

Mechanical Placement of Granular Activated Carbon Amended ENR Material in the Lower Duwamish Waterway: Design to Construction

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WEDA PACIFIC CHAPTER
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PORTLAND, OR

Lower Duwamish Waterway Superfund Site



Pilot Project

Required by EPA

Project performed by:

Lower Duwamish Waterway
Group (LDWG)

Boeing, City of Seattle, King
County, Port of Seattle

Contracted by: King County

Contractor: Pacific Pile & Marine
(PPM)

Consultant Team: AMECFW, DOF,
Floyd Snider, GeoSyntec,
Ramboll Environ

Activated Carbon Pilot Project

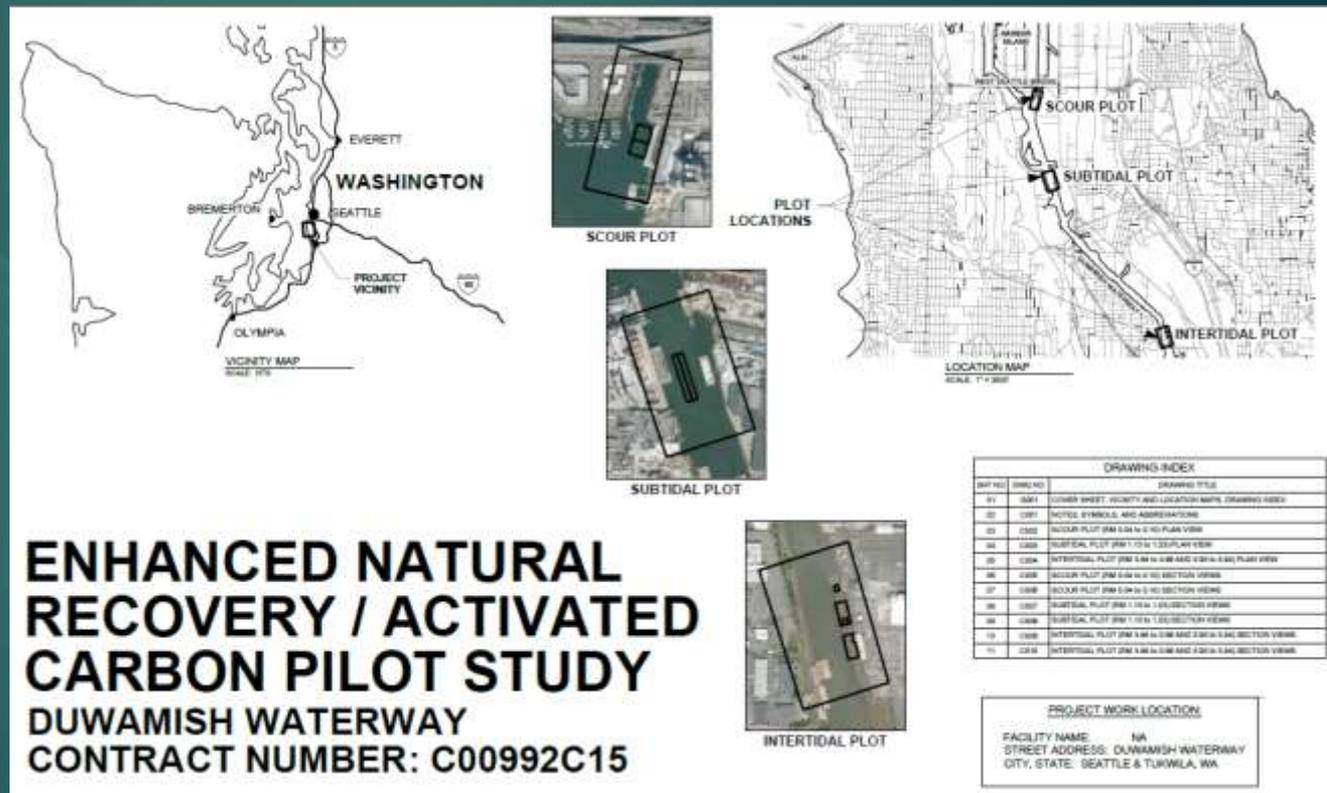
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Ongoing Project

