



Western Washington University
Western CEDAR

Salish Sea Ecosystem Conference

2018 Salish Sea Ecosystem Conference
(Seattle, Wash.)

Apr 6th, 1:30 PM - 1:45 PM

Living with the shoreline: education for property owners


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Davis, Shannon and Whitman, Tina, "Living with the shoreline: education for property owners" (2018).
Salish Sea Ecosystem Conference. 554.

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Living with the shoreline: education for property owners



Tina Whitman, Science Director
Shannon Davis, Grants Manager





Andrew Reding



Mark Gardner



Chris Teren



Friends *of the*
San Juans

*protecting and restoring the San Juan Islands
and the Salish Sea for people and nature*

90%

Parcels
privately
owned

63%

Live out of
the county

77%

Over 60 years
old

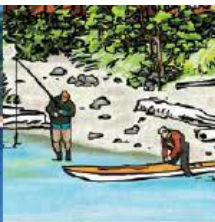
38%

Ownership
is in a trust





photo by Chris Teren



Shoreline protection programs honor a family's legacy and preserve the property for future generations.

Preserve healthy shorelines for now and the future

you can leave a legacy for your family, fish, and wildlife

Protecting intact habitat is the most efficient and effective thing you can do to support the marine environment. A conservation easement is a voluntary tool that can provide permanent protection and be fully compatible with residential activities. Easements are legal, recorded documents that protect key scenic and natural features while the property remains in private ownership and use. In addition, preservation may entitle property owners to economic benefits.

As 90% of the waterfront tax parcels in San Juan County are in private, residential ownership, voluntary stewardship is an essential component of maintaining a healthy community for people and nature. San Juan County is fortunate to have two organizations that work with interested property owners to permanently protect priority habitats, species, and processes: the San Juan Preservation Trust (360.378.2461) and the San Juan County Land Bank (360.378.4402).



What makes our land so special is the feeling we get as we see eagles and otters co-existing with our family's low-impact way of interacting with the land—enjoying the fruits of our stewardship. Our family grew closer during the thoughtful discussions we had about our property's future when we pursued our conservation easements.

– Terrigal Burn and Christine Johnson, Waldron Island

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photo by Andrew Reding



Beach spawning forage fish come in on a high tide and lay their eggs on sand and gravel; the survival of these fish is especially vulnerable to changes on the land.

Forage fish feed the marine food web

your choices impact this vital link in the food chain

Forage fish are small schooling fish that are eaten by larger fish, seabirds, and marine mammals. They play an essential role in marine food webs by transferring energy from plankton to larger species. Forage fish are staples in the diets of Chinook and Coho salmon, lingcod, Marbled Murrelets, Rhinoceros Auklets, and Minke whales.

Forage fish do not spawn just anywhere. Pacific herring deposit transparent, adhesive eggs on eelgrass and marine

algae. Surf smelt and Pacific sand lance incubate their eggs in sand and small gravel on the upper third of beaches.

Forage fish utilize the same shoreline areas that humans do, which makes them vulnerable to modifications such as bulkheads, docks, roads, and the removal of vegetation. You can help forage fish by keeping beaches natural with overhanging trees, shrubs, and large driftwood which maintain cool and moist conditions.

FACT!

A NOAA Fisheries study in northern Puget Sound found that surf smelt egg survival was reduced by 50% in places where the beach habitat was both warmer and drier as a result of the presence of hard armored bulkheads and the absence of trees and shrubs.

