

Date: April 4, 2025 Hatfield Ref No.: TWN12545-NV

From: Becca Kordas, Hatfield Consultants LLP

To: Vancouver Fraser Port Authority Project and Environmental Review Team

Subject: APPENDIX A6: Engagement Summary for Whey-Ah-Wichen / Cates Park Shoreline Restoration Program. VFPA PER #24-174.

The District of North Vancouver (DNV) and səliłwətał/Tsleil-Waututh Nation (TWN) are seeking to implement a shoreline adaptation and restoration program at Whey-ah-Wichen (Cates Park; “the Program”). Whey-ah-Wichen (meaning “facing the wind”) has been an active part of the traditional and unceded territory of the TWN for thousands of years and continues to hold strong cultural and archeological significance to TWN. Now a large waterfront park, Whey-ah-Wichen is co-managed by DNV and TWN. The shoreline has been eroding and this is likely to worsen with sea level rise and climate change, which threaten archeological resources, shoreline habitat, park infrastructure, and TWN cultural sites.

The Program involves the construction of nature-based shoreline protection and stabilization measures in combination with habitat restoration and enhancement. The proposed works align with TWN’s overall vision for Burrard Inlet and are part of a larger TWN program to mitigate coastal erosion and restore shoreline habitat on the North Shore. The key objectives for the Program are to (1) enhance resilience to climate change using nature-based solutions, (2) preserve the historical significance and enhance TWN’s cultural use of the site, and (3) integrate visitor usage and education.

Engagement for the Program is ongoing and has been conducted throughout the design process, including engagement with the TWN community, technical and other advisory groups, and referral and engagements with the xʷməθkʷəy̍əm (Musqueam) and Sk̓w̓x̓w̓ú7mesh (Squamish). This document provides a summary of the Program engagement that has been completed to date.

1. Presentation at Nature-based Coastal Solutions Conference, Atlantic Chapter (Halifax, NS):
 - Date: October 10, 2023.
 - Purpose: Presented the proposed Program design to conference attendees, which included regulators, contractors, and academics.
2. Whey-ah-Wichen Cultural Cooperation Agreement Steering Committee Meetings:
 - Dates: November 30, 2023; January 17, 2024; November 20th and March 12, 2025.
 - Purpose: Discussions regarding future engagement and Program design priorities.

3. Meetings with TWN Cultural Team:

- Dates: January 26, 2024; February 28, 2024; April 10, 2024; September 11, 2024; October 2, 2024; November 13, 2024; December 4, 2024; January 15, 2025; February 5, 2025; February 25, 2025; and March 10, 2025.
- Purpose: Ongoing progress meetings.

4. Concept Designs Feedback with TWN Community:

- Date: March 1, 2024.
- Purpose: TWN Community and Program Design Team (DNV, NHC, Hatfield) met to receive feedback on Program designs.

5. TWN Newsletter Updates and Public blog post:

- Dates: March 25, 2024 and October 21, 2024. Public blog post published March 2025. <https://twnation.ca/reviving-the-shores-a-transformative-shoreline-restoration-project-at-whey-ah-wichen-cates-park/>
- Purpose: Providing Program updates to TWN community, with quarterly newsletters to start upon construction commencement in August 2025.

6. Engagement Sessions with TWN Community:

- Dates: April 2, 2024 and November 7, 2024.
- Purpose: Community feedback provided on Program overview poster, Little Cates Point and East Beach poster, East Beach boulder aprons and Roche Point poster, Central Beach and West Beach poster, and prompts.

7. Discussion with Takaya Tours at the Whey-ah-Wichen Technical Meeting:

- Date: April 9, 2024.
- Purpose: To identify opportunities to improve access and visitor use of the site through Program design. Understand current constraints and challenges with the site, from a site user perspective.

8. DNV Parks and Natural Environment Advisory Committee Meeting:

- Date: April 17, 2024.
- Purpose: Program overview provided, including a summary of engagement feedback to date. Discussion on Program design, funding, and next steps.

