



John Kern
NOAA Restoration Center NW
7600 Sand Point Way NE, Building 1, DARC
Seattle, WA 98115
206-526-6029 VOICE, 206-526-6665 FAX
john.kern@noaa.gov

June 10, 2008

Dr. Robert Whitlam
Department of Archaeology & Historic Preservation
P.O. Box 48343
Olympia, WA 98504-8343

**RE: Initiation of the Section 106 Consultation Process
National Historic Preservation Act
Strawberry Plant Park Shoreline Restoration Project**

Dear Dr. Whitlam:

The purpose of this letter is to initiate the consultation process required under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) and its implementing regulations in 36CFR800. We invite you to respond to this letter acknowledging your interest in participating as a consulting party. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Fisheries Restoration Center (RC), together with the Natural Resource Trustee Council for the Wyckoff/Eagle Harbor settlement and the City of Bainbridge Island, is proposing a shoreline restoration project at the Strawberry Plant Park. The park is located on the in the back reaches on the north side of Eagle Harbor on Bainbridge Island, at N47.625° W122.531°. We respectfully request your comments on the potential for the project to affect significant historic resources.

The Area of Potential Effects (APE) is shown on the attached figures. The proposed project would consist of removing approximately 100 piles, removal of approximately 23,000 square feet of intertidal/estuarine fill, removal of 250 feet of shoreline armoring, removal of approximately 23,500 square feet of concrete, and removal of debris in the intertidal zone. No excavation is planned below historical elevations, and some of the removed intertidal fill will be used to create topography where the existing concrete parking lot is located. Riparian vegetation will be planted in this area. The final design of the project will likely include some interpretive trails and a possible pedestrian bridge across the stream located along the east side of the site.

NOAA is requesting the Department of Archaeology & Historic Preservation to:

- Review the project description and provide comments;
- Review the definition of the APE and provide comments;

- Provide NOAA with a discussion of concerns regarding significant historic properties in the APE; and
- Provide NOAA any other comments regarding historic resources in the APE that may be relevant to Section 106 review.

Please respond with written comments within 30 days that acknowledge your interest in participating in this federal undertaking as a consulting party, concur with or object to the project description and APE, summarize your concerns, and provide any other comments relevant to Section 106 review. Please contact me at 206-526-6029 if you have questions regarding the proposed project or require additional project information.

Sincerely,



John Kern
Restoration Ecologist

Cc: Dennis E. Lewarch, Archaeologist, Suquamish Tribe
Peter Best, City of Bainbridge Island

