

# **FIR ISLAND FARM FINAL DESIGN PROJECT**

## **PROGRESS REPORT**

### **AUGUST 1, 2013 – JANUARY 31, 2014**

#### **Looking Back**

During the past 6 months, the following tasks and activities were conducted towards accomplishing the Scope of Work for the Fir Island Farm Final Design Project. The complete Scope of work for the Fir Island Farm Final Design Project is available at the project website.

1. A Steering Committee meeting was convened on October 3, 2013 and December 2, 2013.
2. WDFW and S&W met with the commissioners of CDD#22 on November 6, 2013, December 4, 2013, and January 8, 2014 to discuss the Coastal Processes Study, the Interior Drainage Study, and the design recommendations for flood protection and drainage infrastructure.
3. WDFW met with the Hit and Miss Gun Club on October 24, 2013 to discuss the project.
4. The RCO incorporated the ESRP grant for Final Design Phase 2.3 into the existing RCO-WDFW contract for the SRFB funded Final Design Phases 2.1 and 2.2.
5. WDFW and TNC convened a construction funding team meeting on September 17, 2013. Significant progress was made to identify and prioritize construction grant opportunities for match to WDFW's 13.6 million dollar PSAR construction award.
6. Puget Sound Partnership (PSP), RCO, SRFB, Skagit Watershed Council and WDFW convened a meeting on January 15, 2014. The parties identified processes and timelines for SRFB-RITT-Skagit Watershed Council review and approval of WDFW's 60% design plans and WDFW's 13.6 million dollar PSAR construction award. The parties also identified the process and timeline for establishing a SRFB-WDFW conditional contract that obligates the WDFW's 13.6 million dollar PSAR award by October 2014. The parties identified a strategy and timeline for WDFW to secure the additional funding required for project construction and to satisfy the SRFB flexible match requirement.
7. WDFW and S&W compiled the legal survey data for WDFW's Fir Island Farm including property lines, existing easements, existing rights of way, control points, and topography and bathymetry.
8. WDFW and S&W completed a site-specific MLLW-to-NAVD88 tidal datum transformation analysis.

9. S&W continued to collect data from the three paired groundwater wells and seven surface water level loggers that were installed to implement the groundwater-interior drainage study and long term monitoring plan.
10. Battelle's Hydrodynamic Modeling Report for the project site was completed in September 2013 and posted to WDFW's website.
11. Informed by Battelle's Hydrodynamic Modeling Report, S&W completed the Draft Coastal Engineering Report dated January 10, 2014 which includes design recommendations for the new set-back flood dike, a spur dike extension along Brown Slough, and restoration site grading. S&W's Draft Coastal Engineering Report was posted to WDFW's website in January 2014.
12. S&W completed the Draft Interior Drainage Study Report. S&W's Draft Interior Drainage Study Report was posted to WDFW's website in January 2014.
13. Informed by Battelle's Hydrodynamic Modeling Report, the Draft Coastal Engineering Report Draft, the Draft Interior Drainage Study Report and WDFW's survey, S&W updated the draft restoration site plan. The updated site map was posted to WDFW's website in January 2014.
14. The Archaeological 2013 Monitoring Report for the project site was completed and posted to WDFW's website in January.
15. WDFW notified a comprehensive list of individuals interested in the project whenever a project report is posted to WDFW's website. The notification typically requests that the interested individuals provide their comments with 2 weeks of notification.
16. Pre-application consultations with county, state, and federal entities were completed. Permit applications for county, state and federal permits were completed.
17. WDFW and CDD#22 agreed to develop a Landowner Agreement for the flood and drainage infrastructure after the 60% design is completed in June 2014 using the landowner agreement for TNC's Fisher Slough Restoration project as the template
18. WDFW and TNC made significant progress towards developing an adaptive management and monitoring plan for the project.
19. In consultation with WDFW, S&W has selected an Independent Review Team (ITR).

## **Looking Ahead**

During the next 6 months, the following task and activities will be conducted towards accomplishing the Scope of Work for the Fir Island Farm Final Design Project.

1. Steering Committee meetings in March and May are anticipated.
2. Strategic meetings will be conducted CDD#22, Hayton Farms and the Hit and Miss Gun Club.
3. The Construction Funding Team will continue to pursue priority grant opportunities for construction funding.
4. The Draft Geotechnical and Hydrogeologic Data Report, Draft Coastal Engineering Report Draft, Draft Interior Drainage Study Report and WDFW's Survey will be finalized.
5. Design recommendations for the flood protection and drainage infrastructure will be finalized.
6. The site plan for the restoration project will be updated.
7. The 60% design plans will be completed.
8. An independent technical review will be performed on geotechnical baseline, interior drainage studies, hydrodynamic modeling and coastal engineering analyses.
9. WDFW will continue to post pertinent project design reports to WDFW's website.
10. WDFW will continue to notify a comprehensive list of individuals interested in the project whenever a project report is posted to WDFW's website.
11. Applications for county, state and federal permits will be submitted.
12. A draft Adaptive Management and Monitoring Plan will be completed.
13. Baseline monitoring data from the three paired groundwater wells and seven surface water level loggers will continue to be collected.
14. Collection of other baseline data identified in the draft monitoring and adaptive monitoring plan will be initiated.
15. Landowner agreements with CDD#22, Hayton Farms, and the Hit and Miss Gun Club will be initiated.