

Vashon 101—Contemporary Ecology Resource Page

Forests:

King County Wildfire Risk Reduction Strategy: [tinyurl.com/4bprv5mb](https://www.kingcounty.gov/~/media/2018/06/27/2018-06-27-king-county-wildfire-risk-reduction-strategy.pdf)

Forest Landowner Assistance Portal : <https://www.dnr.wa.gov/LandownerAssistancePortal>

Climate Adaptation Field Guide for Forest Owners: <https://www.nnrg.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/Climate-Adaptation-Field-Guide.pdf>

Short Fire History (derived from island newspapers with help from Mike Sudduth)

Note: There were several structure fires also reported during this time, but these were left out. This timeline only lists fires that were large and burned a significant amount of natural habitat.

August 1893--a fire began in the logged off area near the present high school where the first sawmill was located. The fire raged for two days and nights, "nearly a hundred" volunteers "fought desperately against apparently hopeless odds, with shovels and hoes and rakes, to save the new Baptist Church and the Presbyterian Church at Center, and the Fuller store across the street. With the flames within two hundred yards of Center, the wind shifted to the north on the evening of the second day, allowing fire fighters to finally gain control of the fire. --As reported in the Island News Record.

July 1925- Fires burning on Southeast Maury burned many vacant houses. The Raeco building (three houses) burned to the ground—this is where Maury Marine Park is now. The old Hoaglin place also burned. The fire was started by careless campers.

July 1925 – Fire burns for 2 weeks near Lisabeula. Lisabeula School destroyed by fire.

July 1926—Ludwig house in Lisabeula catches fire, cause unknown. Fire spreads to the gulch near the home and burns for several days.

August 1926-Small brushfire on Maury Island near Pembroke farm.

August 1927—Fire starts in Ellisport that travels up Ellisport ravine.

August 1928—Fire starts at the top of Ellisport hill and travels down the ravine endangering Ellisport community but backfires get the fire in control just in time.

August 1928—A fire breaks out in Spring Beach and lasts for 10 days before getting under control.

August 1929—Fire starts near Judd Creek Ranch and endangers Judd Creek Bridge.

July 1930- Lisabeula forest fire ignites and smolders for days.

September 1930—Fire in Ellisport canyon controlled just before reaching the housing community.

September 1930—A forest fire ignites and smolders for two weeks on state lands now Island Center Forest.

July 1931—Fire at Northwest tip of island burns 80 acres. Started by campers.

September 1932—Fire started, likely from a burn pile, travels between Rosehilla and Manzanita and burns several cottages.

April 1933 – Half of downtown Vashon burns – England Peterson Lumber Co. and Middling Hotel lost.

August 1933--Major forest fire – Paradise Valley to Lisabeula burns for days. Roar from the flames could be heard from a mile away.

July-August 1939--Forest fires burn on island – 2 days at Heights, 2 days at Rosehilla, 1 month at Pt. Robinson

Summer 1945 - 100-acre fire in Paradise Valley

August 1946—State crews battle fire from Luana Beach to Raeco beach, 150 acres

March 1958- Fire starts from an open oil valve at the oil tanks from Beall greenhouses in Ellisport. Oil sits in Tramp Harbor for days.

August 1958 – 500-acre wildfire on Maury – 3-day battle to contain the blaze

May 1977- First burn permits issued by the Fire Department

June 1982- Fireworks cause brush fire near Gold Beach.

July 2016– Southend fire destroys house and a little of surrounding forest

September 2018– Westside waterfront fire destroys 2 homes

Salmon:

Puget Sound Vital sign salmon: <https://vitalsigns.pugetsoundinfo.wa.gov/VitalSign/Detail/32>

Indigenous fishing techniques for salmon conservation: <https://doi.org/10.1093/biosci/biaa144>

Lummi reef net fishing story: <https://www.seattletimes.com/life/food-drink/reef-netting-is-a-sustainable-fishing-method-and-a-link-to-lummi-heritage/>

Vigor habitat restoration in the Duwamish: <https://ltk.org/project/urban-estuary-restoration-effectiveness/>

Seattle Seawall: <https://waterfrontseattle.org/waterfront-projects/seawall>

North of falcon article on 2023 fishing season:

<https://wdfw.medium.com/four-big-questions-from-this-years-north-of-falcon-723bd86592ec>

Herring:

Puget Sound Vital Sign herring: <https://vitalsigns.pugetsoundinfo.wa.gov/VitalSignIndicator/Detail/36>

Stein Julie, and Philips, L. 2002. Vashon Island Archeology: a view from Burton Acres shell midden. Burke Museum Research Report 8.

Fringes/Shorelines:

Puget Sound Vital Signs Indicator Feeder Bluffs free vs. armored:

<https://www.pugetsoundinfo.wa.gov/Indicator/Detail/116#results>

Sea level rise map: <https://coast.noaa.gov/slr/#>

Des Roches S, La Fuente J, Faulkner S, Morgan J, Perla B, Metler M, Dethier M, Toft J. 2022. Shoreline Armoring can restore variability in intertidal systems. Ecological Indicators. 140.

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1470160X22005271> this study contains data collected on Vashon by VNC and volunteers.

General background:

Locke et al. 2020. [A Nature Positive World: The Global Goal for Nature](#)

Lenton et al. 2019. [Climate tipping points: too risky to bet against](#). Nature.