



Press Release

City of Edmonds

Mayor David O. Earling

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To: City Council
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Edmonds Receives \$157,331 Grant from the Salmon Recovery Funding Board for Opening of Willow Creek from Edmonds Marsh to Puget Sound

(Edmonds – WA) The City of Edmonds will receive a \$157,331 grant from the State of Washington Recreation and Conservation office, Salmon Recovery Funding Board to continue work on the Willow Creek “daylighting” project. The grant is part of \$18 million given to organizations around the state for projects that restore and protect salmon habitat. For more information about the grant program go to: <http://www.rco.wa.gov/documents/salmon/2014-SRFB-Funding-Report.pdf>

The City of Edmonds will use this grant along with City funds to prepare a preliminary design and permit applications for a daylighted channel from Edmonds Marsh, under BNSF railroad tracks, and across Marina Beach to Puget Sound. The Creek currently flows through a system of buried pipes and structures built in the 1960s when the Edmonds Marina was developed. The overall goal is restoration of Edmonds Marsh, a remnant barrier estuary located in the nearshore within the City of Edmonds (and Water Resource Inventory Area [WRIA] 8). This restoration action will benefit juvenile Chinook salmon.

Edmonds Marsh is a 32-acre remnant of a historical, more than 100-acre estuary and marsh complex located a short distance from the downtown core of Edmonds. The creek will be used by Chinook salmon, which are listed as threatened with the risk of extinction under the federal Endangered Species Act. The City of Edmonds will contribute at least \$36,160 for this phase of the project.

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