

Sound WAVES

PIE PROJECTS: PUTTING GOOD IDEAS TO WORK

People living and working in Puget Sound are doing great things to boost the Sound's health by protecting and improving its water quality and habitat:

- Students are teaching other students about salmon lifecycles and habitat needs.
- Community volunteers are conducting water quality sampling.
- Businesses are hosting workshops on environmentally friendly practices.
- Many other Puget Sounders are teaming up to solve local environmental problems.

With funding from the **Public Involvement and Education (PIE) Fund** program, citizens, businesses, tribes, non-profit organizations and local governments are playing a key role in the long-term environmental management of the Sound.

PIE is administered by the Puget Sound Water Quality Action Team, which has provided more than \$5.2



ROLL OUT THE RAIN BARRELS!

Photo by Kelsie Donleycott

Jessica Wheeler and other youngsters had a grand time at a recent sale of rain barrels in Bremerton, while their parents learned about stormwater and combined sewer overflows. The rain barrel project was sponsored by the City of Bremerton, Kitsap Lumber and Washington Department of Health, with some funding provided by the Action Team's Public Involvement and Education (PIE) program.

million for over 300 projects since 1987 through competitive and non-competitive funding.

PIE projects have reached 2 million people, many of whom have committed to ongoing efforts to improve

and protect water quality for future generations.

People, partnerships and priorities are the ingredients that make the PIE recipe a hit. The PIE program motivates people to be environmental stewards. It

moves people beyond an attitude of "us vs. them" and emphasizes that good water quality is in everyone's best interest. People involved in PIE come from all walks of life—from elementary school students to university scientists; home builders to shellfish growers; and from tribal governments to Korean meal center workers. It's these people—and the partnerships they create—that improve and enhance Puget Sound's health.

PIE projects raise people's awareness of the environmental issues that affect Puget Sound's health. Every round of PIE projects focuses on priorities identified by the Puget Sound Council and Action Team and involves people in the cleanup and protection of Puget Sound, boosting state, local and federal agency efforts.

In this issue of *Sound Waves*, read about current PIE projects and learn how to get a slice of PIE during the next round of contracts. For more information, visit our website at:

<http://www.wa.gov/puget_sound>.

The Puget Sound Water Quality Action Team and its advisory arm, the Puget Sound Council, were created by the Washington State Legislature to lead efforts to protect Puget Sound.

Chair: Nancy McKay

Action Team Members

Cities

Chuck Booth, Mayor, City of Auburn

Counties

Louise Miller, Vice Chair, Metropolitan King County Council

Department of Agriculture

Jim Jesernig, Director

Office of Community Development

Busse Nutley, Director

Department of Ecology

Tom Fitzsimmons, Director

Department of Fish & Wildlife

Jeffrey Koenings, Director

Department of Health

Mary Selecky, Secretary

Department of Natural Resources

Doug Sutherland,
Commissioner of Public Lands

Department of Transportation

Sid Morrison, Secretary

Interagency Committee for Outdoor Recreation

Laura Eckert Johnson, Director

State Parks & Recreation Commission

Cleve Pinnix, Director

Wash. State Conservation Commission

Steve Meyer, Executive Director

Tulalip Tribes

Daryl Williams, Director,
Department of the Environment

Environmental Protection Agency

Ron Kreizenbeck, Acting Deputy
Regional Administrator

National Marine Fisheries Service

Donna Dam, Acting Regional Administrator

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Gerry Jackson, Manager

Puget Sound Council Members

Agriculture

Jerry Van der Veen, dairy farmer

Business

Kirk Anderson, Fisher Properties Inc.

Environmental Community

Tom Putnam, Puget Soundkeeper
Alliance

Shellfish Industry

Bill Dewey, Taylor Shellfish Co.

Cities

Jackie Aitchison, Poulsbo City Council

Counties

Rhea Miller, San Juan County Board of
Commissioners

Tribes

Fran Wilshusen, Northwest Indian
Fisheries Commission

State Senate

Senator Tracey Eide
(D-Federal Way)
Senator Pam Roach (R-Auburn)

State House of Representatives

Currently vacant-Democrat
Representative Gary Chandler
(R-Moses Lake)

COMMUNITIES ARE THE HEART OF PIE'S SUCCESS

On a cold, gray day in November, students from the Hood Canal school put on snorkels and adult-sized dry suits and stepped into the even colder Skokomish River. Their mission: survey the river for bull trout and other salmonids hiding under snags and drift piles.

