

Proposed South Arm Jetty Tidal Marsh Project

Description, location and size

The proposed South Arm Jetty Tidal Marsh Project is located along the southern edge of Sturgeon Bank, on the north side of the Steveston Jetty at the mouth of the Fraser River (south arm). The proposed site is an un-vegetated intertidal sand flat with shallow subtidal areas. Immediately adjacent to the proposed site is an expansive area of existing productive marsh.

The proposed project would increase the size of the existing marsh by converting approximately 43 hectares of existing sand flat into highly productive marsh habitat for the benefit of juvenile salmonids and other fish and wildlife. The project team is exploring options that could include a partial build-out or a staged approach to marsh enhancement over time.

Rationale

The Vancouver Fraser Port Authority has selected this site based on the potential of habitat enhancement to benefit a broad range of fish and wildlife species and ecological functions.

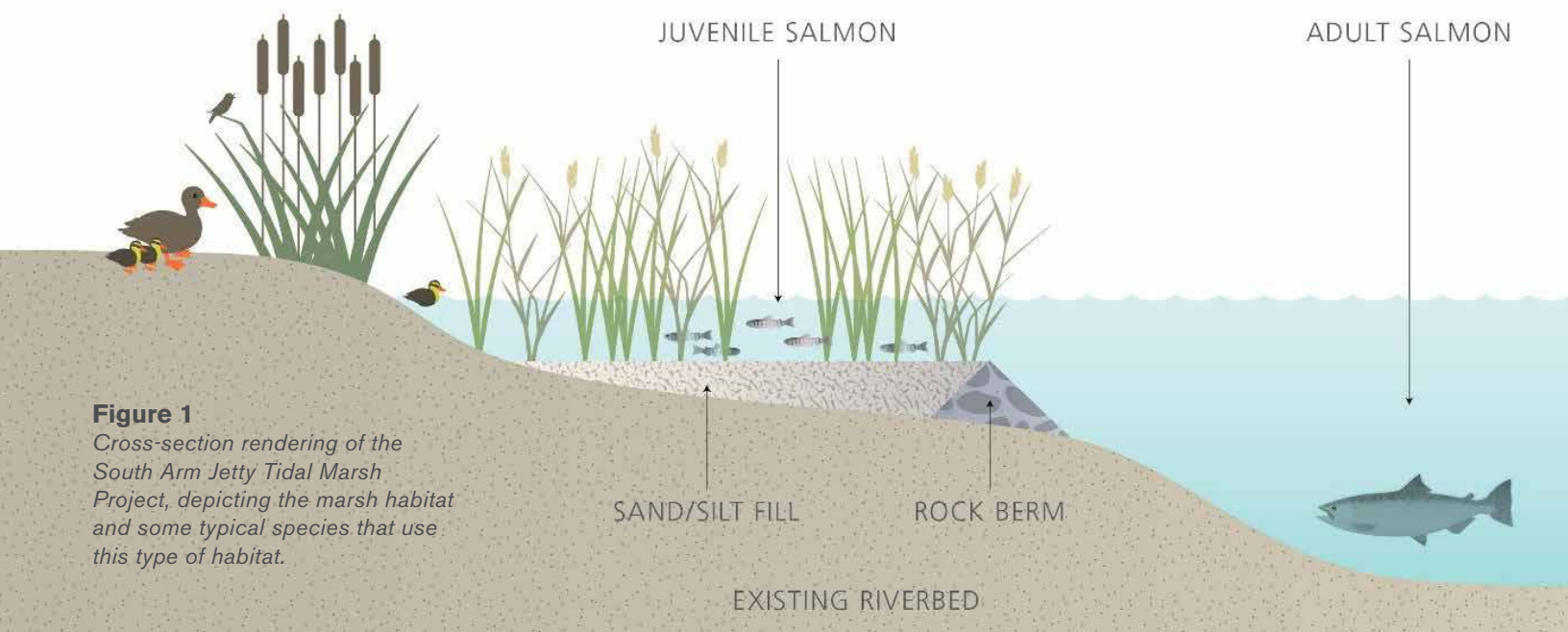
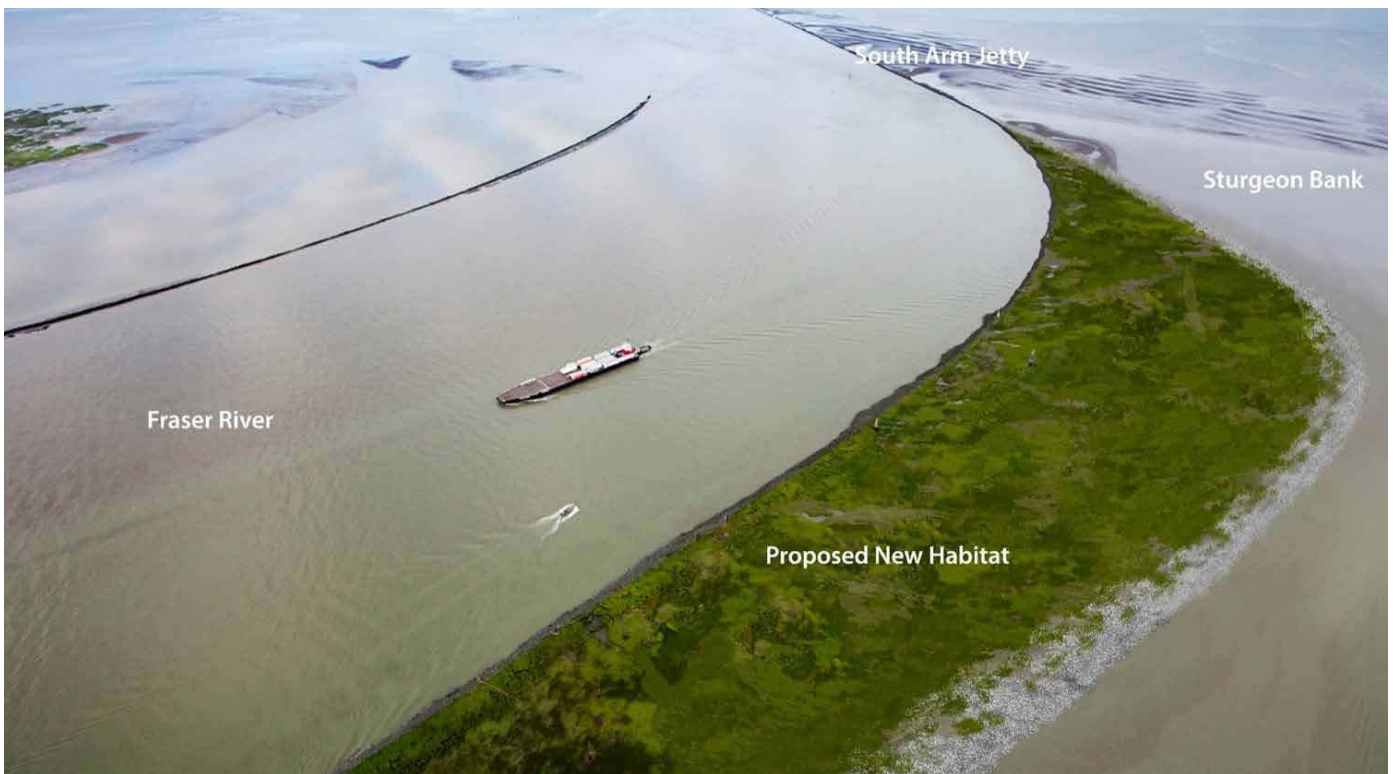


Figure 1
 Cross-section rendering of the South Arm Jetty Tidal Marsh Project, depicting the marsh habitat and some typical species that use this type of habitat.



Current state at low tide.



Rendering of proposed new habitat at low tide

Status and next steps

The proposed South Arm Jetty Tidal Marsh Project is currently in the design, permitting and approvals stage. Public and stakeholder engagement will be undertaken, and will include opportunities for the public and stakeholders to provide feedback on features related to the proposed project. Following a public engagement period, which may include public open houses, input received will be compiled in a consultation summary report. The port authority will also complete an input consideration memo to demonstrate how the input received during the engagement period would be considered. A separate but parallel consultation process with Aboriginal groups has been undertaken by the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority and will continue throughout project development.

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For Further Information

For further information about the Habitat Enhancement Program, please visit portvancouver.com/habitatenhancement or email habitat.enhancement@portvancouver.com.