

5.3.12 East Quartermaster Harbor

The East Quartermaster Harbor subarea has two drift cells that both extend northward toward Quartermaster Harbor from Piner Point (see Map 2). The southern portion of the East Quartermaster Harbor subarea has a wide flat with extensive, unarmored feeder bluffs. Further north, there is a single row of houses lining the shore with armoring in front of each. The subarea also contains significant shoreline structures, including a small marina at Dockton Park with a fish processing house connected to the pier, and a former cannery with derelict overwater structure, derelict piling, and shoreline rubble.

This area is an important herring spawning area, and like the rest of Quartermaster Harbor, it is adjacent to an identified herring holding area that has been documented in the area approximately between Neill Point on Vashon Island and Piner Point on Maury Island out into Puget Sound (WDFW 2003). There are no WDFW documented salmon streams in this subarea (WDFW 2002).

5.3.12.1 Habitat Needs and Goals

In this subarea, sediment supply is of foremost importance to conserve the extensive and important herring spawning areas in and around Quartermaster Harbor. Feeder bluffs need to be conserved and longshore transport south of the point at Dockton should be restored to maintain sediment supply to the harbor. Remnant overwater structures should be removed to maintain the migratory corridor and allow for rehabilitation of riparian vegetation.

5.3.12.2 Priority Recommendations

Habitat recommendations in this subarea include the following (Map 18):

- *Conserve* unarmored feeder bluffs and wide corridors of intact riparian vegetation in the drift cell north of Dockton. This drift cell extends to Raab's Lagoon, provides an extended reach of high quality habitat, and has added importance because herring are documented as spawning along the shoreline. This is a priority for the entire project area and is identified in Section 5.2.

- *Conserve* unarmored feeder bluffs and wide corridors of intact riparian vegetation around Piner Point at the southern end of the drift cell.
- *Conserve* the creek mouth immediately south of Raab's Lagoon (Mileta Creek). The riparian vegetation and creek alignment is largely intact and functioning naturally. Rehabilitation of riparian vegetation to the north side would provide additional terrestrial inputs to the aquatic food web.
- *Conserve* the spit at the point at Dockton and *rehabilitate* adjacent riparian vegetation.
- *Restore* sediment longshore transport by removing unnecessary residential armoring and groins south of the point at Dockton. These areas provide the sediment that forms the spit at the point at Dockton that is recommended for conservation.
- *Rehabilitate* the Dockton shoreline by removing overwater structure, piling, and wood rubble on the beach. Improve riparian habitat nearby and west of the point to the Dockton boat ramp.



Rehabilitate shoreline near Dockton

Many materials along the Dockton shoreline should be removed to improve habitat conditions. These materials include deteriorating overwater structures, pilings, and beached wooden floats. Longshore sediment transport could be improved by removing or reconfiguring armoring.

