

Dear Interested Parties,

Thank you for your interest in Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife's (WDFW) Skagit Wildlife Area Boat Ramp Maintenance. In the past, the boat launch area has been dredged to maintain use for the public. The ramp area was last dredged in 2007 and before that in 2003. The upcoming project is intended to make ramp use as convenient as possible for the public. Within the permit applications, WDFW is asking regulatory agencies to grant permits for dredging up to annually until the funding is available for a replacement launch.

Funding for a new launch at the wildlife area was requested in the current biennium funding (2013-2015) and was also on the list for next biennium funding (2015-2017). The results of this budget request are not yet known and are still being decided upon for funding releases in July of 2015. It is WDFW's mission to provide sustainable fish and wildlife recreational and commercial opportunities and the Skagit boat launch is no exception. Without prioritized funding, however, a project cannot be designed or implemented that would create a new location or new planks for the ramp.

We appreciate your comments on the upcoming project. Please contact Chris Gourley at 360-902-8392 or Belinda Rotton at the Skagit Wildlife Area at 360-445-4441 if you have any further questions regarding the project.

Thank you,

*Chris Gourley*

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