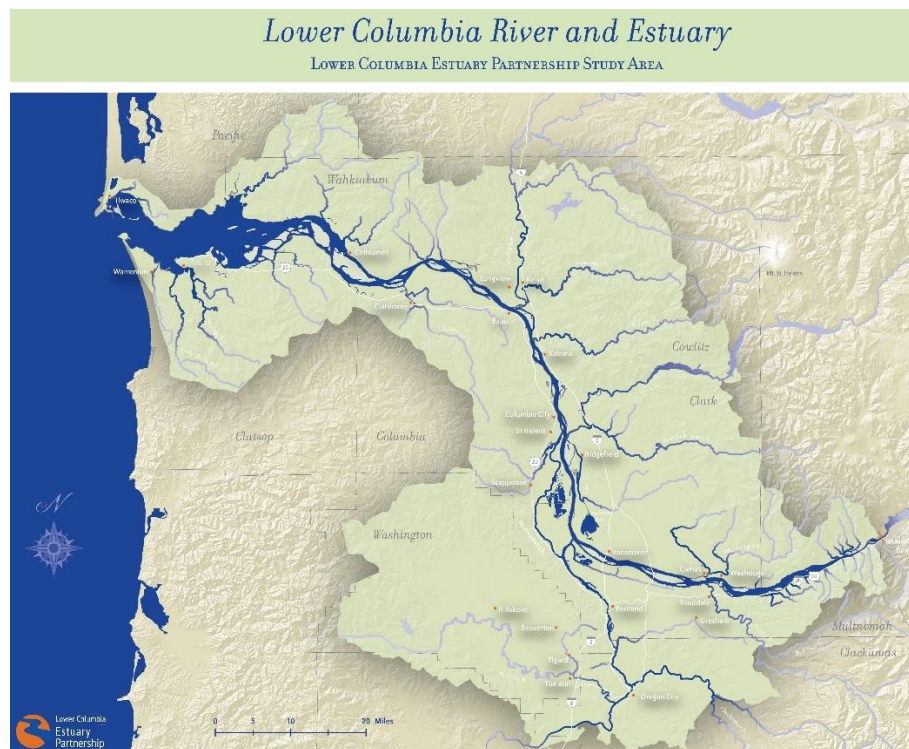


Restoration Inventory FAQ

1. **What is the Restoration Inventory?** The Restoration Inventory is a GIS database of restoration and conservation activities within the study area of the Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership (Estuary Partnership). As a [National Estuary Program](#), the Estuary Partnership is responsible for maintaining the Restoration Inventory.



2. **Who uses the Restoration Inventory?** The Restoration Inventory is available to the public. Using GIS, the Restoration Inventory shares restoration and conservation success stories. The EPA may feature projects from the Restoration Inventory in various storytelling reports that are essential to ongoing support for restoration and conservation initiatives regionally and nationally. If your project is selected, the Estuary Partnership will work closely with your organization and EPA to ensure accurate attribution.

3. **When did the Restoration Inventory begin?** The Estuary Partnership launched the Restoration Inventory in 1999. Outreach to partner organizations for project inclusion in the Restoration Inventory has varied over time. In 2024, the Estuary Partnership launched a new initiative to include more restoration and conservation success stories in the Restoration Inventory. If there is a project significant to your organization missing because you were not solicited in the past, contact Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership's Restoration Inventory Data Manager (Kmarcoe@estuarypartnership.org).

4. What kind of project should be included in the Restoration Inventory? Improvements or protection of habitat. Habitat is defined as the natural environment of a plant or animal (which includes the total environmental conditions for food, cover, and water within its home range/essential fish habitat. There is no minimum or limit on the size of a habitat project. On the Restoration Inventory Submission form, you will be asked to indicate which restoration technique was employed:

- Beach Nourishment
- Berm/Dike Modification (including replacement)
- Berm/Dike Removal
- Bird Habitat Enhancement
- Bridge Replacement
- Bulkhead Removal
- Contaminant Removal/Remediation
- Culvert Modification (including installation and replacement)
- Culvert Removal
- Dam Modification/Removal
- Daylighting
- Debris Removal
- Ditch Removal, Filling, or Plugging
- Easements
- Erosion Control
- Fencing/Netting
- Fill Removal
- Fish Ladder/Fishway
- Fish Barrier Removal
- Invasives Control/Removal - Fauna
- Invasives Control/Removal - Vegetation
- Land Acquisition
- Large Woody Debris/Structure Placement
- Other
- Oyster Gardening
- Placement of Dredged Material
- Planting
- Prescribed Burn
- Rain Garden Creation* Although not eligible as habitats themselves, rain gardens can be captured here as a technique to restore habitat.
- Reef Construction - Artificial Materials
- Reef Construction - Natural Materials
- Sand Dune Restoration
- Shellfish Seeding
- Shoreline Stabilization/Enhancement
- Stormwater/Runoff Controls* Although not eligible as habitats themselves, stormwater/runoff controls can be captured here as a technique to restore habitat.
- Stream Channel Rehabilitation
- Stream Flow Modification (including stream pool construction)
- Stream Bank Stabilization
- Substrate Modification
- Terracing
- Tide Gate Installation
- Tide Gate Modification (including replacement)
- Tide Gate Removal
- Vegetation Buffer
- Weir Construction
- Weir Removal

5. **What is not included in the Restoration Inventory?**
 - a. Stormwater conveyances, stormwater ponds/catchments, rain gardens, tree farms, and golf courses are not considered habitat *unless there is a documented measurable link to habitat* (e.g., nitrogen reductions improve water quality, which increases the acres of aquatic habitat to x amount).
 - b. Wetlands created or improved as mitigation for the loss or degradation of other wetland resources associated with a permit under the authority of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act are not to be counted.
 - c. Any project outside of the Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership study area (see map above).
6. **What about a multi-year project?** Long- term habitat projects can be reported at the end of each phase of the project or at the very end of the project when completed.
7. **What about a multi-phase project?** The Restoration Inventory for a previously reported project can be updated if a new/different restoration technique is being used from the one identified in previous reporting years. An example of this is a parcel of land purchased for conservation; in a subsequent year, a restoration technique (such as streambank stabilization) has been employed to that same area/acres.
8. **What if I don't have all the answers to the Restoration Inventory project submission form?** Answer to the best of your abilities. If you need assistance, you can contact the Lower Columbia Estuary Partnership's Restoration Inventory Data Manager (Kmarcoe@estuarypartnership.org).
9. **What else will the Estuary Partnership do with this information?** The Estuary Partnership aims to celebrate the successes of its partners. Working closely with your organization, the Estuary Partnership may spotlight your good work online, in its Science Work Group meetings, at the biennial Columbia River Estuary Conference, or in efforts to increase the availability of funding for conservation and restoration in the region. The Estuary Partnership aims to celebrate the good work that has been done already and elevate the importance of continued support for restoration and conservation projects moving forward.
10. **Where can I view the Restoration Inventory?** [Click here to view the Restoration Inventory on the Estuary Partnership's website](#) or [click here to view the Restoration Inventory in ArcGIS](#)