

An Exercise in Eelgrass Restoration in Bellingham Bay: A tale of two methods
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As part of the advanced mitigation for the Post Point Wastewater Treatment Plant Alternate Outfall Replacement Project, Hart Crowser implemented a restoration methods comparison project in Post Point Lagoon adjacent to the water treatment plant. This consisted of the removal and replanting of eelgrass (*Zostera marina*) using two different methods, one of which has not been attempted before on a large scale in the Pacific Northwest. The first method employed traditional diver-placed planting units while the second employed a methodology developed by Fred Short of the University of New Hampshire called Transplanting Eelgrass Remotely with Frames (TERFs, Short, Short and Burdick-Whitney 2002) . Four test plots (two of each method) were planted and then revisited one year later to measure recruiting success. Area remaining, relative shoot density, and cost per unit benefit were compared between the two methodologies as well as with the naturally occurring eelgrass habitat in the vicinity. Both methods were viewed as successful, but were moderately different in the level of success depending on the parameter in question.