

Silverdale Waterfront Environmental Restoration and Feasibility Project

1. Provide the name of all non-Federal interests planning to act as the sponsor, including any non-Federal interest that has contributed or is expected to contribute toward the non-Federal share of the proposed feasibility study or modification.

Kitsap County, WA county government – principal non-federal sponsor of the Silverdale Waterfront Environmental Restoration and Feasibility Project

Other non-federal interested participants include: the Port of Silverdale, WA; US Navy; Suquamish Tribe; Silverdale Chamber of Commerce.

2. State if this proposal is for a feasibility study or a modification to an authorized USACE project or feasibility study and, if a modification, specify the authorized project or study.

This proposal is for a feasibility study for environmental restoration

3. State the project purpose of the proposed study or modification.

The primary purposes of the Silverdale Waterfront Environmental Restoration and Feasibility Project are:

- Restoration of saltwater intertidal and nearshore habitats, including: forage fish (mid-upper tidal), federal Endangered Species Act listed salmon (all nearshore is designated Critical Habitat), resident and migratory waterfowl pathways, and associated tidal-freshwater aquatic marsh communities.
- Restoration of supporting ecological processes and biological diversity
- Restore a more natural hydrologic and hydraulic regime that returns estuarine intertidal connectivity, improves stormwater runoff attenuation and enhances shoreline resiliency to sea level rise and climate change.

A secondary purpose is to enhance and improve active and passive recreational uses with emphasis on recreation that is compatible with the restored environment.

4. Provide an estimate, to the extent practicable, of the total cost of the proposed study or modification.

Estimate of total project cost: \$250,000. This budget is based on similar nearshore restoration project design in Kitsap County.

5. Describe, to the extent practicable, the anticipated monetary and nonmonetary benefits of the proposal including benefits to the protection of human life and property; improvement to transportation; the national economy; the environment; or the national security interests of the United States.

Monetary and nonmonetary benefits of the proposal: The Silverdale, WA waterfront is a centrally located public park in the core of Central Kitsap County. The Silverdale waterfront park is managed by the County Parks and Recreation Department and the adjacent boat ramp and moorage facilities are managed by the Port of Silverdale. The annual public use and visitation is estimated at 190,000 people per year. Most of the in-water access use at the boat ramp is by private recreational boats, but commercial fishing and US Navy vessel launching is also a documented use.

The Silverdale waterfront park has been improved with a vertical seawall to support and segregate an upland public park where a picnic and playground area is among the public amenities offered. Elsewhere the shoreline has rock rip rap, but the general condition of the waterfront is poor with visible, insidious cracks to the seawall and progressive erosion at the upper intertidal edge. A County sewage pump station is located very close to the shoreline edge and has been buttressed by additional rip rap to protect it from the erosive forces of wind and tides on shorelines like the Silverdale Waterfront. To date, raw sewage discharges to the receiving waterway – Dyes Inlet – have occurred in relation to storm events, polluting tribal fishing areas and closing tribal and recreational shellfish beds. **There is a very clear and timely opportunity at the Silverdale Waterfront to systematically address critical nearshore restoration while ensuring important public recreational and public infrastructure are maintained (protection of human life and property, and environmental restoration).**



The benefit of planning for the changes to the Silverdale waterfront ahead of the expected eventual changes to that shoreline with sea level rise (flooding,

damage to roads and other infrastructure) will be more cost effective than reacting to such events when they occur.

Silverdale is Kitsap County's largest, unincorporated urban growth area and the greater Silverdale area supports Naval Base Kitsap, arguably one of the most complex military bases in the nation supporting a workforce of over 25,000 civilian and military employees and their families. Silverdale is the major retail center for the West Puget Sound. In the last 40 years, with the development of the Naval Base Kitsap and associated construction of major transportation infrastructure, the Silverdale urban area has experienced the greatest increases in agricultural land conversion and total impervious surface area in the County. The increasing urban development is likely to increase as Silverdale becomes a regional health center for Kitsap County as well as for neighboring Mason and Jefferson Counties. **(This benefits national economy and national security).**

The Silverdale Waterfront presents highly complex challenges to nearshore restoration due to significant engineering and construction intricacies. The Silverdale Waterfront is considered to be a perfect candidate for advanced analysis in a feasibility study under the Water Resources Reform and Development Act (WRRDA) to determine feasible and suitable alternatives for ecosystem restoration, redevelopment construction and recreational enhancement for the Silverdale Waterfront. **This project has not been included in previous congressional authorization or previous WRRDA report.**

6. Describe if local support exists for the proposal.

The elected body of Kitsap County is the Board of County Commissioners who direct and approve priority actions by the departments that serve Kitsap County. The Board and the program directors that serve the Board are in strong agreement that the Silverdale Waterfront is a worthy candidate for cost-share through a WRRDA feasibility study. In addition, the Port of Silverdale has consistently supported investments in infrastructure improvements and has actively participated on Dyes Inlet environmental restorations.

7. State if the non-Federal interest has the financial ability to provide for the required cost share.

Kitsap County has discretionary authority to provide cash and in-kind cost sharing through various budget items including capital facility budgets for stormwater and sewer utilities.