

FOLLOW-UP QUESTIONS RE: ROBERTS BAY SALT MARSH RESTORATION

Thank you for the informative presentations you and the engineering staff delivered on May 6th. It certainly provided everyone with a better visualization of the project. This along with your responses to our submitted questions is greatly appreciated. It also raised a few additional questions and generated discussion of other outstanding questions.

Additional Questions:

Q: You spoke of the “Risk Ledger” for this project kept by Peninsula Streams and indicated that it could be made available to the public. Are you able to make this available on your web site or send it directly to interested parties?

Risk ledger for this project will be made available on the web site, so that it is publicly available.

Q: Do your submissions to the approving agencies include permitting for the planned planting to occur during the summer of 2024? Does this activity require separate approval and permitting from all or some of the approving agencies?

Our submissions and project reports indicate that planting is planned for the spring of 2024, so that it occurs during the optimal growth period for the marsh vegetation and salt grass. Information of this project activity was included in our application submissions for the restoration project. It is considered a project activity for this work.

Q: Are there detailed plans showing location, type of plantings and resulting appearance of plantings at maturity?

Yes, the final engineering plans will show the location and provide a list of the plants that will be planted to restore the marsh. Plants will be pickleweed and salt grass, which are the species that make up the existing marsh and native upper intertidal species within Roberts Bay. Figure 1 on the website will be the resulting appearance of the salt marsh plantings (pickleweed) at maturity, as well as image C within Figure 16 of the CORI report (available on project site page) and Photo 3 in the DHI report (available on project site page). Photo 8 in the DHI report contains some salt grass species in the upper portion of the intertidal. Here is a [link](#) to a database that has an image of mature coastal salt grass (*Distichlis spicata*).

Q: How many trucks will be required to deliver the estimated 36,000 plantings to the site?

We will likely be utilizing a pickup truck with a trailer to deliver the plantings, which was the same method that we used to deliver the sedges for the upper marsh restoration. Volunteers will assist with the unloading of the plantings for the site and the planting. It might require a few trips from the nursery but will result in a minimal of increased traffic in the area during this particular project activity.

Q: How long and when will planting take place during the summer of 2024?

Planting will be taking place in the spring of 2024 – specific planting dates will be posted on the website closer to the spring season because the planting event is tidal and weather dependent. We will be

selecting the various planting session dates depending on the weather conditions and tidal windows available. Length of the planting period is dependent on the number of volunteers available to help at the planting event(s), but maximum period is likely to be equivalent to a week at most. Further information will be shared out on our social media as we reach out for volunteers to participate in the planting event(s). Posted information will also be provided on an informational board at the Roberts Bay beach access locations.

Q: Will the plantings require beach closures both during planting and maturation of the plants?

Beach closures will not likely be required during the planting and maturation of the plants, but signage will be posted around the site to advise of the new plantings and there will be a request to avoid trampling on the newly planted vegetation. However, if ideal growth conditions occur then plant roots and rhizomes will lock into the marsh nourishment and stabilize marsh nourishment material at the site.

Q: You and the engineering staff stated that there would not be any impact on the residential perimeter drains and backflow prevention systems located within the project area. What written assurances can you and the engineers provide that this will be the case? What flagging or fencing measures are you taking during construction to ensure that these drains are not covered or in any way impacted by this project?

We will be placing stakes with flagging tapes around the residential perimeter drains and backflow prevention systems located within the project area during construction. This will inform us of the location of the drains while we are placing the nourishment material. Additionally, the larger material will be situated on the upper portions of the site. This will minimize the dynamic movement of the material near the upper reaches of the project site. Within our site monitoring plan, we will examine the drains and backflow prevention systems to determine if material has entered the systems and remove, if necessary, the material.

Q: It was noted by one member of our group that your web site masthead is now showing the societies name as Peninsula Streams and Shorelines. Have you changed your name under the societies act? What name will be used in approval submissions to Federal and Provincial agencies?

No, we have not changed our name under the societies act. We are still officially called Peninsula Streams Society, which is the named used for our approval submissions. You'll notice that on our website in our About the Society and within all other website text that we have retained our official name. Peninsula Streams and Shorelines is our common name because we wanted to better align our public profile with the types of environmental programs and projects that we do – aquatic (coastal and freshwater) ecosystems.

Follow-up on Previous Questions:

You responded that submissions to approving agencies would be available and posted on your website.

Q: As of May 14th, there is nothing listed. Have these submissions been made? And if so, when will they be posted?

Your previous response below.

“Question: When and how will the PSS submissions be available to the public? Included in FAQ’s but no answer given in presentation slides.

Notification of project reviewal submissions will be posted on the project website. We will make documents publicly available as appropriate and with permission from the regulatory body in question.”

Response:

We have worked within the required timelines to submit our authorization applications to the appropriate agencies but specific details about these applications are between us and the authorizing agents. We have submitted the required information within the timeframe outlined by those agencies to have our project application be reviewed in accordance with our initial timelines.

Q: Given that no submissions have been made, or at least publicly acknowledged, to the approving agencies, is adequate time is being provided for the submission of public and residents’ submissions?

There are no formal processes for public/resident submissions as part of the permitting process required by any agency, we are submitting a permit application to for the project. Those agencies instead require us (Peninsula Streams & Shorelines and SeaChange Marine Conservation Society) as the applicant proponents to highlight in the applications what we have done in terms of consultation and engagement on the project, and they will judge if that effort has been sufficient. We have provided them the official timeline of our public outreach and engagement sessions around the project along with associated documents (flyers, presentations, etc.). Plus, we have provided all questions/comments submitted to us by the public, along with our responses, as additional information within the application process. Furthermore, we will continue to provide any comments/questions that we receive, as these questions are asked of us and our responses to the appropriate agency (including this document). So, any public input is being passed to the permitting authorities as part of the process.

Q: Given the short time remaining before scheduled construction will approving agencies have adequate time to give this project the careful consideration it requires?

Yes – we submitted our applications within the required timelines for a reviewal. Our selected construction window was chosen to utilize the most optimal tidal windows – but are flexible to be shifted throughout the seasonal in-water timing window, which extends into the late summer/early fall.

Q: Is Peninsula Streams at risk of losing some or all funding for this project if it is not carried out within the grant period? What is the grant period?

No – we are not at risk of losing our funding for this project. Grant amendments due to external factors can be arranged. We have kept our funders apprised of project status and any potential delays of concern.