

Mariner Way Phase 1 Restoration Project FAQ's

1. Who are the partners in the delivery of the restoration project?

- a. The Nature Trust of BC has partnered with the Snaw-naw-as First Nation in the development of the restoration plan.

2. What are the overall restoration goals for the Mariner Way property?

- a. Our goal for the property is to allow for natural coastal processes to occur, restore the dune grass/marine riparian area and contribute to building ecosystem resilience to the larger Englishman River Estuary.

3. What is the objective of the Phase 1 Restoration Plan?

- a. The Phase 1 restoration plan is focused on removing the concrete seawall, rip rap and other miscellaneous debris that was placed along the foreshore area on the northwest side of the Mariner Way property to restore a natural beach.

4. Why remove the seawall and rock?

- a. The armour and rocks are not a natural shoreline and thus do not support the goal of restoration of a natural spit at the mouth of the estuary.

5. Where can I get more information on the impacts of shoreline hardening?

- a. The Pacific Salmon Foundation and the Stewardship Center of BC have recently launched an initiative called "Resilient Coasts for Salmon" and published a very informative document focused on the Salish Sea that speaks to the impacts of shoreline hardening and identifies benefits of nature based approaches for ecosystem health.

<https://resilientcoasts.ca/building-awareness/climate-change-primer/pdf/>

6. What work has been done in advance of implementing Phase 1?

- a. The Nature Trust of BC hired Northwest Hydraulic Consultants to undertake a coastal processes study that includes sediment transport modelling to inform the predicted outcomes of the overall project. These studies assessed historic, current and future nearshore sediment drift, accretion and erosion potential in relation to the project.

7. Will the removal of the seawall and rock cause further erosion to adjacent properties?

- a. No. The removal of the seawall and rock will not trigger additional erosion to adjacent properties due to the removal of the seawall. On the contrary, the work will introduce sediment materials into the littoral zone and increase the sediment supply on the beach at the project site. There will be some erosion that will occur on the upper beach of the Mariner Way property as the site adjusts to the removal of the rock and establishes a more natural equilibrium and site profile. Natural spits at coastal estuaries are dynamic in nature and will reshape in response to storms and river flow conditions over time. A small section of rock armour is being retained on site immediately adjacent to neighbouring properties to ensure that any future long-term responses of the shoreline will not affect the immediate neighbouring property. It is noted that analysis of historical survey data indicates the beach

east of the project site is presently experiencing erosion, and this project will not mitigate erosion processes on neighbouring properties that are on-going at this time.

8. Will this work increase the potential for flooding?

- a. No. We encourage community members to review the recently released floodplain mapping and coastal vulnerability assessments completed by the RDN (<https://www.rdn.bc.ca/sea-level-rise-adaptation-program>) for more information on hazards to the community.

9. What else is The Nature Trust of BC and partners doing to build resilience in the Englishman River Estuary?

- a. In addition to the Mariner Way project we are also working with partners to identify further restoration/enhancement projects in the area to build ecosystem capacity to adapt to the challenges of climate change. This includes completing detailed assessments/modelling of Old Mine Road dike for restoration/enhancement potential, continuing to monitor and adaptively manage previous estuary restoration projects and assess other areas for further property acquisition/conservation. For more information on our on-going estuary monitoring work please visit www.estuaryresilience.ca.

Location of Phase 1 Restoration Project