The survey is just one the school's many environmental activities, which are partly funded by the Public Involvement and Education program and administered by the Puget Sound Water Quality Action Team. (See page 5 for more details on this and other current PIE projects.) And even though the students didn't find many trout that day, they made a connection to the river and its wildlife that can only come from drifting in its current. This level of involvement, whether in a neighborhood stream or in the local political process, is what PIE is all about.

In the public sector, PIE is unique. Most state programs provide grants for larger-scale projects to local and other government agencies. PIE is not a grant program; it provides service contracts. With PIE funding, almost anyone with a good idea to protect Puget Sound can apply. The funding provides venture capital for small-scale, community-based environmental protection. The Action Team staff supports contractors with technical, educational and scientific assistance. A new round of funding is kicked off each biennium with a request for proposals (RFP). The current biennium marks the 12th round of funding since the program began in 1987.

At the heart of PIE is the belief that community-based education can motivate people to solve problems in ways that government alone cannot. The PIE philosophy and format has been a model for programs in other states and estuary protection programs throughout the nation.

Evaluating PIE

Adapting a process developed in Ohio, the Action Team staff worked with a committee of educators in 1998 to evaluate the first 10 rounds of PIE projects and published the results in a final report. The purpose of the study was to identify exemplary projects for replication using the following criteria:

- Protection, improvement and stewardship of Puget Sound
- Accurate assessment of need
- Efficient use of community resources and partnerships
- Sustainability
- Educational quality
- Project evaluation

The evaluators acknowledged the tremendous value of a decade of PIE projects. PIE is one of the longest running, best documented and carefully tracked programs of its type. The 239 projects evaluated contain a wealth of insight gained by contractors working thousands of hours with communities to protect Puget Sound.

Future of PIE: Round 13

PIE is a tool to address the priorities outlined in the *Puget Sound Water Quality Work Plan*, and contracts are awarded every two years to coincide with the biennial update of the work plan. PIE is financed through the Centennial Clean Water Fund, which is allocated by the state legislature from a tax on tobacco products. If the legislature approves funding for the next round, the Action Team will send out an RFP in July 2001.

During each round, the Action Team receives dozens of worthy applications, but because funding has declined in recent years, less than 25 percent receive awards. The difficult task of selecting proposals for awards is the responsibility of a Citizen Advisory Committee that reviews each proposal, interviews the top ranking applicants and selects projects for implementation. All interested parties, except for state and federal agencies, are eligible to apply. Matching funds are encouraged, but they are not required.

If you have an idea for a project and wish to be on our RFP mailing list, e-mail your name, address, e-mail address, and phone number to kvanvlack@psat.wa.gov or call (360) 407-7304. Additional information about PIE and the *2001-2003 Puget Sound Work Plan* is available on our website <www.wa.gov/puget_sound>.

Former PIE projects still going strong

In its 13 years, PIE has shown that given an initial boost, good ideas in the hands of hard working, visionary people can take on a life and leave a legacy all their own. The following are some of the PIE projects that are still actively working to protect and preserve the health of Puget Sound:

- Water Watchers
- Bay Watchers
- Sound Stewards
- Citizen Shoreline volunteers
- Maxwelton Salmon Adventure group
- Business Partners for Clean Water
- Puget Sound Restoration Fund

The names differ but each program educates citizens about the Puget Sound environment and helps them put their knowledge to work to benefit the Sound.

NEWS FROM AROUND PUGET SOUND

The Power of Kids Teaching Kids

The Seabeck Alki Salmon Team in **Kitsap County** is a group of 27 students from second to seventh grade who have been studying salmon in Seabeck Creek, visiting hatcheries, and organizing activities for more than a year. The team is supported by a dedicated group of parents and fish biologist Ron Hirschi. Using



Photo by Jerry Zumdieck

PIE funds, the team has developed a slide show on the life cycle of the salmon and the land-use practices that affect water quality and habitat. They are presenting the slide show to students at various Kitsap County elementary schools. Salmon Team members encourage other students to form their own local salmon teams. The positive impact of kids teaching kids is apparent as groups of 100 elementary students listen attentively and answer questions correctly after the show. Contact: Jerry Zumdieck, team leader, (360) 830-4230.