9. Consultation with Deep Cove Kayak:

- Date: April 19, 2024.
- Purpose: To share Program scope with tourism/service operator and hear ideas/concerns.

10. Multi-stakeholder Shoreline Technical Advisory Group Presentation:

- Date: May 21, 2024.
- Purpose: TWN-led presentation on Program design and progress.

11. Correspondence with the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam) Nation:

- Dates: Program information meeting originally scheduled for August 8, 2024, cancelled and rescheduling at Musqueam's convenience, likely spring/summer 2025.
- Email sent to Musqueam with Program information Nov 14, 2024. Musqueam response received Dec 4, 2024.
- Purpose: Engagement with xʷməθkʷəy̓əm Nation, to describe the Program, answer any questions and let them know to expect a referral from DFO and VFPA regarding the Program.

12. Chief and Council and CAO "Snapshot" Update:

- Date: September 9, 2024.
- Purpose: To update TWN's Chief and Council on the progress of the Program planning and design work and provide an opportunity for feedback or questions.

13. DNV Climate Action Advisory Committee:

- Date: October 9, 2024.
- Staff provided a presentation on the Whey-ah-Wichen / Cates Park Shoreline Restoration Program. The committee shared their support and ideas on how to communicate the impacts of climate change related to the Program to park visitors.

14. Presentation at Nature-based Coastal Solutions Conference, Pacific Chapter (Vancouver, BC):

- Date: October 10, 2024.
- Purpose: Presented proposed Program design to conference attendees, which included regulators, contractors, academics, and BC First Nations members.

15. District of North Vancouver Public Signage (Attachment A1):

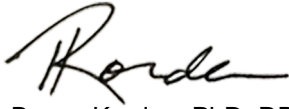
- Date: Installed on site the week of October 20, 2024.
- Purpose: Provide accessible signage to inform park visitors of the Program purpose and design, including key elements and Program timeline.

16. Meeting and email correspondence with Sk̓wx̓wú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish Nation):

- Date: In-person discussion October 22, 2024. Virtual meeting November 12, 2024. Email with Program information sent to Squamish November 14, 2024.
- Purpose: Engagement with Sk̓wx̓wú7mesh Úxwumixw to describe the Program, answer any questions and let them know to expect a referral from DFO and VFPA regarding the Program.

Ongoing engagement efforts include the use of online resources to keep the community informed and involved in the Program. The DNV has created a [section of their website](#) under Parks, Trails, and Recreation, summarizing the proposed restoration and improvements at Whey-ah-Wichen. The website page also has a dedicated area for news and updates on the Program. Additionally, TWN published a blog post on its [website](#) and will continue to post updates when construction commences in August 2025.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Becca Kordas', with a stylized, cursive script.

Becca Kordas, PhD, RPBio
Senior Marine Biologist and Manager, Marine Resources
HATFIELD CONSULTANTS LLP