Placement Started
Nov 28, 2016

Completed Feb
2017

3 Year Monitoring
Y0 – Completed
Y1 – 2018
Y2 - 2019
Y3 - 2020



Pilot Study Goals

- ▶ Verify that ENR amended with AC can be successfully applied in the LDW by monitoring physical placement success (uniformity of coverage and percent of carbon in a placed layer);

- ▶ Evaluate performance of ENR/AC compared to ENR alone in locations with a range of polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) concentrations;
- ▶ Assess potential impacts to the benthic community in ENR/AC compared to ENR alone; and
- ▶ Assess changes in bioavailability in ENR/AC compared to ENR alone.

**Construction
& Y0
This
Presentation**

**Next
3
Years**

ENR Materials Used

Grain sizes selected to balance stakeholder concerns, habitat considerations and technical issues.

SAND ENR MATERIAL	
U.S. Standard Sieve Size	Percent Passing by Dry Weight
3/8"	100
U.S. No. 4	95-100
U.S. No. 16	45-80
U.S. No. 50	10-30
U.S. No. 100	2-10
U.S. No. 200	0-2

Subtidal Plot:
Sand

Scour & Intertidal Plots:
Gravelly Sand

GRAVELLY SAND ENR MATERIAL	
U.S. Standard Sieve Size	Percent Passing by Dry Weight
1-1/2"	100
3/4"	80-90
3/8"	50-80
U.S. No. 4	50% min
U.S. No. 16	10-30
U.S. No. 200	0-2

Activated Carbon Selection

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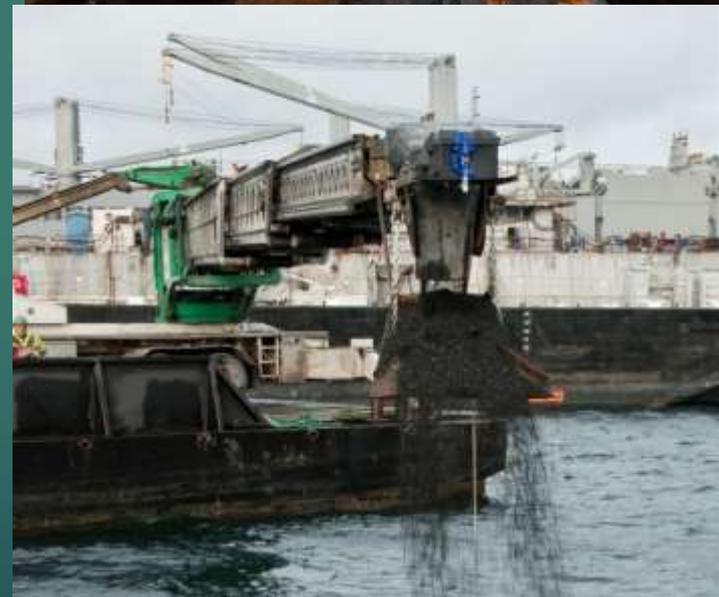
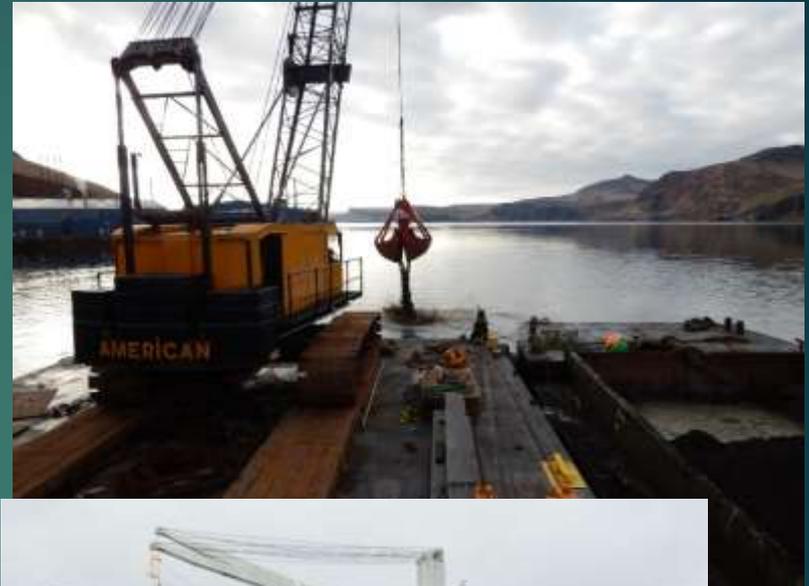
- ▶ Material Selection
 - ▶ Cannot alter target ENR grain size
 - ▶ Available in Pilot Project and potential full scale project quantities
 - ▶ Use Bulk Activated Carbon
- ▶ Grain Size Selection – finer or coarser
 - ▶ Ability to handle and place
 - ▶ Stability once placed
 - ▶ Effectiveness – Short & Long Term
 - ▶ Adverse benthic effects
- ▶ Selected Size range – 200 to 1000 Microns
(~#70 to #18 Sieve, Fine to Coarse sand)



