (KCD) is to implement the planting on 15 of the 30 acres. The original engineers' 60 percent cost estimate for planting and labor was \$961,000. With help from KCD, and

using Plant Materials Center stock, KCD will plant the project for \$215,000, a tremendous savings of public funds. Nearly 80,000 plants will be placed by staff, Washington Conservation Corps crews, and Department of Corrections crews in the fall of 2016.

KEY PARTNERS: Kitsap County Public Works Stormwater and Roads; WA Department of Ecology; WA Department of Corrections - Mission Creek Crew; WA Conservation Corps; project neighbors; trail users; Clear Creek Trail volunteers; The Suquamish Tribe; WA Department of Fish and Wildlife; Natural Systems Design; WA Association of Conservation Districts Plant Materials Center

Other Accomplishments



This little guy is ready for action during a recent 'fish-out' at the Clear Creek project.

Photo: Pat Kirschbaum



Rain Garden "Diggin' Day" in progress. KCD removes an implementation 'barrier' by providing excavation of the rain garden site to the homeowner.

Photo: Kelly Stroh



Agriculture work continues to be a focus in Kitsap County with its numerous horse boarding facilities. This paddock arrangement allows for rotational turnout.

Photo: Helen Jones

More work to do!

- KCD makes further use of social media as it ramps up outreach to landowners. This has been very successful to date with two Facebook sites garnering nearly 50,000 hits in the last year.
- Firewise is coming to Bainbridge Island with the help of funding from the Washington State Conservation Commission and State Legislature.
- Partnering with Kitsap cities is a new priority as negotiation continues with the cities of Bremerton and Poulso.