

PUGET SOUND

National Estuary Program

MAYLOR POINT ARMOR REMOVAL

In 1978, the US Army Corps installed a variety of hard armor as a 'Low Cost Shore Protection' experiment along a feeder bluff on Whidbey Island. Most of this armoring failed in a storm in 1979; only timber posts and tires remain. These, along with concrete and other debris, interrupt the transport of natural sediment and cover valuable habitat along 1,500 ft of shoreline.

What we're doing

This project will restore feeder bluff processes and uncover 38,000 ft² of buried shoreline habitat by removing:

- 1,300 tires, 185 chemically-treated timber posts and 165 treated planks
- 5,600 concrete 'pillows'
- 1,100 CY of large armor stone and boulders
- 225 CY of small angular rock



WHAT YOU CAN DO

Maintaining a natural shoreline is often the best means of protecting your waterfront property from erosion. Consider removing hard armor or replacing old armor with a natural soft-shore alternative. Adequate setbacks, native vegetation, and proper drainage management all help slow erosion rates while supporting vibrant marine ecosystems.

ABOUT NORTHWEST STRAITS FOUNDATION

As the nonprofit organization in the Northwest Straits Initiative, the Foundation works with seven county-based Marine Resources Committees and the Northwest Straits Commission to protect and restore marine ecosystems in Puget Sound. The Foundation manages large habitat restoration projects, and provides a variety of resources to interested (public and private) shoreline property owners.

WHY IS THIS ISSUE IMPORTANT

Physical processes such as wave action, landslides, and erosion shape the beaches and extraordinary shorelines of Puget Sound. Hard armor such as concrete bulkheads, seawalls and groins interrupts the natural flow of sand and other sediments. Although 27% of our shoreline is armored, much of it is unnecessary; providing limited or no benefit to property or local economies.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

www.nwstraitsfoundation.org

Lisa Kaufman, Nearshore Program Manager

Northwest Straits Foundation

kaufman@nwstraitsfoundation.org

360-733-1725

