Deschutes Estuary Restoration Project

Comment on your project:

Your Estuary Restoration Project begins with dredging and it ends with dredging. I am commenting because you are irresponsibly silent on the issue of dredging.

This Project began when the General Services Administration abandoned their responsibility to dredge Capital Lake on a regular basis. The project will end when you pull out the Capital Lake Dam and allow the entire silt load of the Deschutes River to pour out into Southern Budd Inlet 365 days a year; year after year after year. During the first two years following the dam removal, the southern end of Budd Inlet along Percival Landing and also the Olympia Yacht Club will be completely silted in and will be just a mud flat at low tides. This siltation will proceed north until it begins to fill in the Port of Olympia's ship turning basin. By this time the entire length of Percival Landing will be mud-flat at low tide.

Nothing in the continuous promotional output of your Estuary Project addresses this inevitable and rapid siltation problem or how to pay for the hugely expensive cost of keeping these public assets (Percival Landing) silt free by regular dredging. The maintenance dredging would have to be done at least every other year and the money to pay for it is shamefully absent from your promotional material proposing an Estuary. In order to avoid the problems of dredging Capital Lake as you should, you are about to turn Percival Landing, a wonderful Public Asset, into a mud-flat. Shame on you!

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