

Baywide Debris, Derelict Gear and Vessel Removal

The Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe (Tribe) and the Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) are working together to remove debris throughout Port Gamble Bay. The goal of this project is to improve beach habitats for fish, shellfish and local residents by removing tires, broken docks and remnant wood, metal and boat scrap, concrete or asphalt, tarps and other items throughout Port Gamble Bay. Removal of creosote-treated pilings and other debris will also eliminate ongoing sources of contamination.

This work will improve beach and intertidal habitats by removing barriers to forage fish spawning (brick, concrete, metal and other material covering portions of the beach) and by removing debris that may be preventing shellfish from colonizing areas of the beach while improving the aesthetics of the bay's beaches. The project is being funded by Ecology and will be completed at no cost to local residents.



Examples of work to be completed in Port Gamble Bay. Photo Credit to Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe

Project elements and locations include:

- Removal of scattered intertidal debris in select areas along the western, southern and eastern shorelines.
- Removal of debris from Point Julia and Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe reservation beaches.
- Removal of derelict vessels within the bay.
- Remediation of areas contaminated by derelict vessels, as needed.
- Removal of derelict debris in the bay including, but not limited to, several large metal buoys with chains, tires, buried fish nets, and remaining pilings (those not removed as part of the cleanup).
- Restoration of riparian and beach habitats, as needed.

We will be working with local landowners to obtain permission to remove specific debris from their properties. We are working with the community and appreciate their involvement to make this project a success.

Debris removal activities began this spring and will continue through 2014.

Do you have debris on your property that you would like us to remove? Please contact Rory O'Rourke at rorourke@pgst.nsn.us or 360-297-6289 for more information.