



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

PO Box 47600, Olympia, WA 98504-7600 • 360-407-6000

March 8, 2023

Port of Bellingham  
Attn: Brian Gouran  
1801 Roeder Avenue  
Bellingham, WA 98225

Re: Water Quality Certification Order No. **21610** (Corps No. **NWS-2022-141**), Bellingham Shipping Terminal Maintenance Dredging – Berths 1 and 2, Whatcom County, Washington

Dear Brian Gouran:

On March 11, 2022, the Port of Bellingham submitted a request for a Section 401 Water Quality Certification (WQC) under the federal Clean Water Act for the Bellingham Shipping Terminal Maintenance Dredging – Berths 1 and 2, Whatcom County, Washington.

On behalf of the state of Washington, the Department of Ecology certifies that the work described in the Water Quality Certification Request and supplemental documents complies with applicable provisions of Sections 301, 302, 303, 306, and 307 of the Clean Water Act, as amended, and applicable state laws. This certification is subject to the enclosed Water Quality Certification Order (WQC Order).

Please ensure that anyone doing work under this WQC Order has read, is familiar with, and is able to follow all of the provisions within the attached WQC Order.

If you have any questions about this decision, please contact Laura Inouye at (360) 515-8213. The enclosed WQC Order may be appealed by following the procedures described within.

Sincerely,

Brenden McFarland, Section Manager  
Environmental Review and Transportation Section  
Shorelands and Environmental Assistance Program

By certified mail 9489 0090 0027 6383 9289 44

Sent via e-mail: [briang@portofbellingham.com](mailto:briang@portofbellingham.com)

Enclosure 2

*WQC Order No. 21610, Corps No. NWS-2022-141*

*Aquatics ID No. 141473*

*March 8, 2023*

*Page 2 of 2*

E-cc: Kelly Werdick, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Matthew Bennet, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Loree' Randall, Ecology  
Laura Inouye, Ecology  
Lucy McInerny, Ecology  
ECYREFEDPERMITS@ecy.wa.gov



<b>IN THE MATTER OF GRANTING A WATER</b>	)	<b>WQC ORDER No. 21610</b>
<b>QUALITY CERTIFICATION TO</b>	)	<b>Corps Reference No. NWS-2022-141</b>
Port of Bellingham	)	Bellingham Shipping Terminal Maintenance
pursuant to 33 U.S.C. 1341 (FWPCA	)	Dredging – Berths 1 and 2, Whatcom Waterway,
§ 401), RCW 90.48.120, RCW 90.48.260	)	located in Whatcom County, Washington.
and Chapter 173-201A WAC	)	

Port of Bellingham  
 Attn: Brian Gouran  
 1801 Roeder Avenue  
 Bellingham, WA 98225

The Port of Bellingham submitted a request for a Section 401 Water Quality Certification (WQC) under the federal Clean Water Act to the Department of Ecology (Ecology) for the Bellingham Shipping Terminal Maintenance Dredging – Berths 1 and 2, Whatcom County, Washington. The following processing dates are referenced below:

- On March 11, 2022, Ecology received a request for Clean Water Section 401 Water Quality Certification.
- On March 16, 2022, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) and Ecology issued a joint public notice for the project.

The project proposes to undertake maintenance dredging of Berths 1 and 2 and the Bellingham Shipping Terminal. Work would involve removal of up to 19,000 cubic yards of accumulated sediments from an area of 3.1 acres. The proposed dredge prism would have a finished dredge elevation of -35.5 feet MLLW (+1 foot allowable over dredge) to accommodate the placement of the 6-inch residual management cover (RMC) layer and allow for a final design elevation of -35 feet MLLW for safe vessel access. The dredging would extend up the slope under the wharf to minimize sloughing from future erosion of that slope. Approximately 4,000 cubic yards (cy) would be removed from beneath the wharf. RMC material would not be placed beneath the wharf. A minimum 6-inch layer (approximately 2,000 cy) of clean sand RMC material would be placed in an area of 2.45 acres after dredging to address the potential presence of residual contaminated sediment left behind after dredging is completed in accordance with the existing Whatcom Waterway MTCA Consent Decree. The RMC layer would be placed using clamshell equipment. Dredging would be accomplished using mechanical (e.g., clamshell) dredging equipment operated from a barge. Dredged material would be disposed of at an upland landfill site.

The project site is located at Whatcom Waterway, Bellingham Bay, Whatcom County, Washington, Section NE 1/4, Section 36, Township 38 N, Range 2 E, within Water Resource Inventory Area (WRIA) 1 - Nooksack.

## AUTHORITIES

In exercising authority under 33 U.S.C. §1341, RCW 90.48.120, and RCW 90.48.260, Ecology has reviewed this WQC request pursuant to the following:

1. Conformance with applicable water quality-based, technology-based, and toxic or pretreatment effluent limitations as provided under 33 U.S.C. §§1311, 1312, 1313, 1316, and 1317.
2. Conformance with the state water quality standards contained in Chapter 173-201A WAC and authorized by 33 U.S.C. §1313 and by Chapter 90.48 RCW, and with other applicable state laws; and
3. Conformance with the provision of using all known, available and reasonable methods to prevent and control pollution of state waters as required by RCW 90.48.010.
4. Conformance with Washington's prohibition on discharges that cause or tend to cause pollution of waters of the state of Washington. RCW 90.48.080.
5. The Project Proponent of the project authorized is responsible for obtaining all other permits, licenses, and certifications that may be required by federal, state, local or tribal authorities.

