

An aerial photograph of Port Gamble Bay, showing a large body of water with a sandy beach on the left and a forested shoreline. The water is a deep blue-green color. In the distance, there are mountains and a small town. The text "Port Gamble Bay" is overlaid in the center of the image.

Port Gamble Bay

Restoration and Preservation Projects

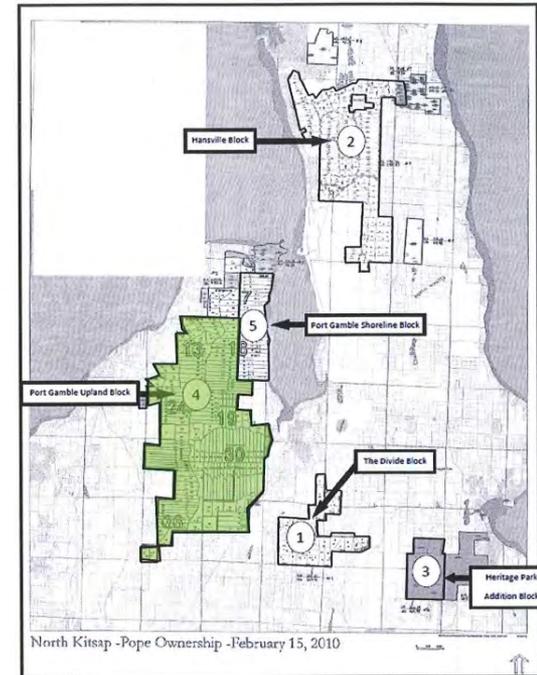
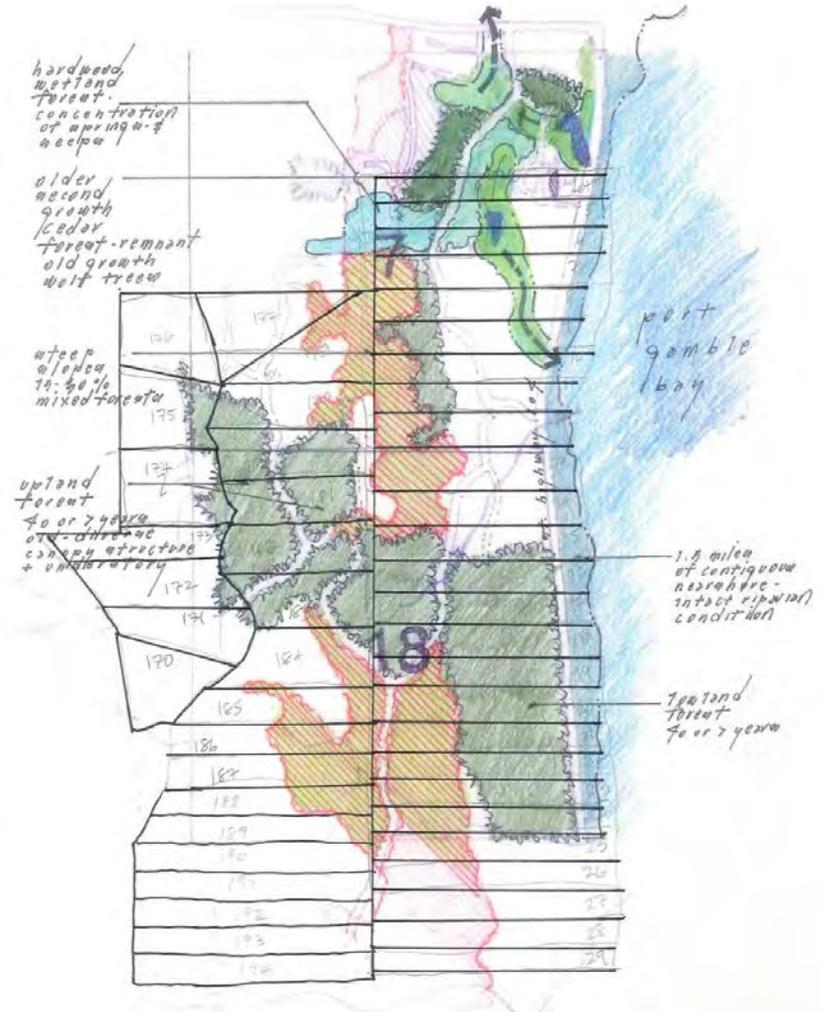
Western Shoreline Funding Gap

Ecology has committed up to \$2,000,000 for acquisition of the approximately 500-acre Western Shoreline Block at Port Gamble, to be owned by Kitsap County. Kitsap County has received several federal and state grants to complete the purchase, however, grant funding criteria and requirements may reduce available grants. This project would increase Ecology's contribution in case of a funding gap. Ecology has also committed \$175,000 to Kitsap County for long-term stewardship of the property.



