



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

4601 N Monroe Street • Spokane, Washington 99205-1295 • (509)329-3400

November 1, 2012

Mr. Bob Ziegler
Habitat Program
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
600 Capitol Way North
Olympia, WA 98501-1091

Re: College Creek Modification, File # 12-073

Dear Mr. Ziegler:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Determination of Nonsignificance regarding the proposal to excavate a new stream channel (Proponent-Whitman College). The Department of Ecology has reviewed the documents and would like to submit the following comments:

Shorelands and Environmental Assistance Program-Floodplains

If any part of the proposed project involves development within the Special Flood Hazard Area, a Floodplain Development Permit must be issued by the City of Walla Walla. Please contact the City for information about this permit.

Water Quality Program

Proper erosion and sediment control practices must be used on the construction site and adjacent areas to prevent upland sediments from entering surface water. Local stormwater ordinances will provide specific requirements. Also refer to the Stormwater Management Manual for Eastern Washington (http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/stormwater/eastern_manual/manual.html). All ground disturbed by construction activities must be stabilized. When appropriate, use native vegetation typical of the site.

Any operation which would generate a waste discharge or have the potential to impact the quality of state waters, must receive specific prior authorization from the Department of Ecology as provided under Chapter 90.48 RCW, Chapter 173-216 WAC, Chapter 173-220 WAC, Chapter 173-200 WAC and Chapter 173-201A WAC.

Routine inspections and maintenance of all erosion and sediment control Best Management Practices (BMPs) are recommended both during and after development of the site.

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A Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan for the project site may be required and should be developed by a qualified person(s). Erosion and sediment control measures in the plan must be implemented prior to any clearing, grading, or construction. These control measures must be effective to prevent soil from being carried into surface water by stormwater runoff. Sand, silt, and soil can damage aquatic habitat and are considered pollutants. The plan must be upgraded as necessary during the construction period.

Proper disposal of construction debris must be in such a manner that debris cannot enter the natural stormwater drainage system or cause water quality degradation of surface waters. Dumpsters and refuse collection containers shall be durable, corrosion resistant, nonabsorbent, nonleaking, and have close fitting covers. If spillage or leakage does occur, the waste shall be picked up immediately and returned to the container and the area properly cleaned.

The operator of a construction site that disturbs one acre or more of total land area, and which has or will have a discharge of stormwater to a surface water or to a storm sewer, must apply for coverage under Department of Ecology's Construction Stormwater General Permit.

Owners of sites where less than one acre of total land area will be disturbed must also apply if the construction activity is part of a larger plan of development or sale in which more than one acre will eventually be disturbed. Discharge of stormwater from such sites without a permit is illegal and subject to enforcement action by the Department of Ecology.

Application should be made at least 60 days prior to commencement of construction activities. A permit application and related documents are available online at: <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/stormwater/construction>; or by contacting the Water Quality program, Department of Ecology, P.O. Box 47600, Olympia, WA 98504-7600; (360) 407-6401.

State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA)

Ecology's comments are based upon the information submitted for review. As such, they do 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.

Sincerely,



Terri Costello
SEPA Coordinator
Phone: (509) 329-3550
Email: temi461@ecy.wa.gov

2012-5072

cc: John Hopkins, Whitman College