Attachment A1

District of North Vancouver Public Signage Example

Whey-Ah-Wichen/Cates Park Improvements

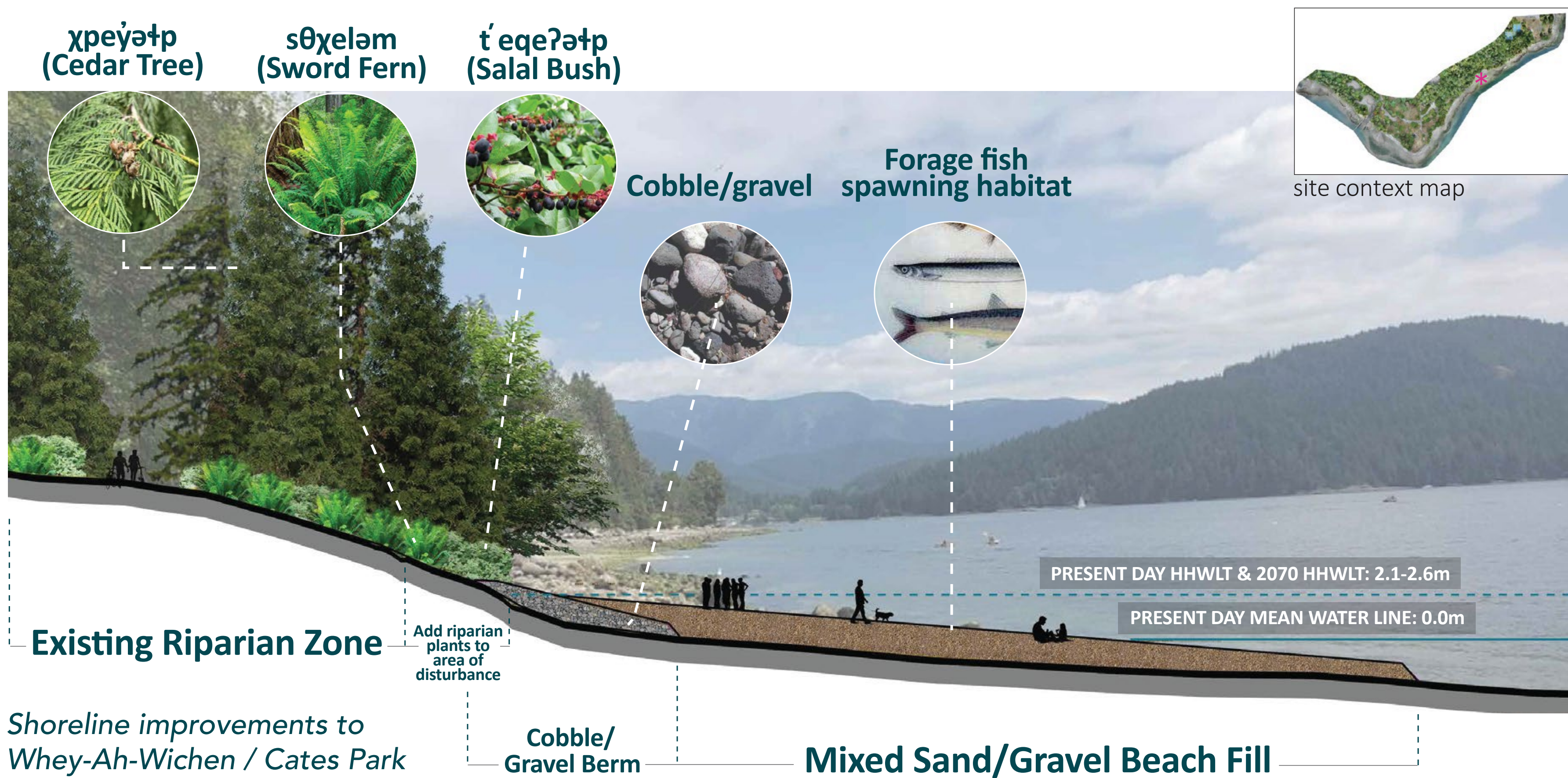
As co-managers of Whey-Ah-Wichen/Cates Park, the District of North Vancouver and the Tsleil-Waututh Nation are working together to implement a series of improvements. The long-term objectives of this work include:

- Enhance resilience to climate change using nature-based solutions.
- Protect Tsleil-Waututh’s cultural heritage and archaeology.
- Enhance forage fish habitat.
- Integrate visitor usage and education.