ENR/AC Placement Considerations

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- ▶ Mixing/entrainment of underlying sediment
- ▶ ENR layer thickness
- ▶ Uniformity of AC in ENR layer
 - ▶ Segregation
 - ▶ Winnowing
- ▶ Surface release not practicable



Placement Method

Considerations

- ▶ Pilot Project
 - ▶ Use readily available equipment
 - ▶ Methods that can be adapted for full scale
 - ▶ Precision to reduce study variables – more than necessary for full scale
- ▶ Bulk AC
 - ▶ Losses thru water column
 - ▶ Water Quality Impacts



Placement Method

Resulting Approach:

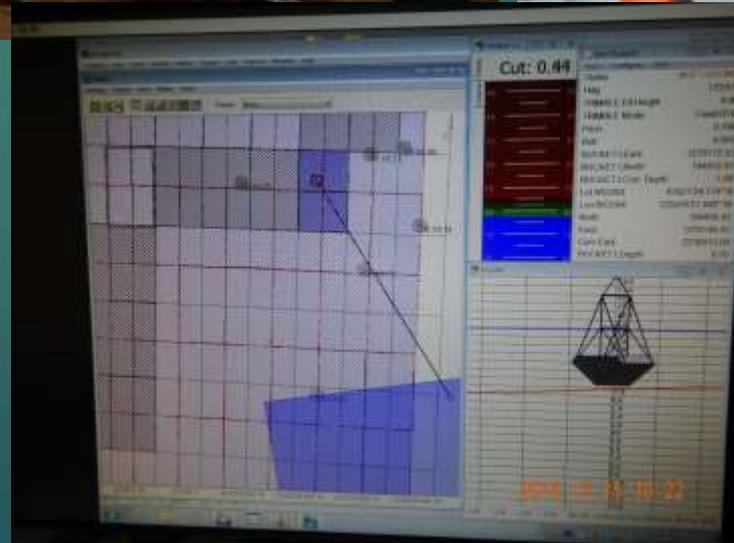
- ▶ Mechanical Placement
- ▶ Saturate Material
- ▶ Release material within 2' of bed



Navigation System



Each Bucket Placement Pre-Mapped



Bucket Modifications



5 CY Youngs Bucket
modified to limit fill
factor

GAC Blending with ENR Material & Barge Loading

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AC Amended ENR Materials (4% AC)

