COMMENCEMENT BAY NRDA RESTORATION

Fact Sheet HYL-1

Hylebos Estuary/Wasser Winter

Working Draft January 2, 1998

HYLEBOS ESTUARY (WASSER/WINTER)

TRUSTEE VISION FOR COMMENCEMENT BAYWIDE: The Trustee's vision focuses on restoring the various habitat components of the Commencement Bay ecosystem, such as vegetated shallows, mudflats/salt marshes, off-channel sloughs and lagoons, tidal creeks, freshwater marshes, adjacent well-stratified upland buffers, and naturalized creek and river channels and corridors. The vision places emphasis on baywide restoration through an ecosystem or landscape approach rather than creating isolated fragments of habitats. Each element is intended to function in concert with other elements.

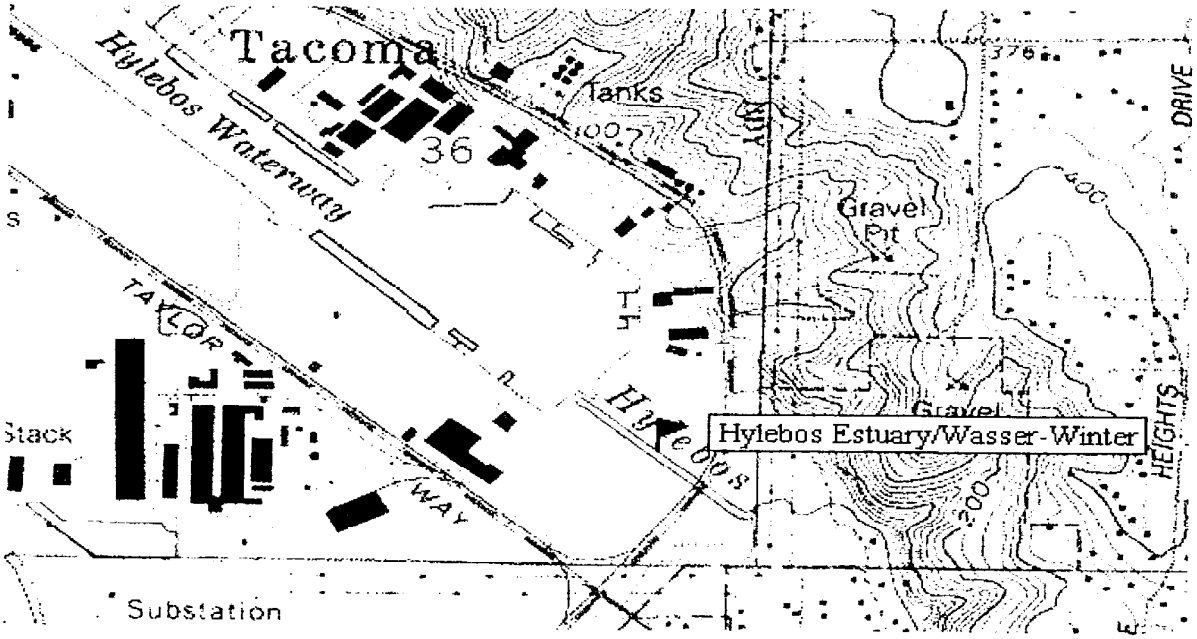
GOAL: To restore the estuarine creek mouth habitat along the eastern bank where Hylebos Creek enters the Hylebos Waterway.

OBJECTIVES:

1. Design and implement a habitat restoration project to increase sinuosity of the creek channel and increase the area and quality of the intertidal habitat.

2. Ensure that the agreed upon controls defined in the Port of Tacoma settlement documents (U.S. et al v. Port of Tacoma, Civ.No. C93-5462B W.D. Wash., 10/8/93) are instituted:
   a. The buffer area referred to as the Hylebos Estuary project will not be the site of any development activities, except remedial activities under CERCLA, MTCA, or otherwise required under applicable law;
   b. Construction of a permanent disturbance barrier (an eight foot cedar fence) which is expected to minimize sound, light, visual and physical disturbances within the buffer area and upon the wildlife in the Hylebos Creek.

PROJECT LOCATION:



PART 1: SPECIFIC PROJECT TASKS UNDER INITIAL DESIGN PHASE TO ACHIEVE GOAL:

1. Develop a design contract scope of work.

2. Select design consultant.

3. Determine permit requirements.

4. Determine environmental compliance requirements (federal/state/tribal/local).

4. Assess need for additional sampling.

5. Develop project plans:
   a. Intertidal plants plan (evaluation of optimum elevations, types of plants, soils, irrigation needs)
   b. Landscaping plans
   c. Construction grading plans
   d. Engineering drawings and specifications for contract bid
   e. Monitoring plan

6. Determine stewardship responsibilities.

PART 2: INITIAL DESIGN PHASE - SCHEDULE AND STATUS REPORT:

It is anticipated that a design consultant could be under contract in early 1998.

How can the public stay informed and be involved?

Public participation is an important component of restoration planning by helping the Trustees select and shape restoration projects. You are encouraged to become involved in the restoration planning process because the natural resources in Commencement Bay are your resources. The CB/NRDA Trustees hold quarterly public meetings. If you have questions or would like to be on a mailing list to receive notice of opportunities to participate please contact:

Jennifer Young, Restoration Case Manager
NOAA Damage Assessment and Restoration Center NW
7600 Sand Point Way NE 98115
Seattle, WA 98115-0070
phone: (206) 526-4348
fax: (206) 526-6665
e-mail: jennifer.young@noaa.gov

Public notices and meetings will also be announced at http://www.darcnw.noaa.gov/cb.htm.