Fish-Friendly Construction Workshops

The **Master Builders Association of King and Snohomish Counties** offered the first of two series of Fish Friendly Construction Workshops in November. The workshops are partially funded through PIE. The fall workshops profiled building strategies that benefit salmon. These strategies include appliances that use less energy or consume less water and wood products grown in certified, well-managed forests. For example, workshop participants learned about a double-flush toilet in which the user may select either a standard 1.6-gallon or a super-efficient 0.8-gallon flush for each use depending on need. Participants were encouraged to avoid using energy-inefficient appliances such as side-by-side refrigerator-freezers and refrigerators with icemakers. The spring Fish Friendly Construction Workshops, planned for late April, will focus on site development and stormwater issues. Contact: Doug Lengel, Master Builders Association of King and Snohomish counties, (425) 451-7920.

Landowners Restore Salmon Habitat

The Maxwelton Salmon Adventure (MSA), a non-profit environmental group, is midway through a PIE project to educate and involve watershed landowners in restoring salmon to Maxwelton Creek, one of the largest streams on **Whidbey Island**. The project includes watershed restoration training, landowner forums and individual landowner consultations. The restoration trainings directly involve landowners in restoring riparian habitat in the watershed. Training topics include riparian vegetation, invasive plant control and native plant salvage. The landowner forums allow watershed neighbors to meet and explore solutions to conflicting values and land uses. Participants include farmers, new residents and MSA members. Individual consultations help landowners learn how to address creek issues on their property. A new *Guide to the Maxwelton Watershed* has been developed. Contact: Susan Berta, project lead, (360) 678-3451 or susanb@whidbey.net.

Resolving Wetlands Issues

In 1994 the Economic Development Association of **Skagit County** received PIE funding for the Skagit Wetlands and Industry Negotiations. This project brought together local groups to resolve conflicts involving wetland impacts and development plans at the Port of Skagit County's 1,800-acre Bayview property. The discussions led to collaborative work on a wetlands assessment, comprehensive management plan, and an advanced compensation agreement, all completed by 1998. The plan and accompanying agreement identify 254 acres of developable land while earmarking 7.7 acres for wetland fill, 14.5 acres for wetland mitigation, and 250 acres for wetland protection (plus 201 acres of buffers). The Port is currently carrying out the mitigation project at an estimated cost of \$450,000, funded in part by a \$149,000 grant from Skagit County's local sales and use taxes. Contact: Patsy Martin, environmental manager, Port of Skagit County, (360) 757-0011 or patsy@portofskagit.com.

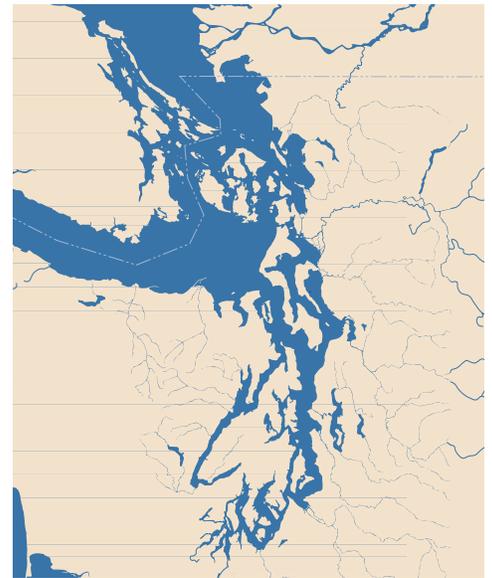
LOW IMPACT DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE

June 5-6

Hilton Seattle Airport & Conference Center

This regional conference will explore and promote low impact development principles and practices. Registration materials will be available this spring. Check www.wa.gov/puget_sound for up-to-date information. Or call (360) 407-7300 or (800) 54-SOUND.

Presented by the Puget Sound Water Quality Action Team and funded in part with a King County Department of Natural Resources WaterWorks Grant.