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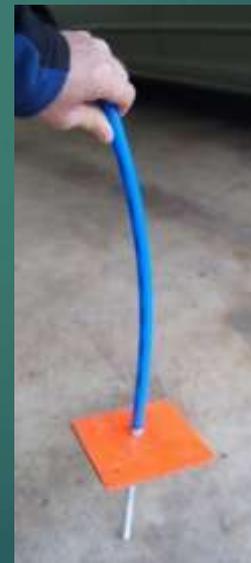
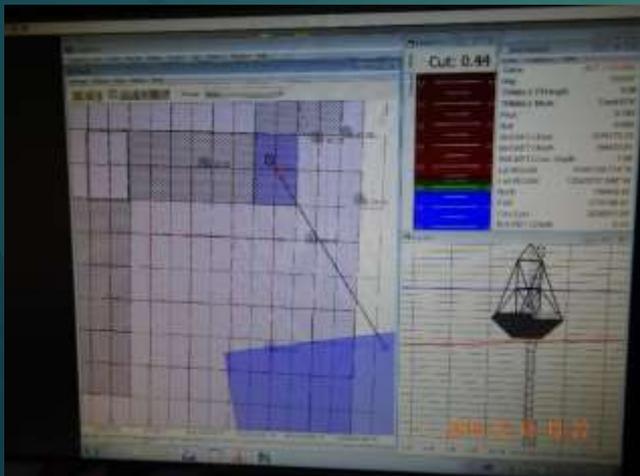
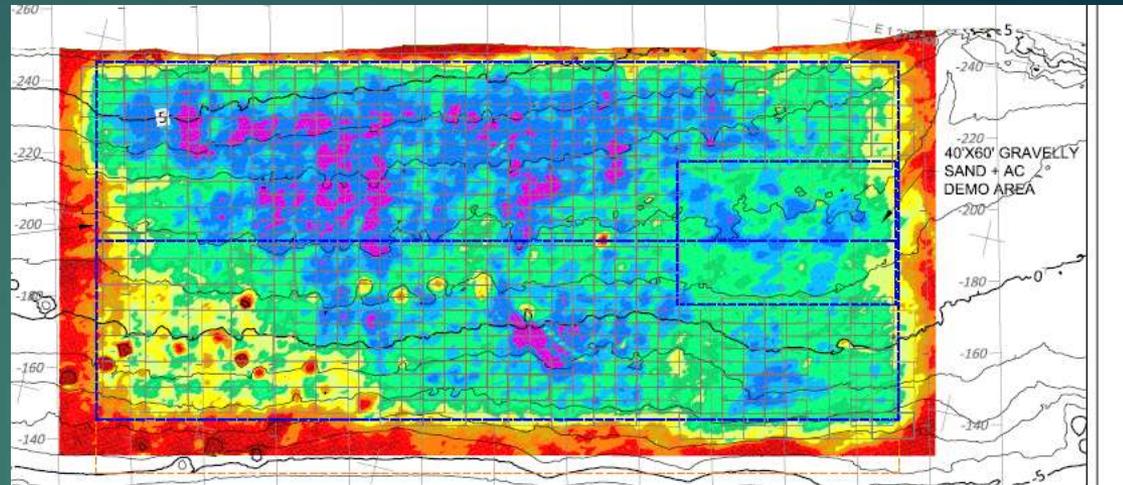


QA/QC

- Grain Size
- Observations
- AC %

Confirmation Methods

- ▶ Real time tracking during Placement
- ▶ Multibeam Surveys
- ▶ Grade Stakes



Test Plot Placement

2 - 60'x40' Test Plots
Grade Stake every 100 SF
24 Stakes per Test Plot
Placed during high tide
Visual low tide assessment

Target Thickness: 6" to 9", No Areas less than 4", limit placement over 12"