With this Water Quality Certification Order (WQC Order), Ecology is granting with conditions the Port of Bellingham's request for a Section 401 Water Quality Certification for the Bellingham Shipping Terminal, Whatcom Waterway, located in Whatcom County. Ecology has determined that the proposed discharges will comply with all applicable state water quality and other appropriate requirements of State law, provided the project is conducted in accordance with the WQC request that Ecology received on March 11, 2022, the supporting documents referenced in Table 1 below, **and the conditions of this WQC Order.**

**Table 1.** Supporting Documents

Date Received	Document Type	Title and Date	Author
March 11, 2022	Joint Aquatic Resources Permit Application (JARPA) Form	JARPA (signed February 7, 2022)	Victoria England, Moffat and Nichol

Date Received	Document Type	Title and Date	Author
May 6, 2022	Water Quality Monitoring Plan	Water Quality Monitoring Plan, Port of Bellingham: Bellingham Shipping Terminal Maintenance Dredging, Revision 4 (May 2022)	Moffat and Nichol
February 1, 2023	State Environmental Policy Act	Determination of Non-Significance, dated January 31, 2023	Kurt Nabbefeld, City of Bellingham
February 13, 2023	Biological Evaluation	Biological Evaluation, Port of Bellingham, Bellingham Shipping Terminal (BST) Marine Infrastructure Maintenance and Rehabilitation, January 24, 2022	Moffat and Nichol
February 28, 2023	Engineering Design Report	Engineering Design Report: Unit 1C Dredging (February 2023)	Anchor QEA

Issuance of this Section 401 Water Quality Certification for this proposal does not authorize the Port of Bellingham to exceed applicable state water quality standards (Chapter 173-201A WAC), ground water quality standards (Chapter 173-200 WAC) or sediment quality standards (Chapter 173-204 WAC) or other appropriate requirements of State law. Furthermore, nothing in this Section 401 Water Quality Certification absolves the Port of Bellingham from liability for contamination and any subsequent cleanup of surface waters, ground waters, or sediments resulting from project construction or operations.

#### **Water Quality Certification Conditions**

The following conditions will be incorporated into the Corps permit and strictly adhered to by the Port of Bellingham. Specific condition justifications and citations are provided below each condition in *italic text*.

#### **A. General Conditions**

1. In this WQC Order, the term “Project Proponent” shall mean the Port of Bellingham and its agents, assignees, and contractors.

- *Justification - Ecology needs to identify that conditions of this WQC Order apply to anyone conducting work on behalf of the Project Proponent to ensure compliance with the water quality standards and other applicable state laws.*
  - *Citation - 40 CFR 121.1(j), Chapter 90.48 RCW, RCW 90.48.080, RCW 90.48.120, RCW 90.48.260, Chapter 173-200 WAC, Chapter 173-201A WAC, and WAC 173-225-010.*
2. All submittals required by this WQC Order shall be sent to Ecology's Headquarters Office, Attn: Federal Permit Manager, via e-mail to [fednotification@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:fednotification@ecy.wa.gov) and cc to [Laura.Inouye@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:Laura.Inouye@ecy.wa.gov). The submittals shall be identified with WQC Order No. 21610 and include the Project Proponent's name, Corps permit number, project name, project contact, and the contact phone number.
- *Justification - Ecology needs to identify where information and submittals are to be submitted to be in compliance with the requirements of this WQC Order.*
  - *Citation - Chapter 90.48 RCW, RCW 90.48.120, RCW 90.48.260, Chapter 173-201A WAC, and WAC 173-225-010.*
3. Work authorized by this WQC Order is limited to the work described in the WQC request package received by Ecology on March 11, 2022, and the supporting documentation identified in Table 1.
- *Justification - Ecology has the authority to prevent and control pollution of state waters. By authorizing a discharge into a water of the state, through a WQC, Ecology is certifying the project as proposed will not negatively impact water quality. Therefore, it is imperative the project is conducted as it was presented during the review process. Any deviations from information within the WQC Request package and this WQC Order must be disclosed prior to the initiation of the planned work and may require a new WQC request.*
  - *Citation - 40 CFR 121.5, 40 CFR 121.10, 40 CFR 121.11, Chapter 90.48 RCW, RCW 90.48.030, RCW 90.48.120, RCW 90.48.260, Chapter 173-200 WAC, Chapter 173-201A WAC, Chapter 173-204 WAC, and WAC 173-225-010.*
4. The Project Proponent shall keep copies of this WQC Order on the job site and readily available for reference by Ecology personnel, the construction superintendent, construction managers and lead workers, and state and local government inspectors.
- *Justification - All parties (including on-site contractors) must be aware of and comply with the WQC Order for the protection of water quality.*

