



US Army Corps  
of Engineers  
Seattle District

# Spartina Evaluation on Swinomish Navigation Channel by Hiram Arden SEATTLE DISTRICT

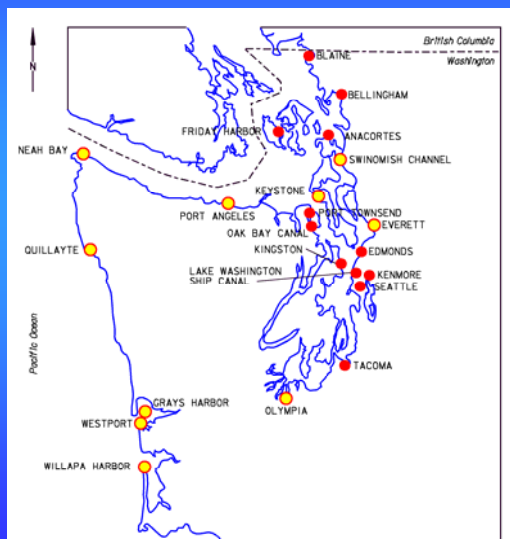
Aquatic Nuisance Species Workshop at  
Portland, Oregon  
May 10, 2007

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## SEATTLE DISTRICT NAVIGATION PROJECTS, OVERVIEW RELATIVE TO SPARTINA



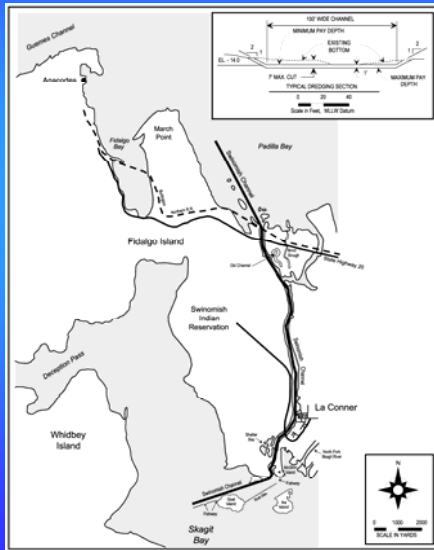
●Spartina growth is considered to be a great threat to \$16M Oyster industry at coastal Willapa Harbor

●Increased concern at Grays Harbor and now in Puget Sound navigation projects including Swinomish Channel



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## SWINOMISH CHANNEL, CORPS NAVIGATION PROJECT, 11 miles long X 12 ft deep @mllw



- Resource Agency & local concerns that Corps O&M dredging activity is spreading *Spartina* seeds all along the channel.

- Corps collected 26 grab samples of shoal sediments in the channel adjacent to invasive *Spartina* beds for lab evaluation.

- No signs of seeds or fragments in samples or germination @ 4 weeks.



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## SWINOMISH CHANNEL CLAMSHELL MAINTENANCE DREDGING CONTINUES



- FY04 Federal clamshell dredging removed 61,237 CY in Oct 2003 w/ Open Water disposal

- FY 06 clamshell dredging of 60,000 CY was funded by the Port of Anacortes for use at their eelgrass mitigation bank site at a Port cost of \$1.1M

- Federal dredging status - is not funded.



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## Swinomish Navigation Channel Spartina Evaluation References:

- **Spartina Report Swinomish Federal Navigation Channel, by Mr. George Hart, Biologist US Army Corps of Engineers, Seattle District dated October 2003.**
- **Report on the Possible Presence of Seeds and Fragments of the Invasive Cordgrass, *Spartina anglica*, in Sediments from Swinomish Channel, WA by Ms. Sally D. Hacker, Associate Professor, Washington State University dated September 2003.**



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## Swinomish Channel Typical Grab Sample of Poorly Graded, Fine Sandy Sediment in a ¼ Cubic Yard Clamshell Bucket



•Questions?