Upland Block

Ecology will purchase multiple 20-acre forested upland lots for ownership by Kitsap County. Lots for purchase will protect existing wetland and stream resources that flow into Port Gamble Bay.



Riparian Restoration

Plant native vegetation at two degraded riparian sites totaling approximately 1.5 acres, located within the Western Shoreline Block land acquisition area. Install trees and shrubs native to the area including applying a soil amendment, as needed, and mulching. Improve existing trail within riparian to support long-term establishment and preservation of the area. Provide routine maintenance and annual monitoring for a period of 5 years to support restoration efforts.



Point Julia Pier Removal and Beach Restoration

Remove and dispose of creosote-treated pilings and superstructure of the Point Julia pier. The pier is not used and poses a safety hazard to tribal members. Work includes demolition and removal of the old pier, pilings, and concrete boat launch.



Olympia Oyster Habitat Enhancement

Produce 5,000,000 restoration-grade Olympia oyster seeds at the NOAA/Manchester Shellfish Restoration Laboratory to augment shell enhancement and strengthen recruitment. Produce a total of 2,000 bags of seeded cultch in 2014 and 2015). Native oyster enhancement efforts are likely improved with both shell and live oysters. Hatchery-propagated seed will be spread over and within the shell enhancement area to increase recruitment and support re-colonization. This work includes augmenting the Manchester facility with an outdoor nursery and grow-out space to fully accommodate seed production for Port Gamble Bay and possibly for other experiments.



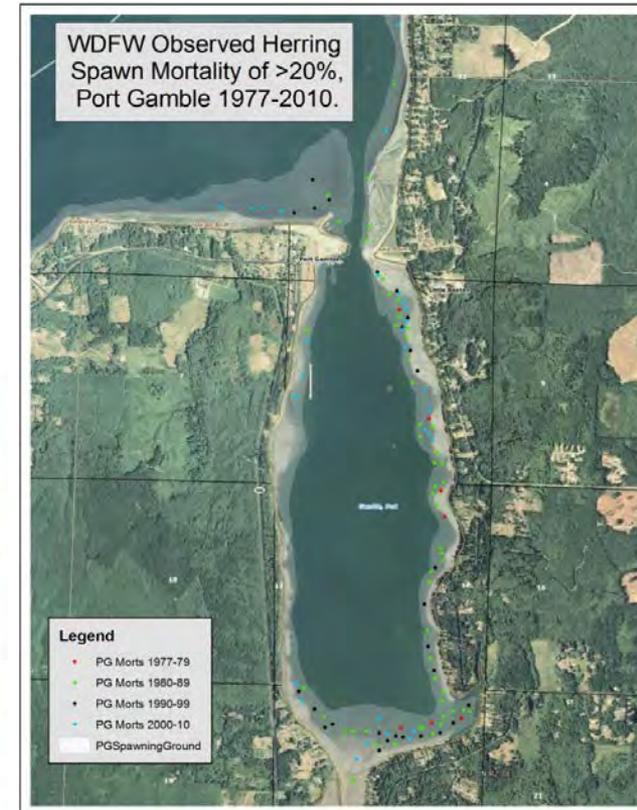
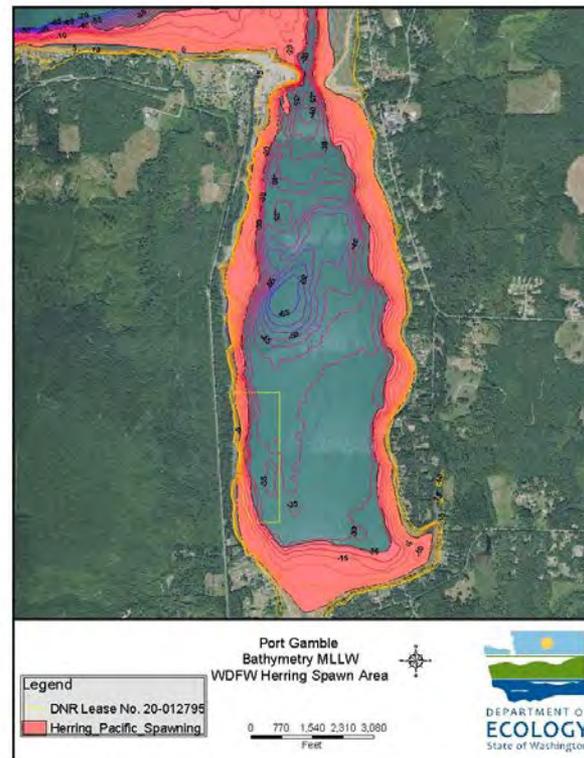
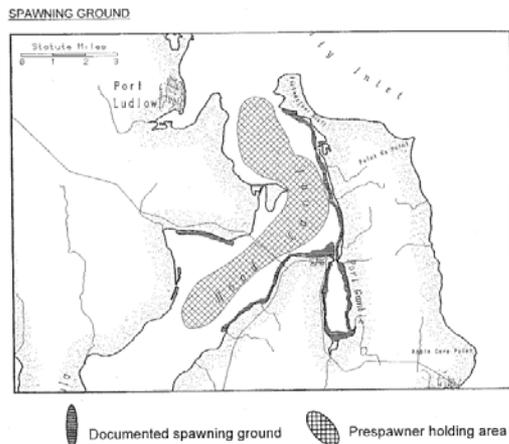
Martha John Estuary Pile Removal

