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Lower Taylor Creek Improvement Project



Lakeridge Park and Deadhorse Canyon – a haven for hikers and botanists – will soon be a haven for salmon returning to their home stream. The park straddles the Rainier Beach and Skyway/West Hill neighborhoods and is home to a lush ravine, many native plants, and Taylor Creek.

Friends of Deadhorse Canyon is very excited about the prospects. This dedicated group of volunteers has been doing restoration work in Lakeridge Park since 1997. Their goal is to transform the area into a self-sustaining conifer forest.

While the exact changes will not be known until 2013, there are some preliminary ideas on how to improve this habitat. First pavement, docks, and other structures will be removed; followed by realignment and widening of the stream and planting of streamside and lake shoreline areas. Lastly SPU will need to replace the Taylor Creek culvert underneath Rainier Ave S to restore fish passage from Lake Washington to Lakeridge Park. The changes are likely to occur by 2015.

The Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) is a partner with SPU and Seattle Parks for the planned improvements. WSDOT is considering Taylor Creek a potential mitigation site associated with the SR 520 bridge project.

While there are conceptual ideas for the project, plans will be further developed with the input of residents and stakeholders during late 2012 and 2013. At this time, the site remains residentially occupied and is not open to the public. . Email restoreourwaters@seattle.gov for more information.

<http://www.king5.com/news/City-of-Seattle-buys-several-lakefront-properties-to-protect-salmon-141380573.html>