



REACH WW09

Cultus Bay

SHORELINE LENGTH:

6.17 Miles

REACH AREA:

273 Acres

PSNERP PROCESS UNITS:

5033 - 5035, 8001

REACH SUMMARY

Cultus Bay (Reach WW09) focuses on the Cultus Bay shoreline as well as associated coastal lagoon and wetland areas to the north of the bay shoreline (Oblique Photos B and C). Geomorphic shoreline processes are characterized by a convergence of two drift cells along the bay shoreline, supporting the accretion areas (barrier beaches) along the north and east shorelines. Significant shoreline modification is mapped along the reach's west shoreline (Oblique Photo A) as well as along inner-bay shorelines separating tidal areas from historically connected wetland habitats (Oblique Photo B). The barrier beach spit along the east shoreline of the bay is also modified with intensive shoreline residential development.

Cultus Bay and adjoining associated wetlands provide significant habitat (WDFW-mapped Waterfowl Concentration, mapped salmonid use within stream draining to bay). Two streams drain to the shoreline. Other shoreland habitats include WDFW-mapped Bald Eagle territory and coastal cliffs. Mapped marine aquatic habitats include Dungeness crab, geoduck habitat and hardshell clam; patchy eelgrass is mapped intermittently throughout the reach.

GEOMORPHIC KEY INFORMATION

Geomorphic Shoretype (Map 9)

Modified shoreline (primarily southwest of bay) and Feeder Bluff (4%), Feeder Bluff Exceptional (8%), (primarily SE of bay) with Accretion Shoreform (43%) fronting inner bay shoreline

Net Shore Drift (Map 8)

A drift cell with northward drift from Scatchet Head converges at the head of Cultus Bay with another cell with northward drift along the east shore of the bay, originating at Possession Point.

Shoreform Current (Map 10)

Barrier Beach (21%); Bluff-backed Beach (14%); Artificial (45%); Barrier Estuary (13%)

Overall Rating of Degradation

Least (4%); Less (3%); Moderate (49%);

Coastal Floodplain:

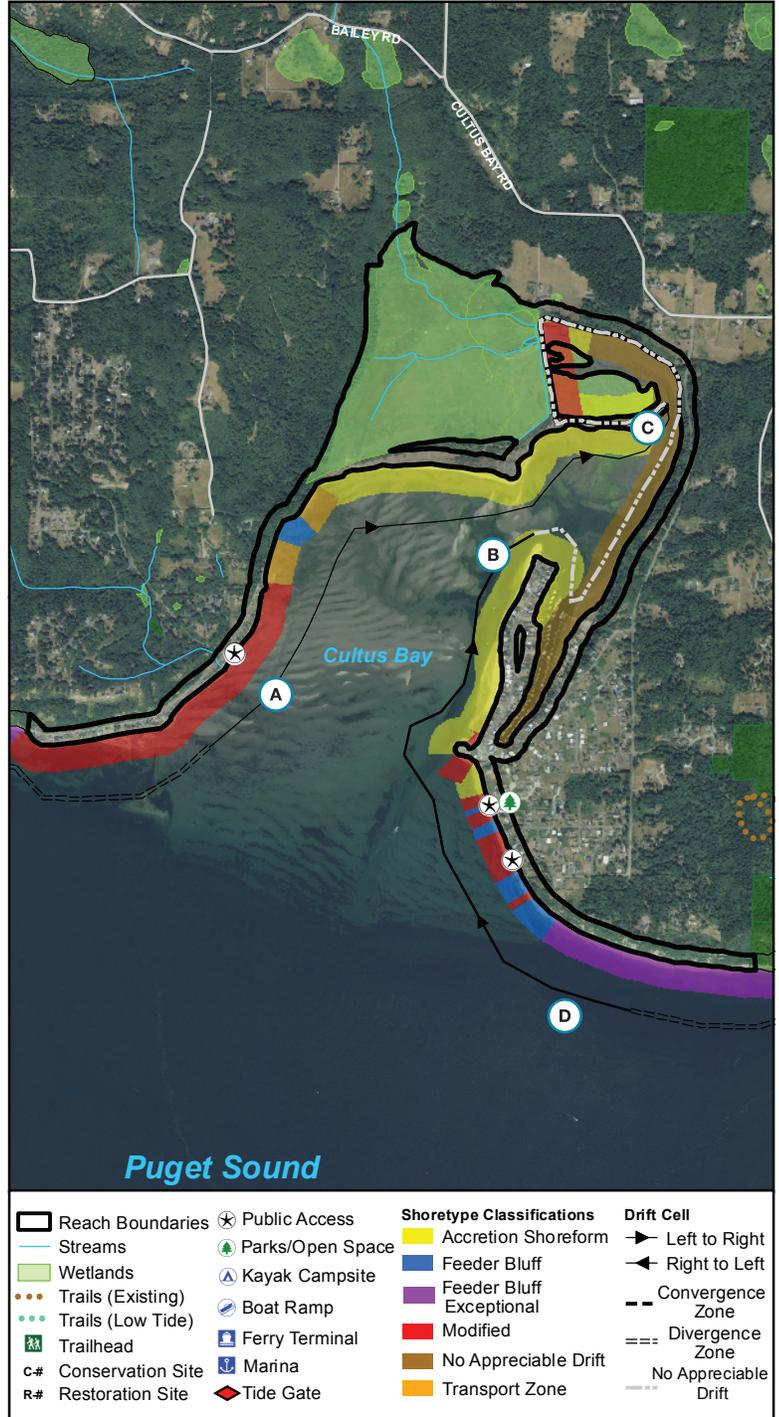
65%

Coastal Landslides & Toe Erosion:

Extensive mapping at south end of reach (feeder bluff area).

Steep Slopes

10%



Shoreline Oblique Photos (2006)