Remove broken pilings below the water line in the estuary of Martha John Creek. Includes removal of up to 20 piles for source control and improvement of shallow water navigation.



Herring Study

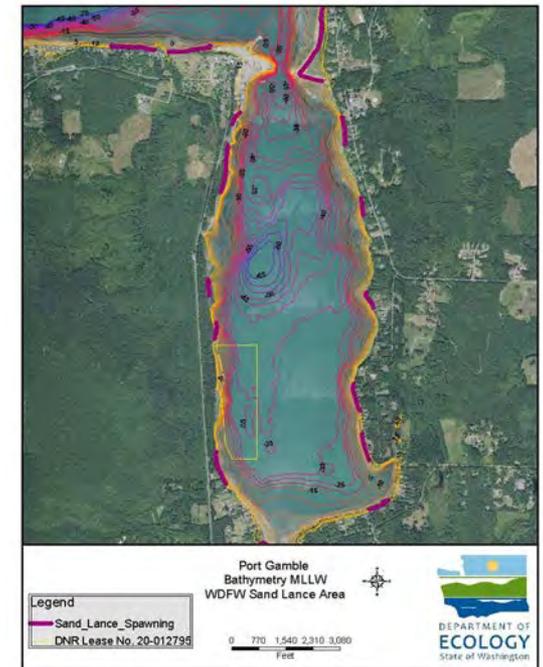
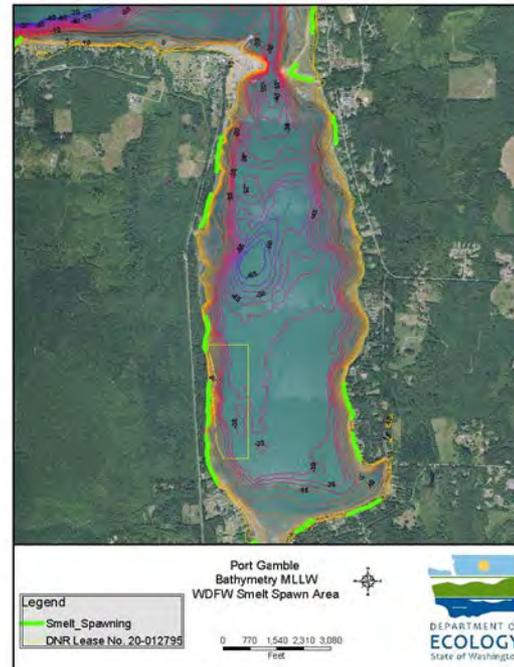
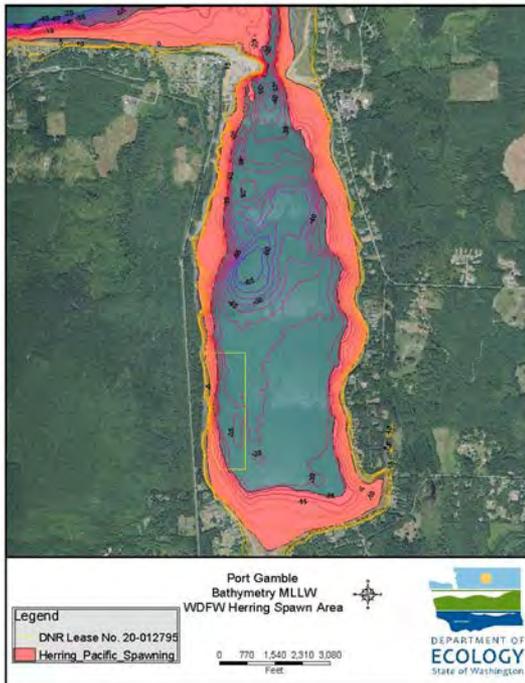
Conduct a herring study focusing on embryo health and stock genetics. The study area is similar to the extent of the Department of Fish and Wildlife's (WDFW) Herring Stock Status Report coverage area. This study will build on past studies and will follow up on recommendations from work conducted by WDFW. Work also includes digitizing WDFW historic herring data.



