

**Date:** August 14, 2002  
**Project Name:** Turning Basin No. 3 (Hamm Creek) Habitat Restoration Study  
**Non-Federal Sponsor:** King County, Washington  
**Location:** Hamm Creek/Duwamish River, Seattle, Wash  
**Congressional District:** 7  
**Project Completion:** Spring 2001  
**Project Cost:** \$2,603,900. The total project cost was: \$198,100 for the feasibility effort, \$111,400 for the plans and specs effort, and \$2,294,400 for the construction effort.  
**Authority:** Section 1135 of WRDA 1986, PL 99-662  
**Project Manager:** Corey Loveland, 206 764-3488  
**Coordinated with:** National Marine Fisheries Service,  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service,  
Washington Department of Ecology,  
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife,  
and the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe.

**Project Location:**

The restoration site is just south of the City of Seattle in King County, Washington. The site is at Turning Basin No. 3, which is near rivermile (RM) 6.2 on the left bank of the Duwamish River. Project construction began in August 1999 and has been physically completed, but the project is still in financial close out.

**Project Description:**

In the mid 1900's the Corps of Engineers dredged the lower portion of the Duwamish River up to about RM 7 for navigation purposes. As a result of the Seattle Harbor Project, and several other non-federal projects, thousands of acres of shallow water marsh, streams, and mudflat habitat in the Duwamish River estuary have been either lost or replaced with much less desirable habitat. This project restored 6.2 acres of valuable estuarine habitat to the Lower Duwamish River system. Specific plans called for creation of intertidal mudflats, a tidal marsh, and a new meandering stream channel connection of Hamm Creek. As a result of these habitat improvements, it is planned that both primary and secondary productivity and species diversity would increase, and the restoration work would provide better support of critical life stages of important salmon species using the river. An especially important element of this project was the improvement of this salmon-bearing stream. The habitat within the Duwamish River estuary has been badly degraded over the years. An erosion problem was also corrected at the mouth of Hamm Creek in the fall of 2001.

**Project Results/Monitoring Status:**

The monitoring plan was developed by the University of Washington Wetland Ecosystem Team. The cost was \$17,000 per sampling event. There were a total of 13 sampling events in 2001. Large numbers of juvenile Coho fry were captured in early samples of the upper part of the creek early in the sampling season, and later below the upper culvert. Juvenile and adult cutthroat trout were found within the site during all surveys, and several large cutthroat trout were captured in a pool within the creek. Small schools of salmon fry were observed

congregating near large woody debris. Coho smolts were captured within the lower sections of the creek, juvenile Chinook were captured in May, and juvenile Chum were captured throughout the sampling period. Jeff Cordell (UW) handled the monitoring for the first sampling; the next event will be 2003.









**2001 Volunteer Salmon Habitat Monitoring Restoration Program report  
(Released Aug 2002):**

- Download the executive summary, key findings, and action items at:  
[http://www.pugetsound.org/vshrm/2001\\_vshrm\\_summary.pdf](http://www.pugetsound.org/vshrm/2001_vshrm_summary.pdf)
- Download the full report (3.8 mb PDF file) at:  
[http://www.pugetsound.org/vshrm/2001\\_vshrm\\_report.pdf](http://www.pugetsound.org/vshrm/2001_vshrm_report.pdf)