

## **The Role of Volunteers in a Wetland Habitat Stewardship Initiative.**

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River Works is a Vancouver Aquarium conservation initiative that inspires the stewardship of aquatic habitats through community connections, habitat restoration, monitoring activities and educational experiences. All selected sites are classified as Red or Yellow Coded shorelines (Fraser River Estuary Management Plan) and are habitat for several endangered plant species. It is because of the support of dedicated, trained volunteers that *River Works* is able to help protect these species and the ecosystems they depend on. Through the coordination of meaningful scientific research and volunteer-based stewardship projects, *River Works* achieves two very practical outcomes: the restoration of critical habitat and the encouragement of environmental action and awareness. The role of volunteers in this wetland habitat stewardship initiative is presented.