- *Citation - Chapter 90.48 RCW, RCW 90.48.030, Chapter 173-201A WAC, and WAC 173-225-010.*
5. The Project Proponent shall provide access to the project site and all mitigation sites upon request by Ecology personnel for site inspections, monitoring, and/or necessary data collection, to ensure that conditions of this WQC Order are being met.
- *Justification - Ecology must be able to investigate and inspect construction sites and facilities for compliance with all state rules and laws.*
  - *Citation - Chapter 90.48 RCW, RCW 90.48.030, RCW 90.48.090, RCW 90.48.120, Chapter 173-201A WAC, and WAC 173-225-010.*
6. The Project Proponent shall ensure that all project engineers, contractors, and other workers at the project site with authority to direct work have read and understand relevant conditions of this WQC Order and all permits, approvals, and documents referenced in this WQC Order. The Project Proponent shall provide Ecology a signed statement (see Attachment A for an example) before construction begins.
- *Justification - Ecology needs to ensure that anyone conducting work at the project, on behalf of the Project Proponent, are aware of and understand the required conditions of this WQC Order to ensure compliance with the water quality standards and other applicable state laws.*
  - *Citation - Chapter 90.48 RCW, RCW 90.48.030, Chapter 173-201A WAC, and WAC 173-225-010.*
7. This WQC Order does not authorize direct, indirect, permanent, or temporary impacts to waters of the state or related aquatic resources, except as specifically provided for in conditions of this WQC Order.
- *Justification - Ecology has the authority to prevent and control pollution of state waters, and to protect designated uses. By authorizing a discharge into a water of the state, through a water quality certification, Ecology is certifying the project as proposed will not negatively impact state water quality and will comply with the state's water quality requirements. Therefore, it is imperative the project is conducted as it was presented during the review process, and as conditioned herein.*
  - *Citation - Chapter 90.48 RCW, RCW 90.48.030, RCW 90.48.120, Chapter 173-200 WAC, Chapter 173-201A WAC, WAC 173-201A-300(2)(e)(i), WAC 173-201A-310, WAC 173-204-120, and WAC 173-225-010.*

8. Failure of any person or entity to comply with the WQC Order may result in the issuance of civil penalties or other actions, whether administrative or judicial, to enforce the state's water quality standards and the conditions of this WQC Order.
  - *Justification - Ecology must protect waters of the state from all discharges and potential discharges of pollution that can affect water quality to protect aquatic life and beneficial uses. Ecology has independent state authority to ensure protection of state water quality. Civil penalties and other enforcement actions are the primary means of securing compliance with water quality requirements.*
  - *Citation - Chapter 90.48 RCW, RCW 90.48.030, RCW 90.48.037, RCW 90.48.080, RCW 90.48.120, RCW 90.48.140, RCW 90.48.142, RCW 90.48.144, and WAC 173-225-010.*
9. The Project Proponent shall provide Ecology documentation for review before undertaking any major changes to the proposed project that could significantly and adversely affect water quality, other than those project changes required by this WQC Order.
  - *Justification - Ecology has independent authority to enforce our 401 certification conditions issued through this WQC Order pursuant to RCW 90.48 and has independent state authority to ensure protection of state water quality. In order to ensure the project will comply with water quality standards in the event of any major changes, Ecology must be able to review the scope of work involved in the construction and operation of the project, otherwise all work must stop and a new 401 certification pre-filing meeting, followed by a new WQC request (after requisite 30-days) is required.*
  - *Citation - 40 CFR 121.1(k) and (n), 40 CFR 121.3, 40 CFR 121.5, 40 CFR 121.11, Chapter 90.48 RCW, and Chapter 173-201 WAC.*
10. The Project Proponent shall send (per A.2.) a copy of the final Federal permit to Ecology's Federal Permit Manager within two weeks of receiving it.
  - *Justification - This condition is needed to ensure that all the conditions of the WQC Order have been incorporated into the federal permit.*
  - *Citation - 40 CFR 121.10, 40 CFR 121.11 and Chapter 90.48 RCW.*
11. This WQC Order will automatically transfer to a new owner or operator if:
  - a. A Request for Transfer of Order form is completed between the Project Proponent and new owner or operator with the specific transfer date of the WQC Order's obligations, coverage,



and liability and submitted to Ecology per condition A.2. Link to form:

<https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/publications/SummaryPages/ECY070695.html>;

b. A copy of this WQC Order is provided to the new owner or operator; and Ecology does not notify the new Project Proponent that a new WQC Order is required to complete the transfer.

- *Justification – Ecology has independent state authority to ensure protection of state water quality. Ecology needs to ensure that anyone conducting work at the project, including any new owners or operators, are aware of and understand the required conditions of this WQC Order to ensure compliance with the water quality standards and other applicable state laws.*
- *Citation – 40 CFR 121.5, Chapter 90.48 RCW, RCW 90.48.030, Chapter 173-201A WAC, and WAC 173-225-010.*

## **B. Notification Requirements**

1. The following notifications shall be made via phone or e-mail (e-mail is preferred) to Ecology's Federal Permit Manager via e-mail to [fednotification@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:fednotification@ecy.wa.gov) and cc to [Laura.Inouye@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:Laura.Inouye@ecy.wa.gov). Notifications shall be identified with WQC Order No. 21610 Corps Reference No. NWS-2022-141, and include the Project Proponent name, project name, project location, project contact and the phone number.
  - a. Immediately following a violation of state water quality standards or when the project is out of compliance with any conditions of this WQC Order;
  - b. At least ten (10) days prior to all pre-construction meetings;
  - c. At least ten (10) days prior to conducting initial in-water work activities; and
  - d. Within seven (7) days of completion of each in-water work activities.
    - *Justification - Ecology has independent state authority to ensure protection of state water quality. Ecology must be aware of when a project starts and ends and whether there are any issues. This allows Ecology to evaluate compliance with the state water quality requirements.*
    - *Citation - Chapter 90.48 RCW, RCW 90.48.030, RCW 90.48.120, Chapter 173-201A WAC, WAC 173-201A-300 - 330, Chapter 173-204 WAC, and WAC 173-225-010.*