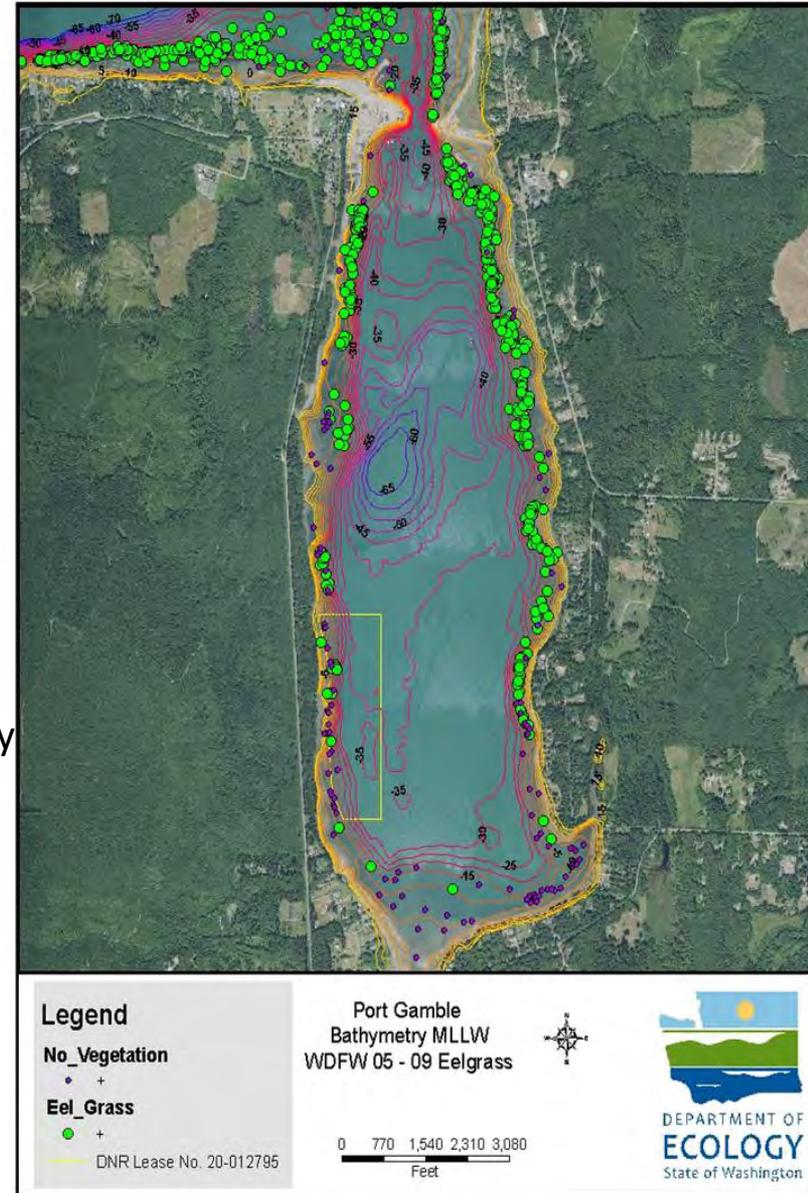
Forage Fish Rebuilding



Removing debris or barriers to forage fish spawning in intertidal areas throughout Port Gamble Bay including eelgrass beds for Pacific herring.



Eelgrass Restoration



Restore 2 or more acres of eelgrass at subtidal elevations. Prior to restoration, a resource assessment will be conducted to determine the historic and current distribution of eelgrass in Port Gamble Bay. This information will be applied to identify suitable test bed locations, which will help in selecting an appropriate area for restoration. Once a suitable area is identified and secured, permits will be obtained and the project will be implemented. Future monitoring of the restoration areas will help answer the following questions

Where does potential eelgrass habitat exist?

Where is eelgrass vegetation currently not persistent?

Baywide Debris, Vessel and Gear Removal



Remove debris and derelict gear and vessels along the western shoreline, Point Julia, and in other areas of Port Gamble Bay. Project elements include:

- Removal of debris along the western shoreline, Point Julia and Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe reservation beaches.
- Removal of derelict vessels within the Bay including an old barge on the beach of the western shoreline and an approximately 22-foot fiberglass boat on the western shoreline.
- Remediation of areas contaminated by derelict vessels.
- Removal of derelict debris in the Bay including several large metal buoys with chains, buried fish nets, and remaining pilings and overwater structures (those not removed as part of the cleanup).
- Planting of riparian vegetation in appropriate areas.

