

From: [Kunz, Jason P \(DFW\)](#)
To: [Atkins, Chad \(ECY\)](#)
Cc: [SEPADesk2 \(DFW\)](#)
Subject: RE: ECOLOGY COMMENTS: Wiltzius Ditch Maintenance Dredging (L Wood)
Date: Tuesday, January 13, 2015 1:59:03 PM
Attachments: [image003.png](#)

Hi Chad,

Thank you for your SEPA comments for the subject project.

I have been in contact with Mr. Mike Glorfield and he seems amendable with the 'V' shape channel and planting ground cover (grass seed) and short-term erosion control (straw mulching).

As for establishing the 35-foot strip, it did not come up, so I called him back and left a message to call me back to discuss. Trying to get him to commit really needs to go through DOE as I am certain that WDFW can't make that a requirement in an HPA. I will just promote the 35-foot strip and in the end, send him your way.

Please know that WDFW's jurisdiction (HPA provisions) needs to focus on the construction work below OHW and protecting baseline conditions of fish habitat (including established riparian that is of value).

With regard to your comment on not dropping the overall channel elevation by more than 3-feet at the lower end of the project . . . I still need to receive and review the engineer plans for the Phases 1 and 2 channel work (profile and cross-section designs in the designated floodplain). Hopefully there are no red flags.

Like DOE, WDFW wants the excavation to only be the amount necessary to re-establish/maintain the previous channel depth and width. WDFW does not want the channel to be steepened/flattened, but rather a stream gradient that can be maintained at a more natural gradient.

With regard to channel hydraulics, WDFW would like to promote the establishment of a channel that is shaped and sized so that the stream works best to transport sediment and maintain habitat functions and values. As with the subject stream, this is likely not possible due to the low gradient stream, high sediment loading, existing altered conditions, and the need to allow the current AG use to occur adjacent to the drainage-course. For this stream scenario, the best outcome is to establish the "grassy swale" that hopefully will have buffer strips where possible.

After talking with Mike, no work can occur until next October due to the wet conditions. Even so, Mike wants to wrap up the HPA sooner rather than later. I suspect SEPA can be issued within the next 2 weeks and HPA can get issued 20-30 days thereafter.

Thank you again for your comments. WDFW will work to ensure no significant impacts to the environment will occur.

Should you have any concerns or comments please respond here or call me anytime.

Sincerely,

Jason Kunz

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