



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

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May 10, 2012

Bob Zeigler, SEPA/NEPA Coordinator  
Washington State Department of Fish & Wildlife  
Regulatory Services Section  
600 Capitol Way North  
Olympia, WA 98501-1091

Dear Mr. Zeigler:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the determination of nonsignificance for the Abernathy Creek Tidal Restoration project (# 12-033) located at Abernathy Creek Wildlife Area in Cowlitz County as proposed by Donna Bighouse, Washington State Department of Fish & Wildlife (WDFW). The Department of Ecology (Ecology) reviewed the environmental checklist and has the following comment(s):

**FLOODPLAINS MANAGEMENT: Donovan Gray (360) 407-7253**

It appears that some of the work for this proposal will occur within a 100yr floodplain. A floodplain development permit will be required. If the existing watercourse it to be altered, the proponent must inform the Federal Emergency Management Act (FEMA) and neighboring communities. The proponent must ensure the flood carrying capacity of the stream is not diminished. A long term monitoring and maintenance plan may be needed to ensure that this remains the case. There is a floodway delineated for lower Abernathy Creek. Although it appears from the site plan, the project will likely avoid the floodway. I recommend the proponent determine whether the proposal will cross the floodway. Work within a floodway requires a floodway analysis to determine whether a rise in the base flood elevation is expected. If any rise is anticipated the project will need to be redesigned so there is no rise or a Conditional Letter of Map Revision (CLOMR) submitted to FEMA prior to project start.

**SHORELANDS & ENVIRONMENTAL ASSISTANCE:  
Rebecca Schroeder: (360) 407-7273**

Ensure that the project is consistent with the Cowlitz County Shoreline Master Program and the State Shoreline Management Act.

**WASTE 2 RESOURCES: Mike Drumright (360) 407-6397**

Property owners, developers, and contractors are encouraged to recycle all possible leftover construction, demolition, and land clearing (CDL) materials and reduce waste generated. Recycling construction debris is often less expensive than landfill disposal. Please visit Ecology's 1 800 Recycle Hotline database at: <http://1800recycle.wa.gov> or call the

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1-800-RECYCLE hotline to find facilities that that will accept your CDL materials for reuse or recycling.

We recommend planting as many drought-resistant native species as possible.

If greater than 250 cubic yards of inert, demolition, and/or wood waste is used as fill material, a solid waste handling permit is required from the local jurisdictional Health Department (WAC 173-350-990).

Ecology's comments are based upon information provided by the lead agency. As such, they may not constitute an exhaustive list of the various authorizations that must be obtained or legal requirements that must be fulfilled in order to carry out the proposed action.

If you have any questions or would like to respond to these comments, please contact the appropriate reviewing staff listed above.

Department of Ecology  
Southwest Regional Office

(CR/SM:12-1932)

cc: Mike Drumright, W2R  
Donovan Gray, SEA  
Rebecca Schroeder, SEA  
Donna Bighouse, WDFW (Applicant)