



State of Washington

## **DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE**

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### **ADDENDUM 16-016 TO MITIGATED DETERMINATION OF NONSIGNIFICANCE 13-074 DATED: OCTOBER 28, 2013**

**Name of MDNS: 13-074 SOOS CREEK FISH HATCHERY REDEVELOPMENT**

#### **Description of Original Proposal:**

The first phase includes redevelopment of the critical functions of hatchery operation that are located in or immediately adjacent to Soos Creek. The second phase includes the remaining important elements of the hatchery operation. The third phase completes the redevelopment with support facilities such as staff housing and public amenities that serve visitor needs.

The project will first replace the in-water structures including construction of a new water intake, new adult pond, and creation of a fish ladder. The existing lumber shed will be demolished and removed. The northern bridge across Soos Creek will be widened and elevated and include improvements with timber curbs and hand railing.

Once the new fish ladder, adult ponds, and intake prove fully functional the existing adult pond, diversion dam, intake facility, and downstream weir of the adult pond will be removed. Soos Creek will be restored at the location of the existing adult pond to historic bankfull widths. The upstream weir will be reconstructed with new materials to retain the diversion dam function with a tainter-gate allowing for fish migration up- and down-stream approximately 6 weeks/year. Riparian restoration of the areas impacted by removal of the former in- and near-water structures will be conducted directly upon their removal to complete the first phase of redevelopment.

Redevelopment of the remainder of the fish rearing facilities will follow, in a second phase, including construction of a hatchery building (with incubation racks, rearing troughs, and offices), fish feed storage building, an abatement pond, two water-system settling ponds, and two sets of rearing ponds. Once the new ponds (abatement, settling, and rearing) prove fully functional the outdated southern rearing ponds shall be restored to wetland habitat suitable for the likely hydrology and soils regime that will be established in this location. Demolition of the hatchery buildings and other structures, with the exception of existing rearing ponds 1-8, the storage garage, and the maintenance building, are scheduled for removal during this phase. The remaining areas, mostly within the jurisdictional shoreline area, shall be enhanced with a native vegetative community commensurate with the natural area of this shoreline environment.

The final phase of construct consists of two staff residences and public amenities. Demolition of the old Auburn Maintenance Buildings including: main maintenance building, lumber shed, equipment storage building, and another storage building will occur followed by construct of two residences, parking areas, kiosks, restrooms, paved connections and enhancement and restoration to a substantial portion of former Soos Creek Fish Hatchery.

**The proponent shall incorporate the following mitigation measures into the project:**

The three-part project has been planned methodically to avoid actions that cause adverse environmental effects. Even with efforts to minimize impacts, several components were downsized, there remain unavoidable impacts that require mitigation. The redevelopment has been sequenced to assure that the development impacts occurring in each phase includes mitigation, listed below, that more than adequately addresses these impacts.

**Phase I**

- A. Removal of in-stream adult pond to an adjacent upland location,
- B. Installation of a fish ladder to allow up-stream migrating fish to access the hatchery adult pond and up-stream habitat when released to through return conduit,
- C. Enhancement and/or restoration of riparian zones associated with the former hatchery near-stream facilities, including these areas:
  - 1. existing adult pond, including all of the lower weir (footings, etc.), and
  - 2. existing intake facility, including removal of the diversion dam.
- D. Endangered species, cultural and historical resource considerations shall be fully addressed and mitigation specific to the in-water, and near-water, work proscribed in concert with US Army Corps of Engineers, the Muckleshoot Tribe, the Services (NMFS & USFWS), King County and the Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation. Two listed species are reared in this hatchery: Puget Sound Chinook and Puget Sound steelhead trout. The federal and state environmental review processes include cultural and historical resource considerations.

**Phase II**

- A. Remove southern rearing ponds and restore the whole area to wetland habitat suitable for this location. This restoration plan must be approved, and will be binding, prior to the construction of any new rearing pond; and shall be a required component of the permitting, notably under King County's SMP, prior to Phase II approval. A preliminary restoration plan for Phase II will be included in Phase I reviews.
- B. The hatchery buildings and other structures shall be properly evaluated and inventoried as with regard to their historical significance. A Historic Property Evaluation has been conducted and follow-up reporting is being planned under state and federal regulations (notably Section 106 of the NHPA).
- C. Where structures have been removed, including paved areas, areas shall be enhanced with a native vegetative community commensurate with the natural area of this shoreline environment. As stated above, this enhancement plan must be finalized prior the construction or demolition of any structures; and will be a required component of the permitting with preliminary restoration plans included in Phase I reviews.

**Phase III**

- A. Where structures have been removed, including paved areas, areas shall be enhanced with a native vegetative community commensurate with the natural area of this shoreline environment.
- B. Preliminary restoration plans will be included in Phase I and Phase II reviews with an adequate level of detail to afford public and permit reviewers to determine that mitigation requirements are being met.

**Description of the Addendum:**

- 1) After issuance of the Mitigated DNS for the Soos Creek Fish Hatchery Redevelopment project in October 28, 2013, several design changes occurred over a period 28 months to minimize project impacts to steep slopes, aquatic areas below ordinary high water (OHW), and the aquatic area buffer. These modifications resulted in a 85% reduction of project's footprint within the steep slope areas (those areas with a slope over 15%), and a 66% reduction to the size of in-water fill areas.

