

Public Notice of Request for Clean Water Act Section 401 Water Quality Certification

Public Notice Date: June 30,2025, 12:01 am Comment Period Ends: July 22, 2025, 11:59 pm

The Department of Ecology (Ecology) has received the following request for Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 401 Water Quality Certification (WQC). Pursuant to Section 401 of the CWA, applicants for a federal license or permit for activities which may discharge to waters of the United States must seek WQC from the state with jurisdiction.

Under Section 401 of the CWA, federal agencies cannot issue a license or permit before Ecology makes a decision on a WQC request or waives the right to review. Any conditions that are included in the WQC then become conditions of the federal permit or license. For information regarding Ecology's CWA Section 401 WQC, please visit Ecology's webpage.

Ecology is seeking comments from the public, state and local agencies, tribes, and other interested parties regarding the proposed activity.

Comments on this public notice will be accepted and made part of the record. Please specify project name and Aquatics identification number when submitting comments.

For additional information or to submit comments, please email the address below:

Department of Ecology—SEA Program Federal Permit Unit Email - ecyrefedpermits@ecy.wa.gov

1. Aquatics ID: 143495

Federal Reference #: NWS-2024-0159

Project Name: Kelsey Creek Culvert and Lake Hills Boulevard Water and Sewer Replacement

Applicant: Bellevue City of Utilities Department

Location: Lake Hills Boulevard between 151st Ave SE and 154th Ave SE and East of 151st Ave SE

between Lake Hills Boulevard and 1214 151st Ave SE, Bellevue, King County

Description: The project proposes to replace three culverts conveying Kelsey Creek under Lake Hills Blvd with a single 14 feet wide, 10 feet high, 77 feet long, three-sided culvert providing sufficient capacity for stream flows, fish passage, and traffic loads. The existing crossing pipes will be plugged and decommissioned in-place following the Kelsey Creek diversion to the new culvert. The proponent also proposes to abandon approximately 700 feet of sewer main, remove and replace approximately 900 feet of sewer main, abandon or remove approximately 730 feet of water main,

and install approximately 850 feet of new water main. Kelsey Creek will be partially relocated and restored as a multi-thread channel upstream of the relocated culvert crossing. Through and downstream of the crossing, the creek will be a single channel. This involves grading in the existing channel and grading new channel from wetland. Project construction also includes roadway improvements, storm drainage improvements, trail construction, and landscaping.

2. Aquatics ID: 145709

Project Name: Upper Reach Cle Elum River Restoration

Applicant: U.S. Forest Service

Location: Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, Salmon la Sac Road, Kittitas County

Description: This project is designed to increase spawning and rearing habitat within the Cle Elum River for re-introduced anadromous fishes above the Cle Elum Dam. Project elements include reconstruction of historic flowpaths to increase total channel length, reduce Stream Energy and increase extent and duration of floodplain inundation, log jam construction to increase habitat complexity and facilitate pool development and riparian planting to increase stream shade and enhance riparian wetland communities.

3. Aquatics ID: 143579

Federal Reference #: NWS-2024-179

Project Name: Newport Yacht Club Bulkhead Replacement

Applicant: Newport Yacht Club

Location: 81 Skagit Key, Bellevue, King County

Description: The applicant proposes to replace a total of 248 linear feet (LF) of existing creosote-treated timber bulkhead with approximately 260 LF of a steel sheet pile bulkhead, which would be installed landward of the existing bulkhead location above ordinary high water (OHW). The difference in length is due to the placement of the new bulkhead landward of the existing bulkhead and an adjustment in the alignment to correct angles/connections for constructability. The project also proposes to install approximately 117 LF of sheet pile bulkhead landward of existing beach riprap between timber bulkhead segments. The area behind the existing bulkhead would be excavated, timber would be removed, and sheet piles would then be installed via vibratory hammer. Work would occur in the dry when the lake is at a water level below the existing bulkhead.