SAND ENR + AC	
Placed Thickness	Inches
AVERAGE	7
MINIMUM	3
MAXIMUM	12

GRAVELLY SAND ENR + AC	
Placed Thickness	Inches
AVERAGE	8
MINIMUM	5
MAXIMUM	11

Field Observations

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GAC visible after placement

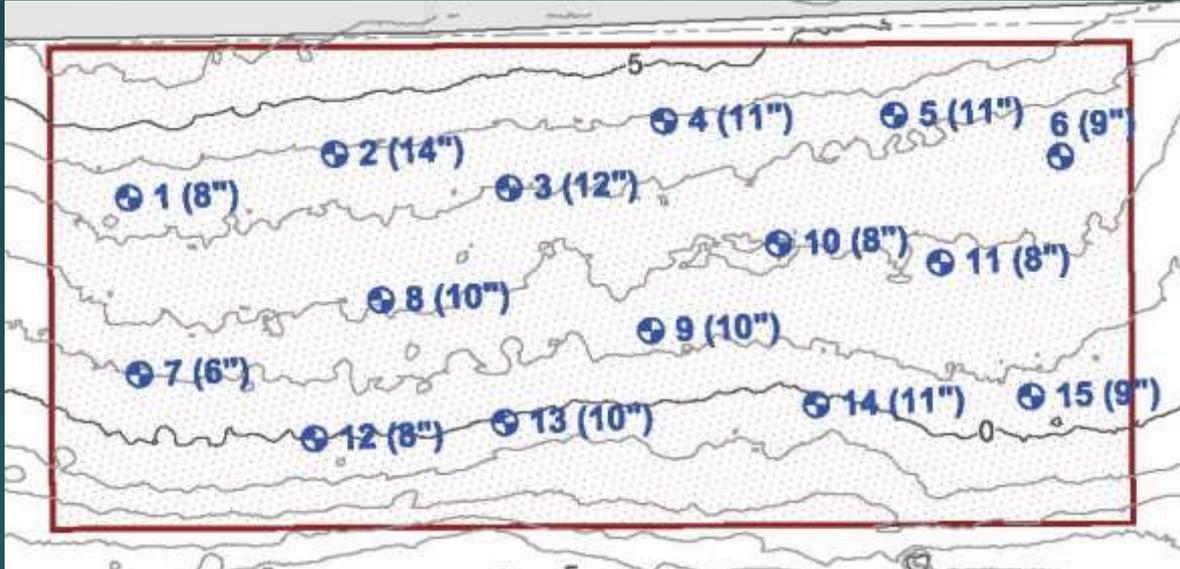
- GAC observed on surface
- Moves with currents, waves



Spud hole and visible GAC

- Typical during marine construction
- Spud prior to ENR placement.
- GAC from adjacent placement
- Locations mapped.
- Avoid during monitoring

Post Placement (Y0) Monitoring Intertidal Plot



- 15 Grade stakes located in the plot.
- ENR+AC Placed during high tide.
- Visual assessment and measurement during the low tide.

