

# **FIR ISLAND FARM FINAL DESIGN PROJECT**

## **PROGRESS REPORT**

### **FEBRUARY 1, 2014 – JULY 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.

#### **REPORTS**

1. The Project team completed the following study reports and design plans.
  - Hydrodynamic Modeling Analysis
  - Draft Geotechnical Engineering Report
  - Coastal Engineering Report
  - Geotechnical and Hydrogeologic Data Report
  - Interior Drainage Engineering Report
  - Draft 60 Percent Design Report
  - Draft 60 Percent Design Plan Sheets
2. WDFW posted the above referenced study reports and design plans to WDFW's Fir Island Farm website.

#### **STAKEHOLDER AND ITR COMMENTS**

3. The draft and final study reports and design plans were distributed to the Steering Committee members, Independent Review Team (ITR) members, and representatives of the Skagit Consolidated Diking District #22, Hit and Miss Gun Club, Skagit Watershed Council, RCO and Puget Sound Partnership for review and comments.
4. Comments received from the Steering Committee members, Independent Review Team (ITR) members and representatives of the Skagit Watershed Council, RCO and Puget Sound Partnership on the above referenced study reports and design plans were compiled into ITR and Stakeholder Comment Tracking Tables.
5. Comments received from the ITR and stakeholders were incorporated into the final study reports and design plans where appropriate.
6. WDFW and S&W responded to each of the comments received in the ITR and Stakeholder Comment Tracking Tables.
7. WDFW posted the ITR and Stakeholder Comment Tracking Tables to WDFW's Fir Island Farm website.

#### **MEETINGS**

8. A Steering Committee meeting was convened on May 27, 2014 to discuss the above referenced study reports and design plans.

9. WDFW and S&W met with the commissioners of CDD#22 on April 23, 2014, May 7, 2014 and June 6, 2014 to discuss the above referenced study reports and design plans.
10. WDFW, CDD#22 and S&W agreed to mutually acceptable design recommendations for the drainage and flood protection infrastructure proposed for the Project.
11. WDFW discussed the above referenced study reports and design plans with the Hit and Miss Gun Club via phone conversations and emails.
12. WDFW has initiated the process of developing a Landowner Agreement with CDD#22 for the flood and drainage infrastructure associated with the Project.
13. WDFW and S&W met with the ITR to discuss the above referenced study reports and design plans on April 11, 2014 and May 29, 2014.

### **CONSTRUCTION FUNDING**

14. Consistent with the process and timelines for SRFB-RITT-Skagit Watershed Council review and approval of WDFW's 13.6 million dollar PSAR construction award that was identified by the Puget Sound Partnership (PSP), RCO, SRFB, Skagit Watershed Council and WDFW during a January 15, 2014 meeting, WDFW submitted the Draft 60 Percent Design Report and 60 Percent Design Plan Sheets to the Skagit Watershed Council, RCO and Puget Sound Partnership by June 15, 2014.
15. WDFW and S& W attended the Skagit Watershed Council Technical Workgroup meeting on July 17, 2014 to discuss the Draft 60 Percent Design Report and 60 Percent Design Plan Sheets.
16. WDFW received confirmation from the Puget Sound Partnership on July 16, 2014 that the RITT found our Project to be consistent with the Skagit Chinook Recovery Plan (2005), The Skagit Watershed Council's 2010 update to their Strategic Plan for Salmon Recovery, and the Skagit Watershed Council's 3-year Work Plan.
17. WDFW submitted a National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grant Proposal for 1 million dollars of construction funding on June 26, 2014.
18. WDFW and The Nature Conservancy secured a 1.3 million dollar award from NOAA Coastal and Marine Habitat Restoration Grant for project construction in 2015.

### **RESPONSE STUDIES**

19. The Steering Committee and RCO reviewed and approved two response study funding requests submitted to the SRFB on February 24, 2014 and July 3, 2014.
20. WDFW modified the contract with S&W to include the Design Phase 2.3 scope of work, the ESRP funding for Design Phase 2.3 and the response study funding approved in March 2014 and July 2014.

### **MONITORING**

21. WDFW and 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.
22. WDFW completed a Draft Adaptive Management and Monitoring plan for the Project.

#### **PERMITS**

23. WDFW and S&W continued to work with county, state and federal entities toward the issuance of county, state, and federal permits to construct the Project.

#### **Looking Ahead**

During the next 5 months, the following task and activities will be conducted towards accomplishing the Scope of Work for the Fir Island Farm Final Design Project.

#### **REPORTS**

1. The following will be completed:
  - a. The Final Design Report and Plan Sheets.
  - b. The Construction budget.
  - c. The Construction specs.
  - d. The Construction Bid specs.
2. WDFW will post the final design reports and plans to WDFW's website.

#### **STAKEHOLDER AND ITR COMMENTS**

3. The ITR team will review the design plans, budget, and specs.
4. WDFW will notify a comprehensive list of individuals interested in the project when the final design report and plans are posted to WDFW's website.
5. Stakeholders interested in the project will review the final design plans, budget and specs.

#### **MEETINGS**

6. Steering Committee meetings in September and November are anticipated.
7. Strategic meetings with CDD#22 and the Hit and Miss Gun Club are anticipated.

#### **CONSTRUCTION**

8. A construction management team structure will be identified.
9. A construction strategy will be completed.
10. WDFW's PSAR Construction award will be approved by the Skagit Watershed Council and SRFB.

11. WDFW's PSAR Construction award will be obligated under contract with the RCO.
12. The WDFW and TNC will monitor the progress and status of the National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grant proposal. Grant award is anticipated in January 2015.
13. WDFW will obligate the NOAA construction grant award through a contract with TNC.

**MONITORING/Adaptive Management**

14. Baseline monitoring data from the three paired groundwater wells and seven surface water level loggers will continue to be collected.
15. The Draft Adaptive Management and Monitoring Plan will be reviewed by Shannon and Wilson, ITR and Steering Committee.
16. A Final Adaptive Management and Monitoring Plan will be completed.
17. A Final Stewardship Plan will be completed

**PERMITS**

18. County, state and federal construction permits will be secured.

**Landowner Agreements**

19. Landowner agreements with CDD#22 and the Hit and Miss Gun Club will be completed.