Puget Sound Water Quality Action Team Local Liaisons:

Island and Snohomish counties:
Joan Drinkwin, (360) 848-0924

Thurston County:
Tim Ransom, (360) 407-7323

Mason, Whatcom, and Skagit counties:
Stuart Glasoe, (360) 407-7319

San Juan County:
Ginny Broadhurst, (360) 738-6122

Clallam, Kitsap and Jefferson counties:
Harriet Beale, (360) 379-4441

Pierce and King counties:
Kathy Taylor, (206) 263-6344

Using Better Data to Protect Forage Fish

Until recently, **San Juan County** had little information as to which beaches forage fish use for spawning. The San Juan Marine Resources Committee recently completed two pieces of a project to identify forage fish spawning habitat in the county. The project, funded by the Northwest Straits Commission, developed and standardized field protocols for sample collection. The next step was to identify potential spawning areas from aerial photographs and map those areas. Beach surveys showed that not all *potential* spawning areas are *actual* spawning areas, but the photographs were an excellent guide. Verified data were transcribed onto the county's GIS and will be used by the county permit center when reviewing shoreline development proposals. The methodology for this project can be used by other local governments and is an important step toward protecting forage fish, an important prey species for salmon. While laws exist to protect forage fish, not enough maps are available to locate the critical spawning areas. The third phase, now underway, will continue the field verification of spawning beaches. Contact: Ginny Broadhurst, (360) 738-6122.

PIE PROJECTS ARE...

- Diverse
- Exciting
- Innovative
- Successful
- Replicated
- Engaging

A Sampling of C

More current PIE 1

GOT HORSES? GOT MUD? GET HELP!



Sponsor: Horses for Clean Water
Region served: King, Snohomish, Skagit and Whatcom counties
Award amount: \$45,000
Contact: Alayne Blickle

Poor horsekeeping practices can create a negative impact on the environment by allowing excess nutrients and sediments to run into surface waters. Good horsekeeping practices can maintain horse health, improve farm productivity, make things convenient for the owner, provide wildlife habitat and decrease nonpoint source pollution. **Horses for Clean Water** seeks to achieve these results by offering classes and farm tours at demonstration farms.

Participants in the program learn techniques for reducing mud, composting horse manure and managing small pastures. In addition, they receive a manual of resources, which includes an introduction to the laws that affect horse owners, as well as a list of programs and agencies available to assist horse owners.

Karen Pickering, editor of *Northwest Horse Source* and a program partner for HCW says, "I am happy to say that HCW has provided very valuable information to my readership. The information is timely, addresses the concerns of horsekeeping in the Pacific Northwest and has created an awareness about good horsekeeping practices. I feel in the long run if we use this kind of education, we will save precious dollars in regulatory measures."



FROM BOTTOM PAINT TO BILGES



Sponsor: Bremerton-Kitsap County Health District
Region served: Kitsap County
Award amount: \$32,492
Contact: Sue Texeira

Starting in February, the **Sound Boater Program** in Kitsap County will be teaching another group of boaters how they can enjoy boating while helping to protect Puget Sound. The SBP training uses the experience and knowledge of area professionals to educate boaters about maintaining their boats, from bottom paints to bilges.

Using best management practices, environmentally friendly products and general troubleshooting techniques to prevent problems, participants will learn about cost-effective and environmentally sound methods to protect their investments and the resources of Puget Sound. The six-week course will also focus on emergency readiness and response, Puget Sound oceanography and geology, fishing and shellfish harvesting, and observing—but not disturbing—the birds and marine mammals in the area.

In exchange for training, participants agree to share what they've learned with fellow boaters. Through a variety of projects, course graduates volunteer their time to keep our waters safe and clean for all to enjoy. A past SPB participant had this to say: "I think my boating practices were better than average, but I know there will be things from the class that I will remember when I get back in the boat and will do even better."



MUCKING ABOUT WITH GRATE MATES™



Sponsor: City of SeaTac
Region served: Des Moines Creek/City of SeaTac
Award amount: \$45,000
Contact: Desmond Machuca

The City of SeaTac initiated the **SeaTac Stream Stewards** program to pursue salmon protection and improve water quality in Des Moines Creek, a stream that empties into Puget Sound. The program focuses on government, business, schools and non-profit organizations working together, making this truly a collaborative effort.

