



WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY  
with the Department of Enterprise Services

# DESCHUTES ESTUARY Restoration Project

## NEXT STEPS IN DESCHUTES ESTUARY RESTORATION DESIGN

Last month, the Washington State Legislature appropriated funding to complete project design and permitting. The Department of Ecology plans to finalize these steps by mid-2027, after which the project will be ready to begin construction, if funding for construction is available.

To support the final design effort, Ecology and its project team will initiate a geotechnical (soils) investigation along the shoreline of Capitol Lake during the week of April 27, 2026. The work is being conducted to evaluate soil and subsurface conditions to support ongoing design efforts for the shoreline of Heritage Park and the goals to reduce flooding and increase coastal resiliency.

The work is expected to take place during business hours and will last a few days, depending on conditions. During that time, you will see a drill rig (similar to what is shown in the photo below) at Heritage Park. There may be some brief pedestrian detours during the work.



### PROJECT VIDEO

Ecology recently released a blog post about the project, which includes a 9-minute video overview of the project. The video features interviews with representatives from Ecology and our partners in the project, including the Squaxin Island Tribe, DES, the City of Olympia, WDFW, and the Port of Olympia. The video was produced by Sky Bear Media of Olympia, Washington.

Learn more here: <https://ecology.wa.gov/blog/march-2026/how-restoring-an-estuary-will-help-restore-a-crucial-part-of-the-past>

**Check out the project website to learn more about the benefits of a restored estuary, understand the project history, and see conceptual design of the estuary restoration.** <https://deschutesestuaryproject.org/>

To contact the project team at Ecology email: [deschutesestuary@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:deschutesestuary@ecy.wa.gov)

### Other Languages or Accommodations

To request or to learn more about what other languages we can provide, contact our Language Access Coordinator at [language@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:language@ecy.wa.gov) or 360-870-1689. When you call, please allow a few moments for us to contact an interpreter.

Para más información, favor de llamar Henry Bell al 360-628-2750 y solicite un intérprete.

如需更多信息，請致電給 Henry Bell 360-628-2750並要求翻譯員服務

보다 많은 정보를 위해서는 담당자 Henry Bell 360-628-2750 에게 연락하여 통역을 요청하십시오

Để biết thêm thông tin, vui lòng gọi Henry Bell theo số 360-628-2750 và yêu cầu thông dịch viên

### Accessibility

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People with impaired hearing may call Washington Relay Service at 711. People with speech disability may call TTY at 877-833-6341.