



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

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March 7, 2012

Bob Zeigler
WDFW Regulatory Services Section
600 Capitol Way North
Olympia, WA 98501-1091

RE: LA File# 12-0007
DOE file# 201200823
Applicant WA Dept. of Fish & Wildlife Cindy Knudsen
Project: Samish Lake WDFW Access Area Renovation; Whatcom County

Dear Mr. Zeigler:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on the above referenced Determination. Based on review of the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) checklist associated with this Determination we offer the following comments:

Stormwater runoff can have a significant impact on water quality, introducing sediment and other pollutants into waters of the state. Such pollutants can impair or eliminate aquatic habitat and prevent such waters from having multiple beneficial uses (e.g., fishing, swimming, drinking, etc).

From the SEPA register, it appears that this project may be subject to one of Ecology's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Permits for Stormwater Discharges.

NPDES Construction Stormwater General Permit

Permit coverage is necessary if the project meets the following criteria:

- Any land disturbing activities such as clearing, grading, excavating, and/or demolition that:
 1. Disturb one or more acres of land;
 2. Are "part of a larger common plat of development or sale," that will ultimately disturb one or more acres of land; AND

3. Discharge stormwater from the site into state surface waters or into storm drainage systems which discharge to state surface waters. (Surface waters may include wetlands, ditches, rivers, unnamed creeks, lakes, estuaries, marine waters).

Information regarding the NPDES Construction Stormwater General Permit can be found at:

<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/stormwater/construction/>

NPDES Industrial Stormwater General Permit

Permit Coverage is necessary if the industrial activity at the proposed facility meets the following criteria:

- Industrial activities that:
 1. Are listed in 40 CFR Subpart 122.26(b) (14)
 2. Discharge stormwater from the site into state surface waters or into storm drainage systems which discharge to state surface waters. (Surface waters may include wetlands, ditches, rivers, unnamed creeks, lakes, estuaries, marine waters).

Information regarding the NPDES Industrial Stormwater General Permit can be found at:

<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/stormwater/industrial/index.html>

If you have questions about determining the need for NPDES coverage or you need information regarding applying for and implementing an NPDES please contact us.

Thank you for considering these comments from the Department of Ecology. If you have questions please call either of the following Water Quality Specialists at (360) 715-5200.

Sincerely,



Kurt Baumgarten, Water Quality Specialist

kb:sm

cc: WA Dept. of Fish & Wildlife; Cindy Knudsen
BFO SEPA File