5







before



after



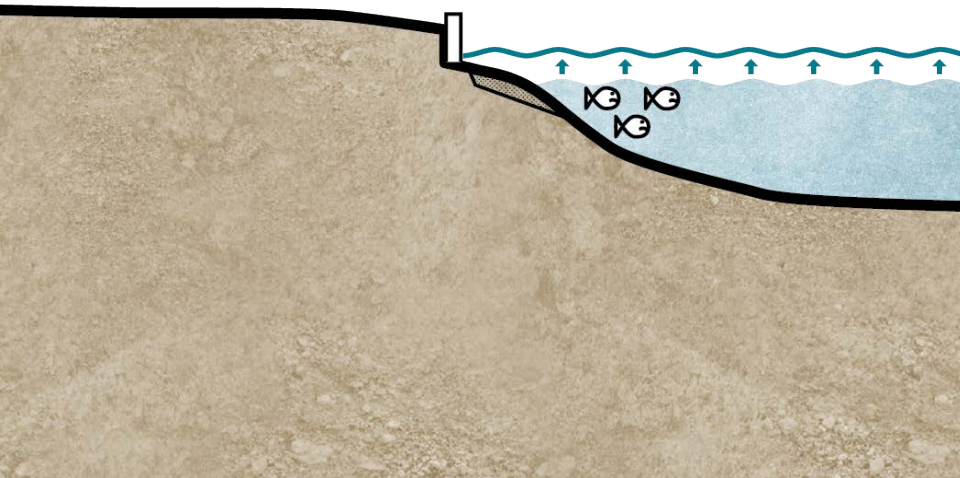
before



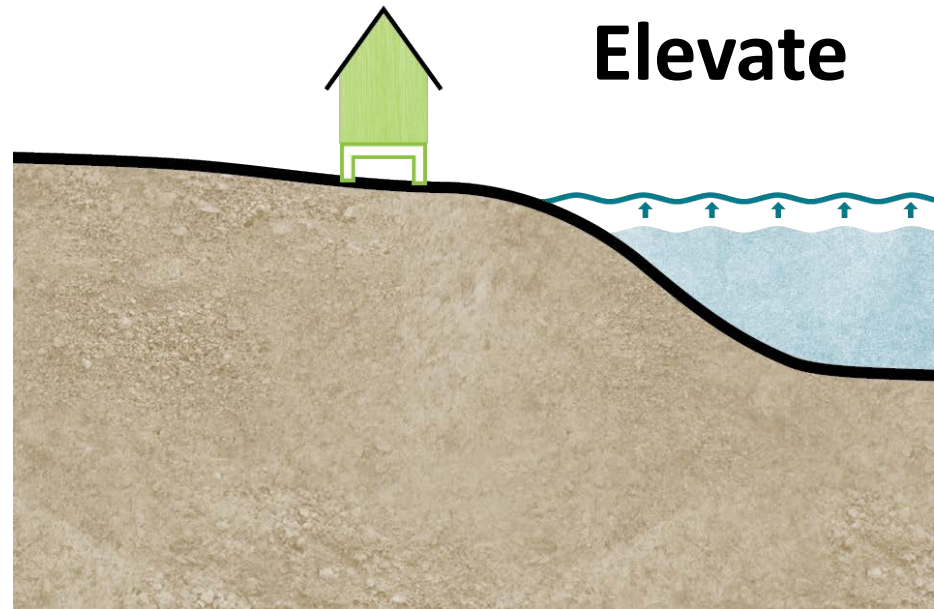
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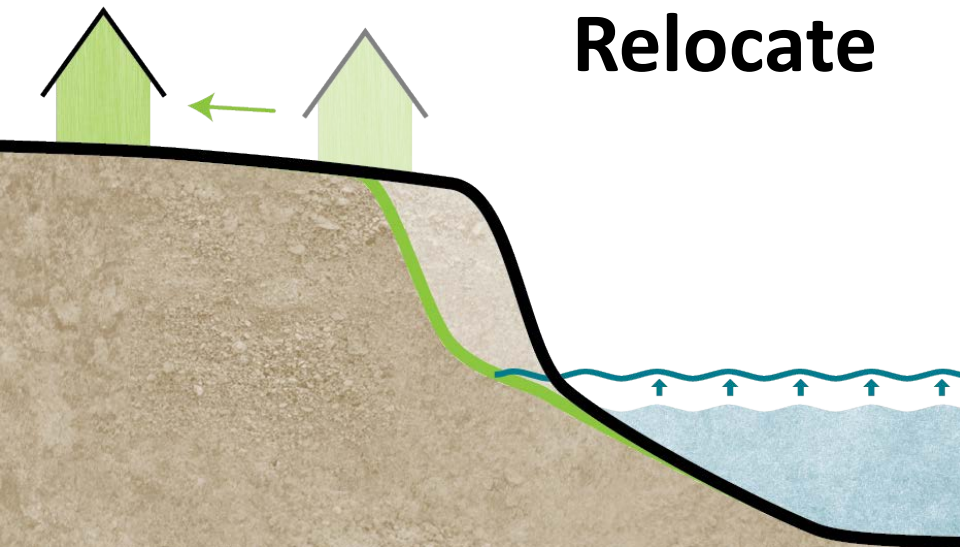
Coastal Squeeze



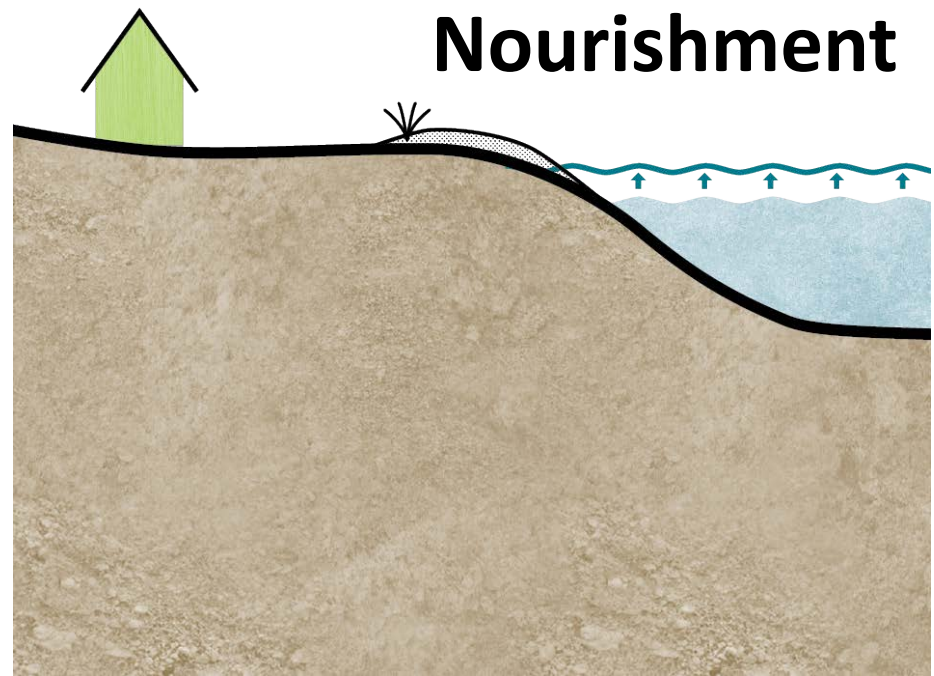
Elevate



Relocate



Nourishment







Questions?

Special thanks to our funders:
The Wheeler Family Foundation, LUSH Cosmetics
The Mountaineers Foundation, The Burning
Foundation, and FSJ members.