2. In addition to the phone or e-mail notification required under B.1.a. above, the Project Proponent shall submit a detailed written report to Ecology within five (5) days that describes the nature of the event, corrective action taken and/or planned, steps to be taken to prevent a recurrence, results of any samples taken, and any other pertinent information.
  - *Justification - Ecology has independent state authority to ensure protection of state water quality. This condition is intended to assure the Project Proponent remains in full compliance with state water quality requirements for the duration of the project.*
  - *Citation - Chapter 90.48 RCW, RCW 90.48.120, Chapter 173-201A WAC, and WAC 173-225-010.*

### C. Timing

1. This WQC Order is effective upon issuance of the U.S. Corps of Engineers (Corps) individual permit for this project and will remain valid for the duration of the associated permit for the project.
  - *Justification – Certifications are required for any license or permit that authorizes an activity that may result in a discharge or fill material into waters. This WQC Order is not valid until the Federal agency issues a permit. Additionally, Ecology needs to be able to specify how long the WQC Order will be in effect.*
  - *Citation –Chapter 90.48 RCW, Chapter 173-201A WAC, and WAC 173-225-010.*
2. The following in-water work windows apply to the project:
  - a. All activities within the wetted perimeter of the Whatcom Waterway may be conducted between August 1 through February 15 of any year.
    - *Justification - This condition is reaffirming the project will take place during a time period that will not harm fish or other aquatic species.*
    - *Citation - Chapter 77.55 RCW, Chapter 90.48 RCW, RCW 90.48.030, RCW 90.48.080, Chapter 173-201A WAC, WAC 173-201A-300, WAC 173-201A-330, WAC 173-225-010, and Chapter 220-660 WAC.*
3. Any project change that requires a new or revised Hydraulic Project Approval (HPA) from the Department of Fish and Wildlife should be sent to Ecology for review before the change is implemented.

- *Justification - This condition is reaffirming the project will take place during a time period that will not harm fish or other aquatic species.*
- *Citation - Chapter 77.55 RCW, Chapter 90.48 RCW, RCW 90.48.030, RCW 90.48.080, Chapter 173-201A WAC, WAC 173-201A-300, WAC 173-201A-330, WAC 173-225-010, and Chapter 220-660 WAC.*

#### **D. Water Quality Monitoring and Criteria**

1. This WQC Order does not authorize the Project Proponent to exceed applicable water quality standards beyond the limits established in Chapter 173-201A WAC, except as authorized by this WQC Order.
  - *Justification - This condition ensures compliance with water quality standards to protect surface waters of the state. Ecology must protect waters of the state from all discharges and potential discharges of pollution that can affect water quality to protect aquatic life and beneficial uses.*
  - *Citation - Chapter 90.48 RCW, RCW 90.48.030, RCW 90.48.080, Chapter 173-201A WAC, WAC 173-201A-300 - 330, WAC 173-204-120, and WAC 173-225-010.*
2. For in-water activities within marine waters turbidity shall not exceed 5 NTU over background when the background is 50 NTU or less; or a 10% percent increase in turbidity when the background turbidity is more than 50 NTU.
  - *Justification - Ecology must protect waters of the state from all discharges and potential discharges of pollution and prevent exceedances of the water quality standards that protect aquatic life and beneficial uses.*
  - *Citation - Chapter 90.48 RCW, RCW 90.48.030, RCW 90.48.080, Chapter 173-201A WAC, WAC 173-201A-300 - 330, WAC 173-204-120, and WAC 173-225-010.*
3. This WQC Order does not authorize the Project Proponent to exceed applicable turbidity standards beyond the limits established in Chapter 173-201A WAC as set forth below, unless otherwise authorized in this WQC Order. Temporary area of mixing for turbidity established within the state water quality standards for marine waters (WAC 173-201A-210) is as follows:
  - i. For estuaries or marine waters, the point of compliance for a temporary area of mixing shall be at a radius of one hundred fifty feet from the activity causing the turbidity exceedance.

- *Justification - Ecology must protect waters of the state from all discharges and potential discharges of pollution and prevent exceedances of the water quality standards that protect aquatic life and beneficial uses.*
  - *Citation - Chapter 90.48 RCW, RCW 90.48.030, RCW 90.48.080, Chapter 173-201A WAC, WAC 173-201A-300 - 330, WAC 173-204-120, and WAC 173-225-010.*
4. The Project Proponent shall conduct water quality monitoring as described in the approved Water Quality Monitoring Plan, identified in Table 1 (hereafter referred to as the WQMP).
- *Justification - Ecology must protect waters of the state from all discharges and potential discharges of pollution and prevent exceedances of the water quality standards that protect aquatic life and beneficial uses.*
  - *Citation - RCW 90.48, RCW 90.48.030, Chapter 173-201A WAC, 173-201A-300-330 and WAC 173-225-010.*
5. If water quality exceedances for turbidity are observed outside the point of compliance, work shall cease immediately and the Project Proponent or the contractor shall assess the cause of the water quality problem and take immediate action to stop, contain, and correct the problem and prevent further water quality turbidity exceedances.
- *Justification - Ecology must protect waters of the state from all discharges and potential discharges of pollution and prevent exceedances of the water quality standards that protect aquatic life and beneficial uses.*
  - *Citation - Chapter 90.48 RCW, RCW 90.48.030, RCW 90.48.080, Chapter 173-201A WAC, WAC 173-201A-300 - 330, WAC 173-204-120, and WAC 173-225-010.*
6. Visible turbidity anywhere beyond the temporary area of mixing (point of compliance) from the activity, shall be considered an exceedance of the standard.
- *Justification - Ecology must protect waters of the state from all discharges and potential discharges of pollution and prevent exceedances of the water quality standards that protect aquatic life and beneficial uses.*
  - *Citation - Chapter 90.48 RCW, RCW 90.48.030, RCW 90.48.080, Chapter 173-201A WAC, WAC 173-201A-300 - 330, WAC 173-204-120, and WAC 173-225-010.*
7. Monitoring results shall be submitted weekly to Ecology's Federal Permit Manager, per condition A.2.

