

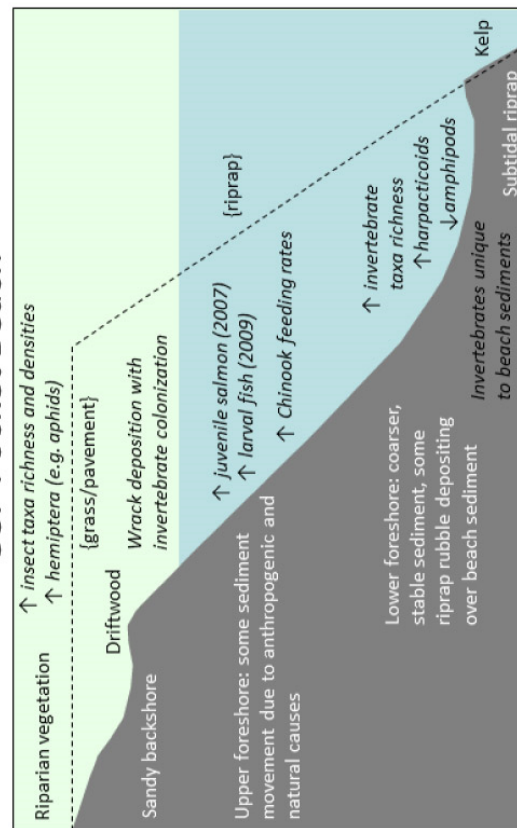
Pre-Project Conditions



Seattle's downtown waterfront is part of Elliot Bay and the Green/Duwamish River Estuary. The shoreline is officially critical habitat for Chinook salmon, federally listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act. The project's pre-construction shoreline typified poor habitat conditions for out-migrating juvenile Chinook salmon and the species they depend on. These conditions included: an abundance of deep water, ideal for salmon predators, and an absence of food resources.



OSP Pocket Beach



Monitoring Results

(Year 5 Management Summary, Toft et al, 2012)

Nursery area for fish: Juvenile salmon and larval fish present.

Foraging opportunities: Most aquatic invertebrates increased in taxa richness and numbers post-project.

Riparian value: Where shoreline vegetation was planted, certain types of terrestrial insects increased in abundance and taxa richness.

Restoration Walks 2013



Olympic Sculpture Park Beach

Saturday September 7th 12 noon

Walk led by: Peter Hummel

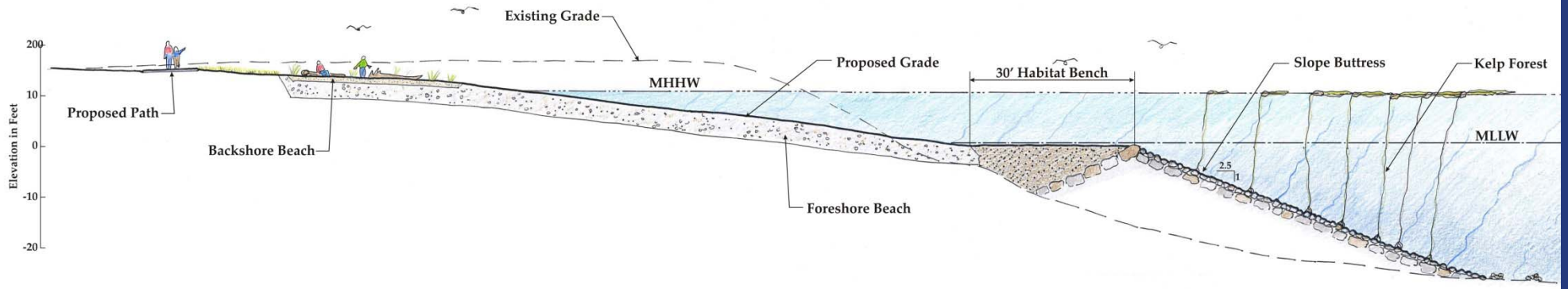
SAM SEATTLE ART MUSEUM



Society for Ecological Restoration Northwest Chapter

Olympic Sculpture Park Beach

The combination of the 1,200-foot-long habitat bench and the pocket beach are the most significant improvements to salmon habitat ever attempted in downtown Seattle. Prior to development as a major urban center, Seattle's Puget Sound shoreline consisted of continuous intertidal beaches. The project restores all the habitat zones originally found in the area including: a marine riparian zone consisting of native trees and shrubs, a sandy "backshore" beach with native beachgrass and naturally accumulating driftwood, a gravel "foreshore" beach that absorbs high energy storm waves, a low tide terrace (habitat bench), and subtidal "kelp forest" zone colonized by a variety macroalgae species such as bull kelp. The Seattle Art Museum formed partnerships with the Seattle Aquarium to conduct educational programs at the shoreline and conduct beach cleanups. Scientifically rigorous biological monitoring of the habitat was conducted by the University of Washington.



Olympic Sculpture Park Project Team:

Seattle Art Museum, Weiss/Manfredi, Magnusson Klemencic Associates, Charles Anderson Landscape Architecture, Anchor QEA, Coast & Harbor Engineering, Hart Crowser, Aspect Consulting

Photo and graphic credits: Anchor QEA, Nora Hummel

Restoration Walks is an initiative launched to celebrate SERNW's 20th Anniversary across the Cascadia bioregion. To register an event or for a list of Restoration Walks across the Northwest, see sernw.org

