

PUGET SOUND

National Estuary Program

TRAINING NEEDS ASSESSMENT FOR SHORLINE PLANNERS, CONTRACTOR, AND CONSULTANTS

This project will use a needs assessment to develop a training guide that will help advance shoreline armor removal efforts and increase the use of soft shore techniques in Puget Sound.

What we're doing

We will assess the learning needs of planners, contractors and consultants, develop a targeted training plan, and deliver an initial set of courses consistent with recommendations from the Shoreline Armoring Implementation Strategy 3.5.



Shoreline Armoring Alternatives workshop for coastal planners and consultants. Photo Source: Nicole Faghin

How we're doing it

We have formed an advisory committee consisting of representatives from WDFW, Ecology, the Coastal Training Program, contractors, coastal engineers, geomorphologists, shoreline planners, ecologists, and others to help guide the development of a needs assessment and training plan. We will assess the range of information needs for our target audience.

WHY IS THIS ISSUE IMPORTANT?

Training for coastal planners, contractors and consultants is an important piece of the broader strategy to advance shoreline armor removal efforts and increase the use of soft shore techniques in Puget Sound. Currently, there are various courses offered for planners and contractors. However, there has not been a comprehensive approach to inform the appropriate content for different groups and the most effective methods of content delivery.



Training workshop for coastal planners and consultants. Photo Source: Nicole Faghin

WHAT YOU CAN DO

With a training guide in place as a result of this effort our community will have a roadmap for how to provide education for planners, contractors and consultants. You can start providing targeted and quality trainings to increase the ability of planners, contractors and consultants to advance shoreline armor removal efforts and increase the use of soft shore techniques in Puget Sound.

ABOUT WASHINGTON SEA GRANT

A leader in research, outreach and education for nearly 50 years, Washington Sea Grant helps people understand and address the challenges facing Washington's ocean and coasts. The Washington Sea Grant mission is to help people and marine life thrive by supplying research, technical expertise and educational activities that support the responsible use and conservation of ocean and coastal ecosystems while maintaining a commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion, pursuing diverse perspectives, and enhancing cultural understanding.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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Ways to Support the Shoreline Friendly Program (Integration of Green Shores for Homes and Shore Friendly)

This project will explore various ways in which Washington Sea Grant can provide support on a region wide basis for the Shore Friendly Program.

What we're doing

We will explore three different ways Washington Sea Grant can provide support to the Estuary and Salmon Recovery Program Shore Friendly team. First, we will initiate a shoreline local government working group to provide support for local planners responsible for review of shoreline erosion control permits and Shore Friendly projects. Second, we will participate in monthly coordination calls with BC's Green Shores for Homes to provide cross-boundary collaboration on programs. And third, we will help create a facilitate an advisory committee to support the Shore Friendly program.



How we're doing it

The Local Government Working Group will convene monthly to address topics of interest that cross over between Shore Friendly projects and planning needs. The Shore Friendly Advisory Committee will meet twice a year with subcommittees meeting more frequently. Washington Sea Grant staff will coordinate monthly with BC's Green Shores Local Government Working Group as well as holding monthly meetings with Shore Friendly staff.

WHY IS THIS ISSUE IMPORTANT?

The Shore Friendly program at Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife provides support to individual Shore Friendly programs in 13 counties. These programs offer grant funding to shoreline homeowners on projects that remove bulkheads and implement soft shore stabilization methods. Washington Sea Grant brings additional expertise and capacity to support the growth and coordination of this local-regional partnership.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

Providing support to local planners will increase their ability to advance shoreline armor removal efforts in Puget Sound. Stepping up to participate in an advisory committee to provide insights for the Shore Friendly program will only benefit the whole region with a better and healthier program.

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