Students install Grate Mates™—catch basin inserts made of geo-textile fabric with an oil-absorbent pillow—for businesses in their parking lot drains. Students stencil the drains with pollution prevention and salmon-friendly slogans. Grate Mates™ prevent materials such as car-washing soap, engine oil, dirt and sediment from washing down storm drains straight into streams. Recently, students removed and cleaned a Grate Mate™ loaded with 40 pounds of muck!

"The Grate Mates™ program teaches kids and grown-ups alike about creek ecology and about how to properly dispose of these wastes," says Theron Shaw, program coordinator for Planet CPR, a project partner.

The program also provides businesses with on-site assessments of stormwater issues, training workshops for employees and up to \$1,000 per business to help eliminate sources of pollution.

Funding for this project was also provided through WaterWorks, the King County Water Quality Block Grant awarded by the King County Department of Natural Resources.



urrent PIE Projects

PIE CONTRACTORS...

- Care about their communities
- Form valuable partnerships
- Make a difference

jects on page 7...

TAKING IT TO THE STREETS



Sponsor: City of Tacoma Public Works Department
Region served: City of Tacoma and Tacoma School District
Award amount: \$42,233
Contact: Chris Gleason

The City of Tacoma put the pedal to the metal in July by taking environmental education on the road and into the classroom. The **EnviroChallenger** van brings earth-friendly messages into the classroom and out to the community.

Tacoma's Community Relations Office developed the EnviroChallenger program to teach residents about Tacoma's environmental issues and how their actions can help prevent future environmental damage.

More than 200 teachers have requested EnviroChallenger visits. Chris Gleason, EnviroChallenger coordinator, visits elementary classrooms to teach students about a variety of environmental issues. "We loved it," said Christine Koukles, fourth-grade teacher at Lister Elementary School. "The hands-on content is relevant and exciting for the kids, and they are able to apply their learning immediately."

Last summer, the EnviroChallenger cruised to several community events, including the Puyallup Fair and the Maritime Fest, where attendees learned about earth-friendly lawn care practices and shopping the enviro-smart way.

The driving forces behind the EnviroChallenger project include Tacoma's Solid Waste, Sanitary Sewer, and Storm Drainage utilities.



EARTH DAY, EVERY DAY



Sponsor: Hood Canal School
Region served: Hood Canal and Skokomish Estuary
Award amount: \$23,460
Contact: Laurie Byrd

On April 20—Earth Day—students from **Hood Canal School** will share with their community what they've been learning about in their local watershed. The Earth Day, Every Day Fair is the culmination of a 36-week environmental curriculum program that had sixth, seventh and eighth graders re-seeding oyster beds, snorkeling to survey bull trout and adopting a wetland adjacent to their school.

Students will set up booths at their fair and offer hands-on activities relating to the environmental issues they've been studying, including wetlands, estuaries, water pollution, and stream restoration and enhancement techniques and projects.

The Hood Canal School's goal is to promote a healthier environment in the Skokomish Watershed by educating students on environmental awareness and pollution-prevention techniques. PIE funding has led to new contacts, partnerships and funding opportunities. It has allowed the school to expand its program while helping the environment. Students will continue to work in and care and learn about the natural environment of a watershed right in their own backyard.



HANDS-ON ENHANCEMENT



Sponsor: Metro Parks' Tacoma Nature Center
Region served: Swan Creek Natural Area in Pierce County
Award amount: \$18,824
Contact: Carly Gelarden

The **Swan Creek Watershed Citizen/Youth Partnership Project** will let Tacoma's Eastside and Salishan communities discover and become stewards of the Swan Creek Natural Area. The creek is a tributary of the Puyallup River that flows directly into Puget Sound. This major urban stream experiences excessive stormwater runoff, garbage dumping and human interference with fall salmon runs.

Teachers, students and community members help preserve and enhance the Swan Creek watershed and fish habitat through educational and hands-on projects such as riparian planting, teacher workshops, salmon counts and water quality testing.

"The community has noticed a difference. I have received several phone calls from community members, wondering who has made this happen," said David Whited, grant coordinator at Chief Leschi School, which is a Swan Creek project partner.

Activities already completed include two weeks of day camps at Swan Creek, clean-up work on Swan Creek, and a teacher workshop.

More events in the future feature riparian planting at Swan Creek, the "Song of the Salmon" family activity day and the Swan Creek Festival.