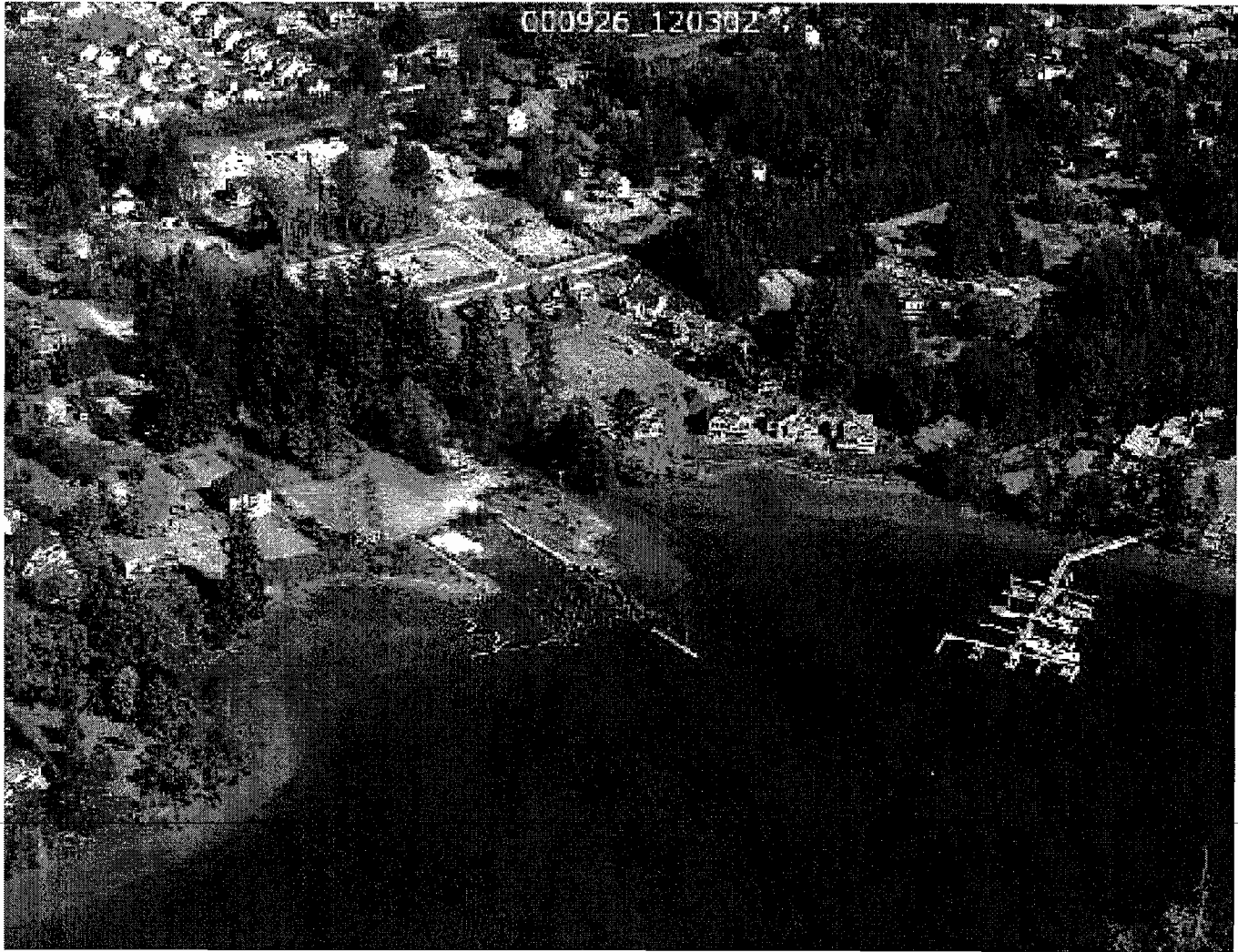


Figure 1: aerial photograph of the Strawberry Plant Park and vicinity.

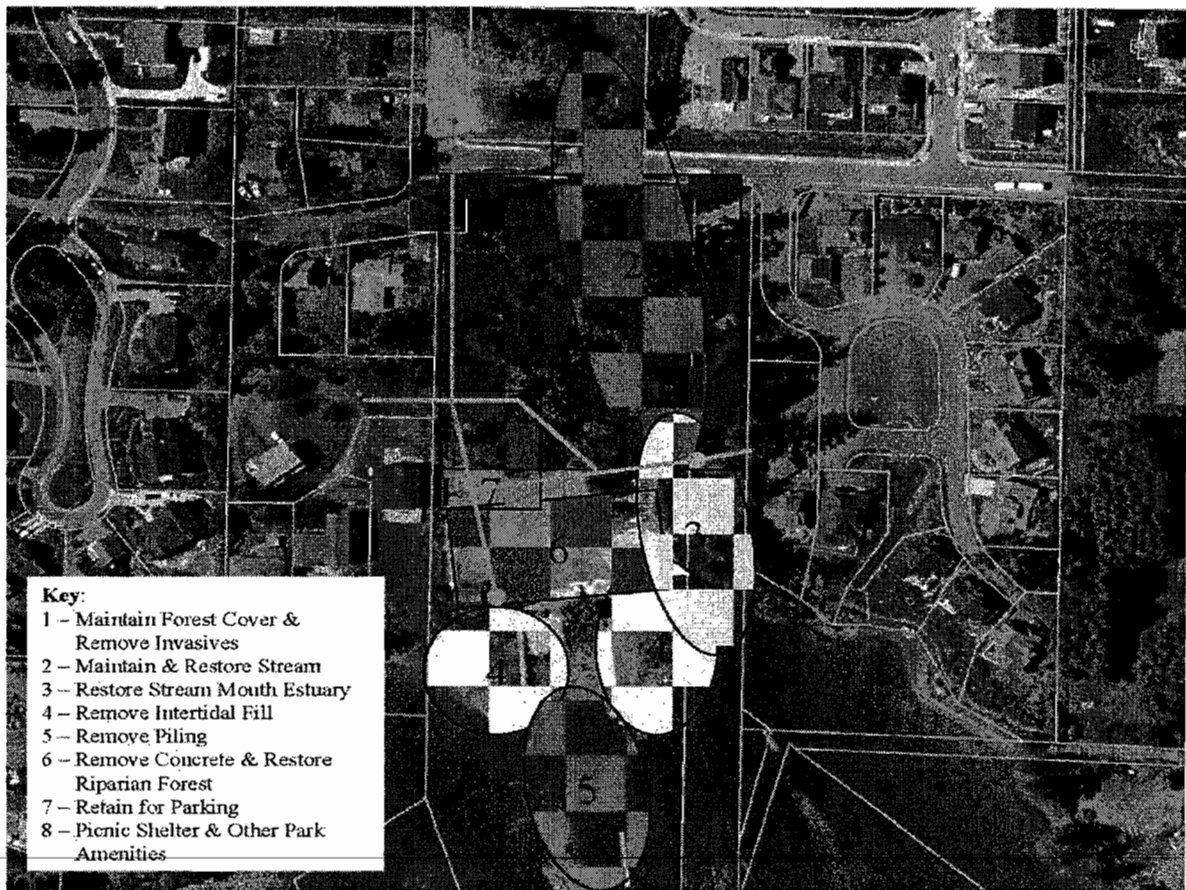


Figure 2: Strawberry Plant Park Shoreline Restoration Project concept, showing the Area of Potential Effects and the actions planned to take place within it.