- *Justification - Ecology must protect waters of the state from all discharges and potential discharges of pollution and prevent exceedances of the water quality standards that protect aquatic life and beneficial uses.*
  - *Citation - Chapter 90.48 RCW, RCW 90.48.030, RCW 90.48.080, Chapter 173-201A WAC, WAC 173-201A-300 - 330, WAC 173-204-120, and WAC 173-225-010.*
8. Ecology may ask or could use its discretionary authority to require the Project Proponent to provide mitigation and/or additional monitoring if the monitoring results indicate that the water quality standards have not been met.
- *Justification - Ecology must protect waters of the state from all discharges and potential discharges of pollution and ensure that aquatic life and beneficial uses are protected.*
  - *Citation - RCW 90.48, RCW 90.48.010, RCW 90.48.030, RCW 90.48.080, RCW 90.48.120, Chapter 173-201A WAC, 173-201A-300-330 WAC, Chapter 173-204 WAC.*

## **E. Construction**

### General Conditions

1. All work in and near waters of the state shall be conducted to minimize turbidity, erosion, and other water quality impacts. Construction stormwater, sediment, and erosion control Best Management Practices (BMPs) suitable to prevent exceedances of state water quality standards shall be in place before starting maintenance and shall be maintained throughout the duration of the activity.
  - *Justification - Disturbed areas without appropriate BMPs and construction methods can discharge excess sediment to waters of the state and degrade water quality. Ecology must protect waters of the state from all discharges and potential discharges of pollution that can affect water quality to protect aquatic life and beneficial uses.*
  - *Citation - Chapter 90.48 RCW, Chapter 90.48.030 RCW, Chapter 90.48.080 RCW, Chapter 173-201A WAC, Chapter 173-201A-300-330 WAC, Chapter 173-204-120 WAC, and Chapter 173-225-010 WAC.*
2. All clearing limits, stockpiles, staging areas, and trees to be preserved shall clearly be marked prior to commencing construction activities and maintained until all work is completed for each project.

- *Justification - Ensures that the project proponent preserves sensitive areas from discharges and potential discharges of pollution that can affect water quality to protect aquatic life and beneficial uses.*
  - *Citation - Chapter 90.48 RCW, RCW 90.48.030, RCW 90.48.080, Chapter 173-201A WAC, WAC 173-201A-300 - 330, WAC 173-204-120, and WAC 173-225-010.*
3. No stockpiling or staging of materials shall occur at or below the OHWM of any waterbody.
- *Justification - Ecology must protect waters of the state from all discharges and potential discharges of pollution that can affect water quality to protect aquatic life and beneficial uses.*
  - *Citation - Chapter 90.48 RCW, RCW 90.48.030, RCW 90.48.080, Chapter 173-201A WAC, WAC 173-201A-300 - 330, WAC 173-204-120, and WAC 173-225-010.*
4. The Project Proponent shall obtain and comply with the conditions of the Construction Stormwater General Permit (National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System - NPDES) issued for this project.
- *Justification - Ecology must protect waters of the state from all discharges and potential discharges of pollution that can affect water quality to protect aquatic life and beneficial uses.*
  - *Citation – Chapter 90.48 RCW, RCW 90.48.030, RCW 90.48.080, RCW 90.48.260, Chapter 173-201A WAC, WAC 173-201A-300 - 330, WAC 173-204-120, and WAC 173-225-010.*
5. No petroleum products, fresh concrete, lime or concrete, chemicals, or other toxic or deleterious materials shall be allowed to enter waters of the state.
- *Justification - Ecology must protect waters of the state from all discharges and potential discharges of pollution that can affect water quality to protect aquatic life and beneficial uses.*
  - *Citation - Chapter 90.48 RCW, RCW 90.48.030, RCW 90.48.080, Chapter 173-201A WAC, WAC 173-201A-300 - 330, WAC 173-204-120, and WAC 173-225-010.*
6. All construction debris, excess sediment, and other solid waste material shall be properly managed and disposed of in an upland disposal site approved by the appropriate regulatory authority.