PUGET SOUND'S HEALTH

The Puget Sound Ambient Monitoring Program (PSAMP) is a coordinated effort among state and federal agencies to measure the health of Puget Sound's waters and resources. The program complements monitoring by local governments and citizen volunteers.



RESTORING SEATTLE'S HOMETOWN RIVER...THE DUWAMISH

By Tom Dean,
People for Puget Sound

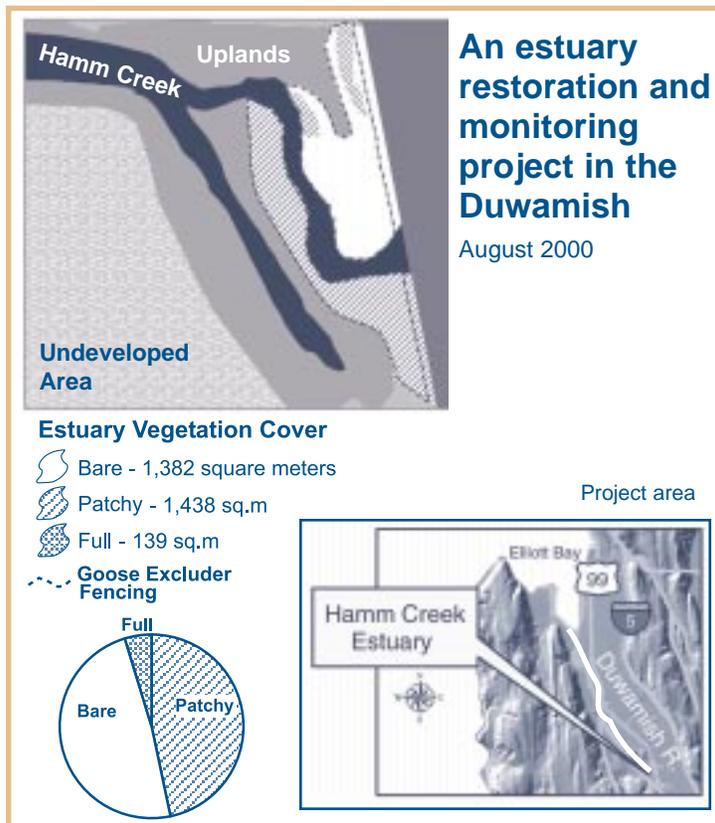
One hundred and fifty years ago, the White, Black (Cedar), and Green Rivers flowed together to form the Duwamish River. Tides flooded 5,300 acres of lush wetlands, and millions of salmon swam past Native American longhouses near the mouth of the river.

Zoom ahead to the turn of the 21st century—the river has been dredged, straightened and diked, and at least 97 percent of the wetlands have been filled. In an effort to bring some of the biological vitality back to the river, numerous agencies and organizations have collaborated on nine small estuarine restoration projects.

These projects require removing fill to allow tidal waters to flood the restoration site and the establishment of native salt-tolerant vegetation. Some of these projects are eight or 10 years old, and some only one or two. Are the plants growing and thriving? Are new species colonizing the sites? Are weeds invading?

These are the questions that People for Puget Sound volunteers are attempting to answer through the Volunteer Salmon Habitat Restoration and Monitoring Project, which

Last summer, People for Puget Sound made some dramatic revisions to the **Shoreline Inventory**, a process that gathers detailed data on key stretches of Puget Sound shoreline. The new system brings volunteers together for an intense day of data gathering at low tide; the result is a complete data set for a specific stretch of beach. The data provide a baseline for resource managers and can be used to target conservation or restoration efforts or to help guide management decisions. For information on training sessions, contact Rachel Schofield at (206) 382-7007 or rschofield@pugetsound.org.



is partly funded through an Action Team PIE contract. This monitoring system was developed in cooperation with the Elliott Bay/Duwamish Restoration Program and is designed to provide one of the tools for their "Intertidal Habitat Projects Monitoring Program." People for Puget Sound has established a rigorous training program (with the help of the Native Plant Society) to assure that the data volunteers gather is

of the highest quality.

Through this project, steadfast and well-trained volunteers check the health of these restored wetlands every month, and gather detailed vegetation data three times during the year. Surveys completed last summer have provided baselines for four of the projects, and People for Puget Sound plan to train more volunteers to cover the other five sites in 2001.