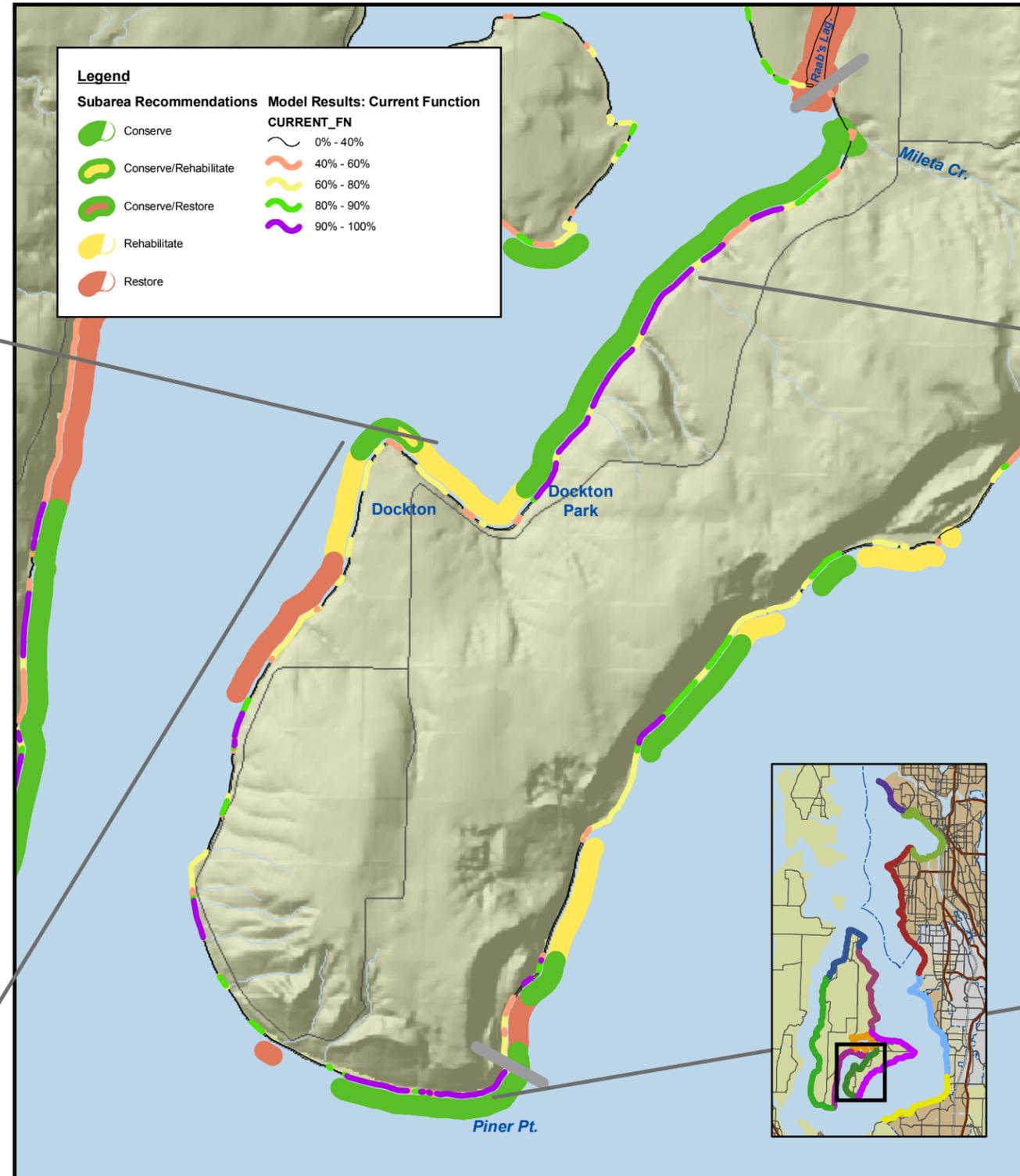


Conserve Spit near Dockton and rehabilitate adjacent riparian vegetation

This small spit provides shallow rearing habitat for juvenile salmonids. The function could be improved by adding riparian vegetation to shade the area and provide terrestrial inputs to the aquatic food web.

East Quartermaster Harbor

Extensive herring spawning and holding areas have been documented in and near this subarea. Groins, unnecessary armor, and remnant overwater structures should be removed to maintain the sediment supply and improve the migratory corridor.



Conserve unarmored feeder bluffs and vegetation

This drift cell includes unarmored feeder bluffs and wide corridors of intact riparian vegetation. The drift cell extends to Raab's Lagoon, provides an extended reach of high quality habitat, and has added importance because herring are documented as spawning along the shoreline.



Conserve feeder bluffs near Piner Point

Conserve unarmored feeder bluffs and wide corridors of intact riparian vegetation around Piner Point at southern end of drift cell.

J:\Jobs\1030239-04-Seattle-WRIA9_Nearshore\Report\Figures\WMAury.mxd JWS 05/24/2006 1:04 PM