

FACT SHEET

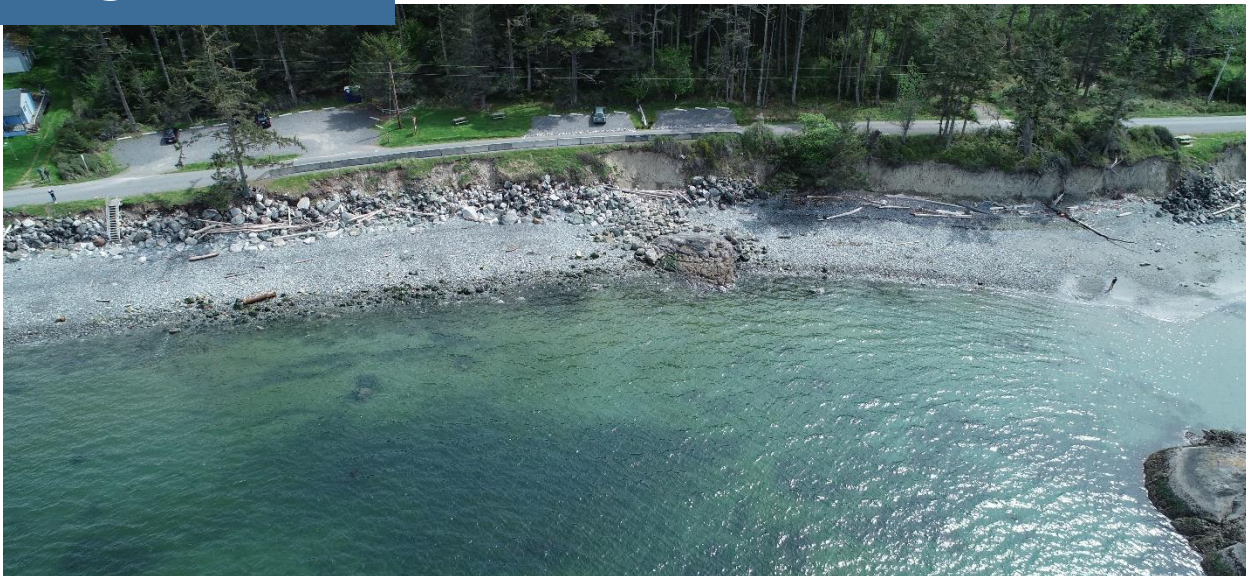


Photo: Agate Beach County Park - Coastal Geologic Services

Agate Beach County Park Shoreline Restoration

The Agate Beach shoreline restoration project will remove all shoreline armor from beach and bank at the County Park and a neighboring landowner. This is the armor starting at the stairs on the photo left-across the photo to the right. The project will restore spawning habitat for surf smelt, a forage fish that is important prey to salmon. The restoration project is designed and construction funded. Restoration construction will occur in 2023. In 2022, the stairs at the photo left will be replaced with a new stairs installed at the photo right. San Juan County Environmental Resources is investing in protecting and recovering natural resources in the San Juan Islands.

Why is shoreline armor harmful?

Shoreline armor prevents banks from eroding. Eroding shorelines “feed” the beach with sand and gravel, necessary to maintain the beach profile and habitat. When armor is added to shorelines, beaches coarsen and forage fish can no longer find a place to spawn.

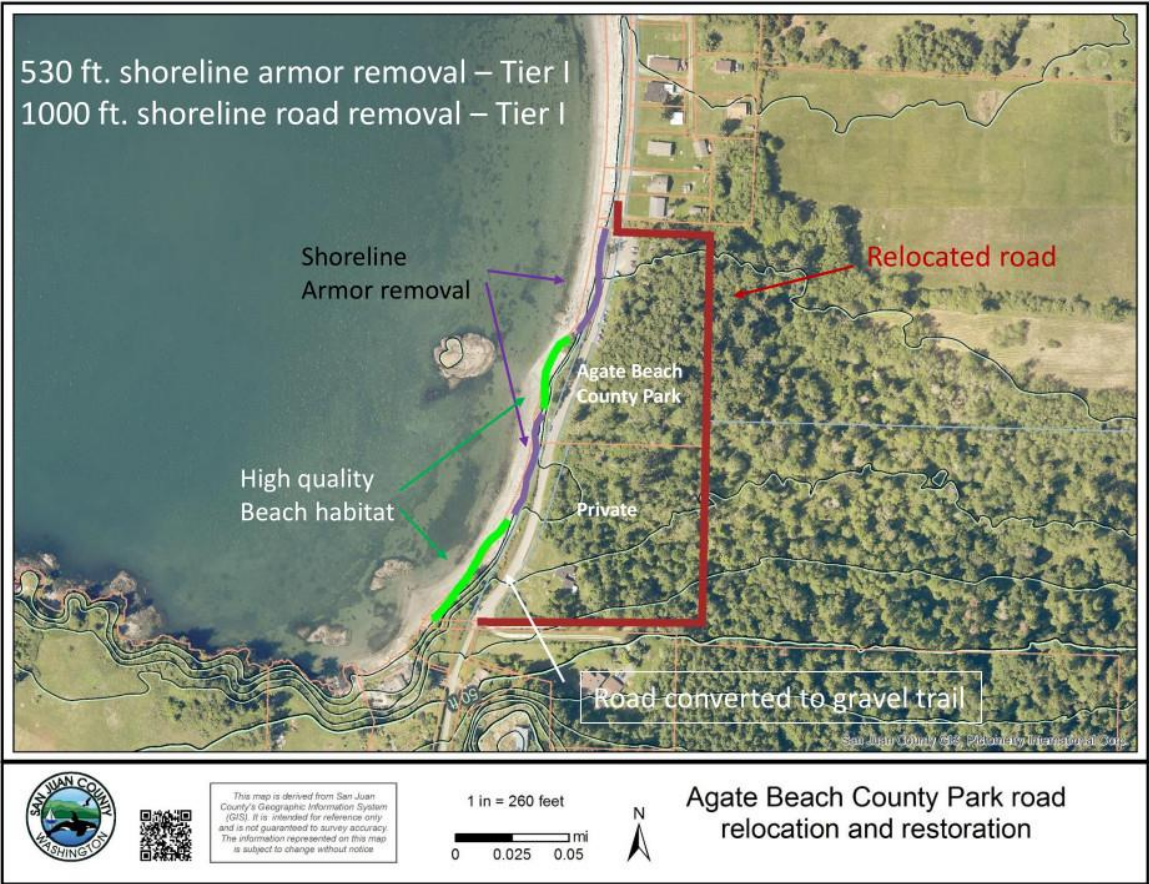
Won't the road be impacted?

A parallel project is to relocate Mackaye Harbor Road away from the shoreline, to a safe place at the rear of the Park. Despite the armor, the shoreline is eroding into the road, and the road is at risk. Many shoreline roads impact shoreline habitat and will need relocation to protect both infrastructure and natural resources.



Contact For More Information:

Byron Rot, Project Manager
San Juan County Public Works
360-370-7593 | byronr@sanjuanco.com



San Juan County
www.sanjuanco.com