- *Justification - Ecology must be assured that the Project Proponent is managing and disposing of material to protect waters of the state from all discharges and potential discharges of pollution that can affect water quality to protect aquatic life and beneficial uses.*
  - *Citation - Chapter 90.48 RCW, RCW 90.48.030, RCW 90.48.080, Chapter 173-201A WAC, WAC 173-201A-300 - 330, WAC 173-204-120, and WAC 173-225-010.*
7. All equipment being used below the ordinary high water mark shall utilize biodegradable hydraulic fluid.
- *Justification - Ecology must protect waters of the state from all discharges and potential discharges of pollution that can affect water quality to protect aquatic life and beneficial uses.*
  - *Citation - Chapter 90.48 RCW, RCW 90.48.030, RCW 90.48.080, Chapter 173-201A WAC, WAC 173-201A-300 - 330, WAC 173-204-120, and WAC 173-225-010.*
8. Applicant shall ensure that fill (soil, gravel, or other material) placed for the proposed project does not contain toxic materials in toxic amounts.
- *Justification - Ecology must protect waters of the state from all discharges and potential discharges of pollution that can affect water quality to protect aquatic life and beneficial uses.*
  - *Citation - Chapter 90.48 RCW, RCW 90.48.030, RCW 90.48.080, Chapter 173-201A WAC, WAC 173-201A-300-330, WAC 173-204-120, and WAC 173-225-010.*

#### Equipment and Maintenance

9. Staging areas will be located a minimum of 50 feet and, where practical, 200 feet, from waters of the state, including wetlands, unless otherwise requested by the project proponent and authorized by Ecology.
- *Justification - Requiring a minimum setback ensures that material will not end up in waters of the state. Ecology must protect waters of the state from all discharges and potential discharges of pollution that can affect water quality to protect aquatic life and beneficial uses.*
  - *Citation - Chapter 90.48 RCW, RCW 90.48.030, RCW 90.48.080, Chapter 173-201A WAC, WAC 173-201A-300 - 330, WAC 173-204-120, and WAC 173-225-010.*

10. Equipment used for this project shall be free of external petroleum-based products while used around the waters of the state, including wetlands. Accumulation of soils or debris shall be removed from the drive mechanisms (wheels, tires, tracks, etc.) and the undercarriage of equipment prior to its use around waters of the state, including wetlands.

- *Justification - Ecology must protect waters of the state from all discharges and potential discharges of pollution that can affect water quality to protect aquatic life and beneficial uses.*
- *Citation - Chapter 90.48 RCW, RCW 90.48.030, RCW 90.48.080, Chapter 90.56 RCW, Chapter 173-201A WAC, WAC 173-201A-300 - 330, WAC 173-204-120, and WAC 173-225-010.*

11. No equipment shall enter, operate, be stored or parked within any sensitive area except as specifically provided for in this WQC Order.

- *Justification - Ecology must protect waters of the state from all discharges and potential discharges of pollution that can affect water quality to protect aquatic life and beneficial uses.*
- *Citation - Chapter 90.48 RCW, RCW 90.48.030, RCW 90.48.080, Chapter 173-201A WAC, WAC 173-201A-300 - 330, WAC 173-204-120, and WAC 173-225-010.*

12. Fuel hoses, oil drums, oil or fuel transfer valves and fittings, etc., shall be checked regularly for drips or leaks, and shall be maintained and stored properly to prevent spills into state waters.

- *Justification - Ecology must protect waters of the state from all discharges and potential discharges of pollution that can affect water quality to protect aquatic life and beneficial uses.*
- *Citation - Chapter 90.48 RCW, RCW 90.48.030, RCW 90.48.080, Chapter 90.56 RCW, Chapter 173-200, Chapter 173-201A WAC, WAC 173-201A-300 - 330, WAC 173-204-120, and WAC 173-225-010.*

13. Wash water containing oils, grease, or other hazardous materials resulting from washing of equipment or working areas shall not be discharged into state waters. The Project Proponent shall set up a designated area for washing down equipment.

- *Justification - Ecology must protect waters of the state from all discharges and potential discharges of pollution that can affect water quality to protect aquatic life and beneficial uses.*



- *Citation - Chapter 90.48 RCW, RCW 90.48.030, RCW 90.48.080, Chapter 90.56 RCW, Chapter 173-201A WAC, WAC 173-201A-300 - 330, WAC 173-204-120, and WAC 173-225-010.*

14. Barges shall not be allowed to ground-out during in-water construction.

- *Justification - This condition is necessary to protect shallow water habitat and prevent suspension of sediment. Ecology must protect waters of the state from all discharges and potential discharges of pollution that can affect water quality to protect aquatic life and beneficial uses.*
- *Citation - Chapter 90.48 RCW, RCW 90.48.030, Chapter 173-201A WAC, 173-201A-300-330 WAC, and Chapter 173-204 WAC.*

15. Barges shall be kept free of material that could be blown into water.

- *Justification - Ecology must protect waters of the state from all discharges and potential discharges of pollution that can affect water quality to protect aquatic life and beneficial uses.*
- *Citation - Chapter 90.48 RCW, RCW 90.48.030, RCW 90.48.080, Chapter 173-201A WAC, WAC 173-201A-300 - 330, WAC 173-204-120, and WAC 173-225-010.*

16. No return water is allowed to discharge from the barge(s) into waters of the state during transit.

- *Justification - Ecology must protect waters of the state from all discharges and potential discharges of pollution that can affect water quality to protect aquatic life and beneficial uses.*
- *Citation - Chapter 90.48 RCW, RCW 90.48.030, RCW 90.48.080, Chapter 173-201A WAC, WAC 173-201A-300 - 330, WAC 173-204-120, and WAC 173-225-010.*

#### Dredging

17. All dredging is to be done using a mechanical (clamshell) dredge. Ecology must approve any other dredging method prior to its use.

