Maury Island Marine Park - Restoration Project

King County Parks and Washington State Department of Natural Resources are involved in a major restoration project of the Maury Island Marine Park, a former gravel mine site along the shores of Puget Sound.

This project was made possible by a Puget Sound Corps – Special Obligation Bond Jobs Package. This has allowed WCC crews to work on the site since October 2012 and they will continue through September 2014.

A large portion of the site, approximately 60-70 acres, was highly disturbed by the former mining activities and is currently characterized by steep slopes. Beginning in Fall of 2012 and winter 2013, WCC crews have spent over 12,000 hours clearing and grubbing approximately 37 acres of invasive species (blackberries and Scot's broom).

WCC crews planted over 63,000 trees and shrubs from 28 different species this past winter and mulched some of these plants. This project includes soil supplementation and Madrone seeding studies.

The project is being completed using integrated pest management. First manual and mechanical removal, followed by mulch, and starting this spring – use of herbicide to stop the returning blackberries from overtaking the newly planted natives.

Application of herbicides is an important step of integrated pest management and makes a significant difference on the success of the newly planted natives. The herbicide being used is Garlon 3A (triclopyr). The rate of application is at the lowest concentration recommended on the label (1% solution). Parks is committed to sampling soils and stormwater runoff to test for herbicide residues.

Notice of recent applications (within 48 hours) and their locations will be posted below this sign to notify you of their location. Signs will also be posted in the field next to where they are being used.

This project provides an excellent opportunity for restoration of this previously mined and disturbed area on the shores of Puget Sound to a naturally functioning near shore environment that will allow the public to understand, enjoy and appreciate this magnificent resource. This project is also working to repair trails in need of improvement and build new trails.