People for Puget Sound sets the sample points randomly (using a Geographic Information System) in the project area, and volunteers take mobile quadrats into the field to gather data on plant species (including invasives), shoot density and height. They analyze the data to determine to what extent intertidal and

riparian habitat is developing on the site. The assumption is that plant vitality and diversity are indicators of the level of habitat function.

The data are displayed on the World Wide Web for students, teachers and citizens to access and are also sent to various agency project managers each year, along with recommendations for maintenance and enhancement projects. In this way, the program creates an information feedback loop that allows for adaptive management of these projects.

Of course, dedicated volunteer stewards have much to do with the success of these marshes. They are down on the Duwamish weeding, watering and removing garbage. The volunteers care very much what happens to Seattle's hometown river, and they believe it can be restored.

And the fish? In 1999, more than 600 juvenile chum salmon were counted in a restored saltmarsh near the mouth of the Duwamish. And on Earth Day 2000, People for Puget Sound volunteers paused from their planting project at the mouth of Hamm Creek to watch juvenile salmon swim into the newly restored estuary.

People for Puget Sound will have training sessions for this program in April. If you would like to get involved, contact Rachel Schofield at (206) 382-7007 or rschofield@pugetsound.org. New site reports for this project will be posted to www.pugetsound.org by the end of January.

Current PIE Projects

Continued from page 5

CITY OF LACEY

The City of Lacey has initiated a series of evening workshops and Saturday work parties to motivate and train homeowner associations to maintain privately owned stormwater ponds. Homeowners learn the best methods to maintain their ponds and then participate in work parties to apply the methods on their neighborhood pond. A final workshop is scheduled for March.

KOREAN WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

In partnership with the Indochinese Cultural Service Center, the Korean Women's Association (KWA) carried out a summer program to train Asian Pacific Islander (API) youth about safe and sustainable shellfish harvesting. Youth sampled shellfish from area beaches, presented information about shellfish to elders at community meal sites, and visited with API grocers to stress the importance of selling certified shellfish. KWA will also produce guidance for replicating their project.

FRIENDS OF THE SAN JUANS

The Friends of the San Juans provides Shoreline Stewardship Training sessions for volunteers from the San Juan Islands. Volunteers map wildlife communities that depend on marine habitat for their survival. The data collected by volunteers will provide the research for a series of interactive maps showing which species are threatened by habitat degradation along the shoreline. Citizens and local governments can use those maps when making decisions regarding the placement of coastal developments.

RE SOURCES

Local decision-makers and citizens attended daylong tours of salmon habitats in Whatcom County. Participants learned about the variety of impediments facing salmon during their spawning migration, rearing and juvenile phases, and return to the sea. They also learned about best management practices to mitigate some of these impacts. A booklet, *The Journey Home*, shares these messages with others in the community.

SEABECK ALKI SALMON TEAM

Initiated as an informal club to provide Seabeck youth with an after-school activity, the Salmon Team crafted a community-wide outreach effort to share messages about salmon and salmon habitat. Team members designed and presented a traveling slide show to area elementary schools and community groups. A team-produced book about salmon was also distributed to the classrooms and groups they visited. Team leaders are developing a guidebook to help others initiate salmon teams in their communities. See Page 3 for more information about this project.

SEATTLE/KING COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

The Seattle/King County Department of Public Health, in partnership with WSU Cooperative Extension, provided information and tools to owners of on-site sewage systems (OSS) through six workshops held in August and September 2000. The workshops helped homeowners to better understand, operate and maintain their particular type of OSS. Improved OSS operation and maintenance increases their life expectancy and performance while at the same time minimizing premature failures that threaten waters flowing to Puget Sound.

WSU COOPERATIVE EXTENSION—THURSTON COUNTY

Aiming to enhance the success of volunteer riparian restoration projects, this project will demonstrate correct riparian replanting techniques through a short video and booklet. In the spring of 2001, restoration volunteers—coordinated through project partners—will use these tools to improve their planting skills. WSU Cooperative Extension will make the video and booklet directly accessible through the web in a readily downloadable format.

CONGRATULATIONS to PIE projects and contractors—current and past—for their recent awards:

Past Projects:

The Hood Canal Watershed Project Center in Belfair received the **Excellence on the Waterfront Award** from the Waterfront Center. In 1991, the North Mason school district received PIE funding to jump start a project that has evolved into one of the premier learning centers in the Puget Sound basin.