- *Justification - Ecology has reviewed the project and the BMPs for a specific type of dredging. Changes to the dredging method would require different BMPs. If new dredging methods are proposed, a new WQC pre-filing meeting request, followed by a new WQC request (after requisite 30-days) is required.*

- *Citation - Chapter 90.48 RCW, RCW 90.48.030, RCW 90.48.080, Chapter 90.52-040 RCW, Chapter 90.54.020(2)(b) RCW, Chapter 173-201A WAC, Chapter 173-201A-240(5)(b) WAC, and Chapter 173-204-400(2) WAC, and WAC 173-225-010.*

18. All material will be transloaded at a permitted facility and disposed of at a permitted upland disposal site.

- *Justification - Use of a permitted trans loading facility ensures that appropriate BMPs, including appropriate containment and spill plans, are implemented. Additionally, use of a permitted disposal location ensures appropriate BMPs will be implemented to prevent contaminants from migrating into groundwater or surface waters.*
- *Citation - Chapter 90.48 RCW, RCW 90.48.030, RCW 90.48.080, Chapter 90.52-040 RCW, Chapter 90.54.020(2) (b) RCW, Chapter 173-200 WAC, Chapter 173-201A WAC, Chapter 173-201A-240(5)(b) WAC, and Chapter 173-204-400(2), and WAC 173-225-010.*

19. Dredging operations shall be conducted in a manner that minimizes the disturbance and siltation of adjacent waters and prevents the accidental discharge of petroleum products, chemicals or other toxic or deleterious substances into state waters.

- *Justification - Ecology must protect waters of the state from all discharges and potential discharges of pollution that can affect water quality to protect aquatic life and beneficial uses.*
- *Citation - Chapter 90.48 RCW, RCW 90.48.030, RCW 90.48.080, Chapter 90.56 RCW, Chapter 173-201A WAC, WAC 173-201A-300 - 330, WAC 173-204-120, and WAC 173-225-010.*

20. Dredged material shall not be temporarily or permanently stockpiled below the OHWM.

- *Justification - Stockpiles below the OHWM can discharge excess sediment to waters of the state and degrade water quality. Ecology must protect waters of the state from all discharges and potential discharges of pollution that can affect water quality to protect aquatic life and beneficial uses.*
- *Citation - Chapter 90.48 RCW, RCW 90.48.030, RCW 90.48.080, Chapter 173-201A WAC, WAC 173-201A-300 - 330, WAC 173-204-120, and WAC 173-225-010.*

21. All debris larger than two (2) feet in any dimension found floating in the dredging area shall be removed and disposed of with the dredged material.

- *Justification - Ecology must be assured that the Project Proponent is managing and disposing of material to protect waters of the state from all discharges and potential discharges of pollution that can affect water quality to protect aquatic life and beneficial uses.*
- *Citation - Chapter 90.48 RCW, RCW 90.48.030, RCW 90.48.080, Chapter 173-201A WAC, WAC 173-201A-300 - 330, WAC 173-204-120, and WAC 173-225-010.*

22. A pre-dredge meeting is required to be convened prior to the start of dredging. A final **Dredging and Disposal Work plan** (work plan) shall be submitted to Ecology per Condition A2 two weeks prior to the pre-dredge meeting. The FINAL Dredging and Disposal work plan (work plan) shall include contractor specific information consistent with the Engineer Design Report in Table 1.

- *Justification - Ecology needs to meet with the Project Proponent and contractor to go over the work plan prior start of work to ensure that the plan reflects the project that has been authorized by this WQC Order. This condition is intended to assure the Project Proponent remains in full compliance with state water quality requirements for the duration of the project.*
- *Citation - Chapter 70A.200 RCW, Chapter 77.55 RCW, RCW 79.02.300, Chapter 90.48 RCW, RCW 90.48.030, RCW 90.48.080, Chapter 90.52-040 RCW, RCW 90.54.020(2)(b), Chapter 173-201A WAC, WAC 173-201A-240(5)(b), WAC 173-201A-300, WAC 173-201A-330, WAC 173-204-400(2), WAC 173-225-010, and Chapter 220-660 WAC.*

23. A pre-dredge meeting is required to be convened prior to the start of dredging.

- *Justification - Ecology needs to meet with the Project Proponent and contractor to go over the work plan prior start of work to ensure that the plan reflects the project that has been authorized by this WQC Order. This condition is intended to assure the Project Proponent remains in full compliance with state water quality requirements for the duration of the project.*
- *Citation - Chapter 70A-200 RCW, Chapter 77.55 RCW, RCW 79.02.300, Chapter 90.48 RCW, RCW 90.48.030, RCW 90.48.080, RCW 90.52-040, RCW 90.54.020(2)(b), Chapter 173-201A WAC, WAC 173-201A-240(5)(b), WAC 173-201A-300, WAC 173-201A-330, WAC 173-204-400(2), WAC 173-225-010, and Chapter 220-660 WAC.*

24. Only approximately 19,000 cubic yards of dredged material is allowed. Note: If additional material needs to dredge and dispose of, a new WQC pre-filing meeting request, followed by a new WQC request (after requisite 30-days) is required.

- *Justification – Ecology must protect waters of the state from all discharges and potential discharges of pollution that can affect water quality to protect aquatic life and beneficial uses.*
- *Citation - Chapter 173-201A WAC, WAC 173-201A-230, WAC 173-201A-240(1), WAC 173-201A-240(2), WAC, Chapter 173-204 WAC, WAC 173-204-110-120, WAC 173-204-400(2), WAC 173-204-410(7), WAC 173-204-350(d), and Chapter 173-225 WAC.*

25. Soil/sediment contamination is known to be present within the project site. Contaminated soil/sediment shall be managed as outlined in the approved Engineer Design Report identified in Table 1.