GRAVELLY SAND ENR + AC

Placed Thickness	Inches
AVERAGE	10
MINIMUM	6
MAXIMUM	14

Post Placement (Y0) Monitoring Intertidal Plot

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Plan View



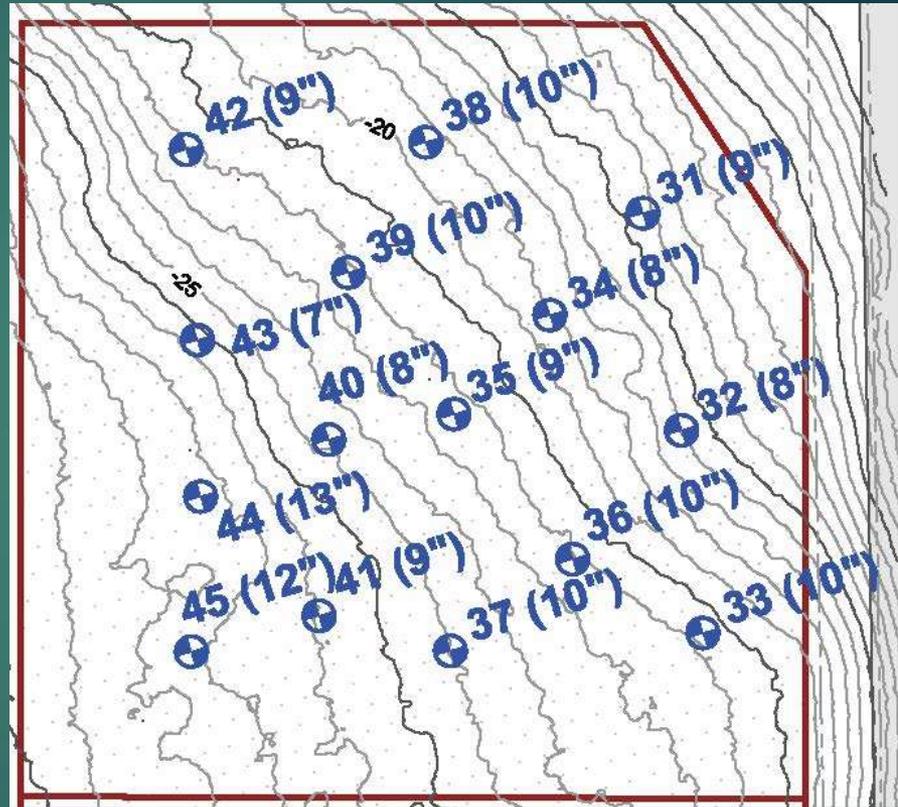
SPI View



- Small AC particles observed on the surface and a band of AC material .
- AC is present as small, sand sized, black particles and is mixed throughout the sediment column.

Post Placement (Y0) Monitoring Scour Plot

- 15 Grade stakes located in the plot.
- Visual assessment and measurement by divers.



GRAVELLY SAND ENR + AC

Placed Thickness	Inches
AVERAGE	10
MINIMUM	7
MAXIMUM	13

Post Placement (Y0) Monitoring Scour Plot

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Plan View



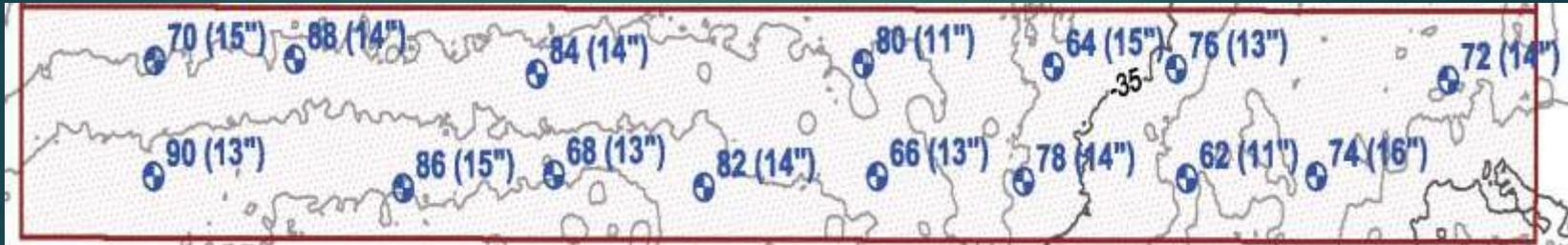
- Small AC particles observed on the surface and a band of AC material.
- A crab, 2 fish and a bivalve siphon can be seen in this image.

SPI View



- AC is mixed throughout the sediment column with a band of AC on the surface.

Post Placement (Y0) Monitoring Subtidal Plot



- 15 Measurement locations in the plot.
- Visual assessment and measurement by divers using stainless push probes.

SAND ENR + AC	
Placed Thickness	Inches
AVERAGE	14
MINIMUM	11
MAXIMUM	16

Post Placement (Y0) Monitoring Subtidal Plot

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Plan View



- Soft, fine grained recently deposited sediment over and obscuring ENR+AC material.

SPI View



- AC is present as small, sand sized, black particles mixed throughout the sediment column.
- Thin layer of recent deposition on the surface.

Conclusions

- ▶ Bulk GAC can be successfully handled and blended uniformly prior to placement
- ▶ Saturated GAC and ENR materials do not separate in barge
- ▶ Materials can be placed at target thickness
 - ▶ Bucket modifications successful
- ▶ GAC amended ENR appears to “flow” better
- ▶ Some winnowing and potential loss of GAC observed

Next Steps

- ▶ Effectiveness to be evaluated over next three years

Questions?