The **Seattle Aquarium's Beach Naturalist** program received the prestigious **2000 Education Award** from the American Zoo and Aquarium Society. The aquarium trained Puget Sound natural history interpreters who educated citizens from Richmond Beach to Vashon Island.

Current Project:

EnviroChallenger received the **Environmental Hero** award from Citizens for a Healthy Bay for their work in Tacoma classrooms teaching kids about water and waste issues.

Current Contractors:

Laurie Byrd, teacher at Hood Canal Middle School, won the **Environmental Education Achievement Award** from the Hood Canal Coordinating Council for educational and stewardship activities focusing on the Skokomish Watershed.

Alayne Blicke, who heads up Horses for Clean Water has received the **Special Services Award 2000** from the Washington Association of Conservation Districts for Outstanding Contribution in Natural Resources Conservation.

Return Service Requested

Read Sound Waves on the Web!

If you'd like to receive an e-mail reminder when *Sound Waves* is posted on our website, send an e-mail to gwilliams@psat.wa.gov.

Sound Waves is produced quarterly by the Puget Sound Water Quality Action Team.

If you need this document in an alternate format, call (360) 407-7300, (800) 54_SOUND, or the TDD number: (800) 833-6388.

Editor/Designer:

Toni Weyman Droscher
(tdroscher@psat.wa.gov)

Editorial Assistant: Stephanie Lidren

Sound Waves is run on an alcohol-free press using vegetable-based inks.

CALENDAR

February-March
6:30 to 9 p.m.

Thursdays plus Saturday
farm tour

Horse Farm Management

*Horses for Clean Water
Education Program*
Monroe

A five-week series offering
the horse owner in-depth
training on small farm
management techniques.
Learn how to make your
land safe for your horses
and the environment.

Contact: Snohomish
Conservation District,
(425) 335-5634.

February 12-14

**Puget Sound Research
2001—Conference**

*Puget Sound Action Team
and co-sponsors.*
Bellevue

Learn about the status of
and the efforts to sustain
and restore the Puget
Sound ecosystem.

Contact: Puget Sound
Water Quality Action Team,
(360) 407-7300 or
sredman@psat.wa.gov.

February 13
7 to 9 p.m.

**The Importance of Healthy
Nearshore Habitat**

*Pilchuck Audubon-Smart
Growth, Stilly-Snohomish
Fisheries Enhancement
Task Force, and Snohomish
County Surface Water
Management.*

Part of a monthly series of
free seminars on Pacific
salmon. February's seminar
will focus on the importance
of healthy nearshore
habitat. Contact: Suzi Wong
Swint at (425) 388-6476 or
s.swint@co.snohomish.wa.us

February 26-27

**Volunteer Estuary
Monitoring: Overcoming
Boundaries**

Surrey, B.C.
A two-day workshop
focusing on how to address
multi-jurisdictional issues of
water quality monitoring.
Learn how to establish or
improve your water quality
monitoring operations,
improve the quality of data

collected and enhance
training efforts. Registration
is free but limited. Priority
will be given to local
organizations.

Contact: Center for Marine
Conservation,
(757) 496-9020 or e-mail:
rohrel@vacmc.org.

March 30-May 25
Fridays plus two Saturday
field trips

**Watershed Volunteer
training**

*WSU Cooperative
Extension King County's
Land/Water Stewardship
Program*

Help others make educated
choices about the use of
their land and water
resources. Seventy hours of
training provided.

To receive an application
packet, call (206) 205-3100
or (800) 325-6165,
ext. 5-3100 and leave
name, address and phone
number. Information is also
on the web at

<[http://king.wsu.edu/
NatResources/lwsintro.htm](http://king.wsu.edu/NatResources/lwsintro.htm)>

April 9
7 p.m.

Salmon Slide Show

Emel House, Scenic Beach
State Park, Seabeck
Members of the *Seabeck
Alki Salmon Team*—

elementary students—will
be presenting a slide show
of their projects involving
stream restoration and
salmon research. (For more
information about this
salmon team, see page 7.)
Students are available to
give slide shows to other
groups. The presentations
were made possible with
PIE funds.

Contact: Jerry Zumdieck,
(360) 830-4230.