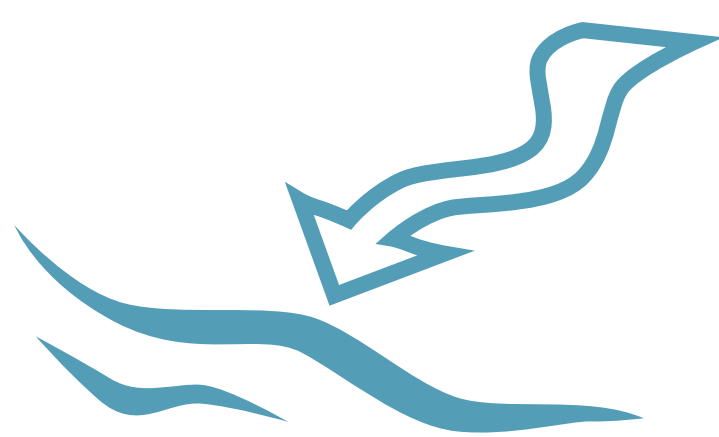
2024 Permitting Design

2025 Construction

2027 Project Completed Monitoring



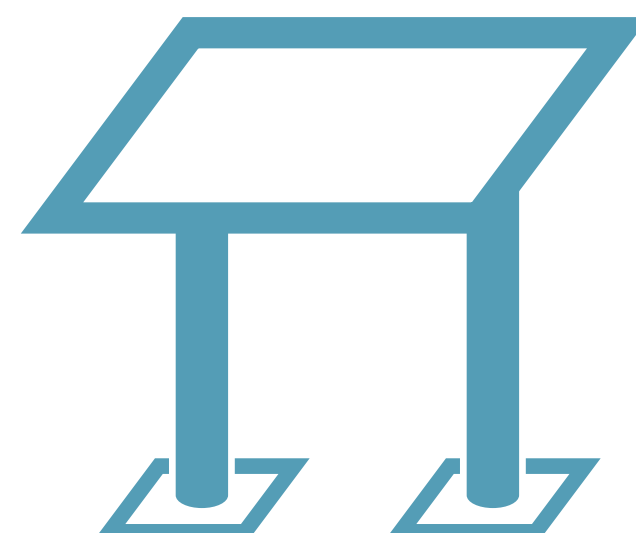
Key Elements



Improved Beach Access



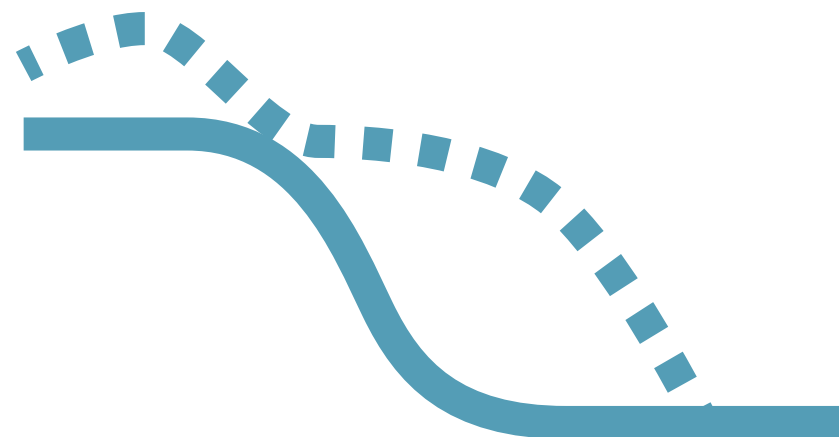
New Picnic Shelters



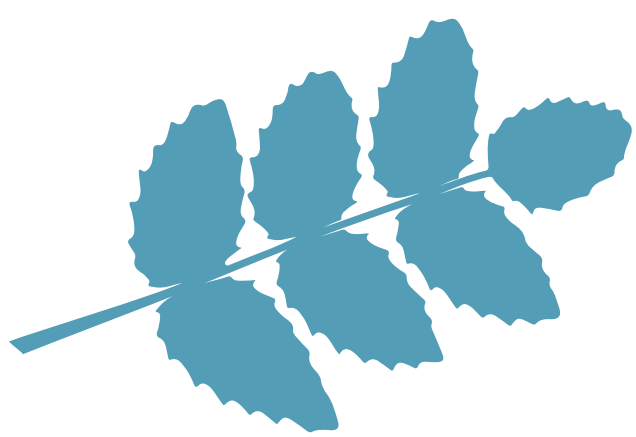
Interpretive Panels



Bioswales
to improve drainage and water quality



Beach Nourishment
(adding sediment)



Planting
native and culturally important species