- 2) As WDFW worked with King County to complete submission of the Shoreline Substantial Development Permits, the drainage plan was reengineered to meet regulations put forward in the King County Surface Water Design Manual (2009).
  - 3) The project's phased approach has been restructured into a single phase with two parts. The hatchery redevelopment must include a waiting period while certain new facilities "prove" themselves before the existing elements are removed and those areas restored. Notable among these are the water intake, the hatchery building itself, and the rearing ponds. The fish ladder and new adult ponds are very likely going to function adequately, though unanticipated issues could arise. Since in-water summer work windows are limited there will only be enough time to build the new water intake, new water diversion weir, and adjacent fish ladders in year one, during Part-1. A second work window, one year later, or Part-2, will be used to remove the existing intake and other features where below-OHW-work is required, notably to remove and restore the area occupied by the southern rearing ponds. Certain project elements may not receive funding and are included in the plans for permitting purposes. They are necessary in the long and short term, but may not be feasible and have identified as Additive Alternates, in case funding falls short.
  - 4) Certain upland construction activities are planned to occur prior to the first in-water work windows as soon as permits are in place and weather permits. These include demolition of the large wood shed, the required pre-loading of the site, installation of a new bridge, and other out-of-water construction elements that do not require in-water work permits. The site "pre-loading" requires a minimum of three months and several thousand cubic yards of common borrow fill that must be placed and measured for compaction by pre-installed pressure plates. Drawings for all site pre-loading are included in the shoreline drawing set. The northern bridge crossing of Soos Creek will be replaced a new bridge at a three-foot higher elevation, with no work required below OHW.
- Project Part-1:
    - Install sediment and erosion control facilities and delineate construction access corridor.
    - Demolish the large wood shed.
    - Install the new bridge.
    - Demolish the concrete ramp behind the functioning maintenance building.
    - Replace the in-water structures including the adult pond, and create a fish ladder. This construction is scheduled for calendar year 2017, primarily May through October.
    - Construct a new water intake facility with associated pipelines throughout the hatchery facility.
    - Construct a fish ladder providing fish passage through the proposed set of adult ponds with a connection back into Soos Creek.
    - Construct a juvenile fish ladder for up- and down-stream passage of aquatic life other than adult salmonids.
    - Construct adult ponds, settling ponds, abatement pond, and rearing ponds, including the 4 outdoor fiberglass trough rearing ponds.
    - Construct a new hatchery building with incubation racks, and rearing troughs.
    - Construct the office building (demolish storage building).
    - Remove and restore the adult pond including removal of the downstream weir, and restoration of the creek environment at the existing adult pond including installation of large woody material and riparian plantings.
    - Implement Landscape Plan for Phase IA including riparian enhancement planting on

river-right and river-left bank between proposed water intake and the northern extent of project.

- Additive Alternates:
  - Demolish the Old Auburn Maintenance Building
  - Construct two residences, parking areas, make paved connections, and implement the resident landscape plan.
  - Construct a centrally located micro-filtration facility (building is approx. 25' x 50').
  
- Project Part-2: The second part of the in-water work will occur in summer of 2018, a year after the new intake facility has proven its function to specifications. Removal of the existing sheet pile diversion dam, the existing intake, and all other hatchery features scheduled for demolition and restoration would occur in late 2017 or 2018 once the new structures have proven themselves.
  - Demolish hatchery buildings and structures scheduled for removal including: hatchery building, concrete and asphalt rearing ponds, and abatement pond.
  - Remove the diversion dam and the existing intake and restore creek with prescribed fill material, large woody material and riparian plantings.
  - Implement Landscape Plan for Part-2 including Wetland Mitigation Plan.
  - Remove the rearing ponds on the southern part of property and restore and/or enhance to wetland habitat per Wetland Mitigation Plan.
  - Implement Landscape Plan for Part-2 including riparian enhancement plantings on river-left at the site of the demolished hatchery building, concrete and asphalt rearing ponds. One portion of the asphalt pond outside of the shoreline zone will be resurfaced as a decanting area for clean river sediments.

**Proponent/Applicant:** Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife  
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**Location of Project or Action:** WDFW Soos Creek Hatchery, 13030 SE Auburn-Black Diamond Road, Auburn, King County, Washington; Township 21 North, Range 05 East WM, Section 16.

**Lead Agency:** Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

**This addendum is being distributed pursuant to WACs 197-11-600 and 197-11-625. The updated information provided above does not substantially change the analysis of significant impacts in the existing environmental checklist. The project impacts have, however, been significantly reduced. Based on the original DNS and the updated information provided in this addendum, we have determined that a new threshold determination is not warranted. There is no comment period associated with this SEPA addendum.**

**Responsible Official:** Steve Bell, back up for Lisa Wood

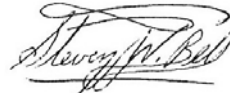
**Position/Title:** SEPA/NEPA Coordinator, WDFW Regulatory Services Section

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If you have questions about this action, contact Steve Bell at the address above,  
[SEPADesk2@dfw.wa.gov](mailto:SEPADesk2@dfw.wa.gov), phone (360) 902-2260, or fax (360) 902-2598.

**DATE OF ISSUE:** March 30, 2016

**SIGNATURE:**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steve W. Bell". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent initial "S".

SEPA Log Number: 16-016 add (Soos Creek Fish Hatchery Redevelopment DNS 13-074)