The Everett Riverfront project is located within the Snohomish River delta, east of Interstate 5 in Everett. The area once supported extensive tidal freshwater wetlands and critical habitat for salmon, but has experienced extensive alteration since the early 1900s with the development of a lumber mill, railroad corridor, and other transportation infrastructure. The riverbank has been modified with wooden piers and rock armoring and the center of the site contains a large area of fill (known as “Simpson pad”) associated with the former lumber mill. The project would restore connectivity between the Snohomish River and the historic wetland complexes by excavating tidal channels and would rehabilitate the lower reach of Bigelow Creek. Extensive native plantings across the site would re-establish the diversity of wetland types and provide substantial habitat for fish and wildlife.

**Processes Restored**

- Natural formation of tidal channels in estuaries.
- Unrestricted flow of freshwater rivers and streams into estuaries.
- Unrestricted movement of saltwater through tidal channels in estuaries.
- Accumulation and retention of organic material from plants and aquatic animals.
- Unrestricted movement and migration of fish and wildlife.

**Conditions Improved**

- Restored freshwater wetlands, which are highly productive habitats that support biodiversity and provide connectivity between the land and sea.
- Restored large river delta that provides valuable nursery habitat for threatened species of juvenile salmon such as Chinook, increasing their survival and supporting population recovery in Puget Sound.
- Improved quality of the water flowing through the estuary.
- Increased area, length, and complexity of shoreline.
- Improved resiliency of the shoreline to respond to changes in the environment such as rising sea levels and increasing frequency of storm events.
**Key Design Elements**

The **full restoration** alternative would excavate distributary channels in the northern wetland complex to improve connectivity with the Snohomish River. Dredge spoils would be placed throughout the area and densely planted with native trees and shrubs. Wooden piles and bulkheads along the west bank of the river would be removed. The majority of the Simpson pad would remain to support future plans for private development supported by the City of Everett. At the southern end, a portion of fill would be removed in order to excavate a new channel alignment for Bigelow Creek. The stream would be rehabilitated through fill and culvert removal, channel reshaping, and riparian planting. The Lowell Riverfront Trail would be rerouted further west onto the Simpson pad.

The **partial restoration** alternative would focus on the re-establishment of the tidal freshwater wetlands north of the Simpson pad. Similar to the full restoration, tidal channels would be excavated to reconnect the site with the Snohomish River, but over a smaller area to avoid impacts to the Lowell Riverfront Trail. Dredge spoils would also be placed throughout the area and densely planted with native trees and shrubs. This alternative would not rehabilitate Bigelow Creek.