- *Justification - Ecology must protect waters of the state from all discharges and potential discharges of pollution that can affect water quality to protect aquatic life and beneficial uses.*
- *Citation – Chapter 70.105D RCW, Chapter 90.48 RCW, RCW 90.48.030, Chapter 173-200 WAC, Chapter 173-201A WAC, WAC 173-201A-300 - 330, Chapter 173-204 WAC, and WAC 173-225-010.*

26. Protective measures to isolate and remove contaminated soils/sediment shall be implemented per the Engineer Design Report identified in Table 1. Contaminated soils shall be managed and disposed of in accordance with state and local regulations.

- *Justification - Ecology must be assured that the Project Proponent is managing and disposing of sediment to protect water quality and beneficial uses.*
- *Citation - Chapter 70.105D RCW, Chapter 90.48 RCW, RCW 90.48.030, Chapter 173-200 WAC, Chapter 173-201A WAC, WAC 173-201A-300 - 330, Chapter 173-204 WAC. WAC 173-225-010.*

27. Post-removal soil sampling shall be conducted per the Engineer Design Report identified in Table 1.

- *Justification - This condition is necessary to ensure all contaminated soils have been removed or mitigated to protect water quality and beneficial uses.*
- *Citation - Chapter 70.105D RCW, Chapter 90.48 RCW, RCW 90.48.030, Chapter 173-200 WAC, Chapter 173-201A WAC, WAC 173-201A-300 - 330, Chapter 173-204 WAC and WAC 173-225-010.*

28. If further contamination is discovered on site, it must be reported to Ecology (per Condition A.2.). Protective measures shall be implemented to isolate and remove the contaminated media and avoid escaping dust, soil erosion, and water pollution during construction activities.

- *Justification - Ecology must protect waters of the state from all discharges and potential discharges of pollution that can affect water quality to protect aquatic life and beneficial uses.*
- *Citation - Chapter 70.105D RCW, RCW 90.48, 90.48, RCW 90.48.030, Chapter 173-200 WAC, Chapter 173-201A WAC, WAC 173-201A-300-330, Chapter 173-204 WAC, and WAC 173-225-010.*

#### **F. Emergency/Contingency Measures**

1. The Project Proponent shall develop and implement a spill prevention and containment plan for all aspects of this project.

- *Justification - Ecology must ensure that the Project Proponent has a plan to prevent pollution from entering waterways. Ecology must protect waters of the state from all discharges and potential discharges of pollution that can affect water quality to protect aquatic life and beneficial uses.*
- *Citation - Chapter 90.48 RCW, RCW 90.48.030, RCW 90.48.080, Chapter 90.56 RCW, Chapter 90.56.280 RCW, Chapter 173-201A WAC, WAC 173-201A-300 - 330, WAC 173-204-120, WAC 173-225-010, and WAC 173-303-145.*

2. The Project Proponent shall have adequate and appropriate spill response and cleanup materials available on site to respond to any release of petroleum products or any other material into waters of the state.

- *Justification - Ecology must have assurance that the Project Proponent has the material readily available in WQC Order to address any spills that might occur to protect waters of the state. Ecology must protect waters of the state from all discharges and potential discharges of pollution that can affect water quality to protect aquatic life and beneficial uses.*
- *Citation - Chapter 90.48 RCW, RCW 90.48.030, RCW 90.48.080, Chapter 90.56 RCW, RCW 90.56.280, Chapter 173-201A WAC, WAC 173-201A-300 - 330, WAC 173-204-120, WAC 173-225-010, and WAC 173-303-145.*

3. Fuel hoses, oil drums, oil or fuel transfer valves and fittings, etc., shall be checked regularly for drips or leaks, and shall be maintained and stored properly to prevent spills into state waters.
  - *Justification - Ecology must protect waters of the state from all discharges and potential discharges of pollution that can affect water quality to protect aquatic life and beneficial uses.*
  - *Citation - Chapter 90.48 RCW, RCW 90.48.030, RCW 90.48.080, Chapter 90.56 RCW, RCW 90.56.280, Chapter 173-201A WAC, WAC 173-201A-300 - 330, WAC 173-204-120, WAC 173-225-010, and WAC 173-303-145.*
4. Work causing distressed or dying fish and discharges of oil, fuel, or chemicals into state waters or onto land with a potential for entry into state waters is prohibited. If such work, conditions, or discharges occur, the Project Proponent shall notify Ecology's Federal Permit Manager, per condition A2, and immediately take the following actions:
  - a. Cease operations at the location of the non-compliance.
  - b. Assess the cause of the water quality problem and take appropriate measures to correct the problem and prevent further environmental damage.
  - c. In the event of a discharge of oil, fuel, or chemicals into state waters, or onto land with a potential for entry into state waters, containment and cleanup efforts shall begin immediately and be completed as soon as possible, taking precedence over normal work. Cleanup shall include proper disposal of any spilled material and used cleanup materials.
  - d. Immediately notify Ecology's Regional Spill Response Office and the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife with the nature and details of the problem, any actions taken to correct the problem, and any proposed changes in operation to prevent further problems.
  - e. Immediately notify the National Response Center at 1-800-424-8802, for actual spills to water only.
    - *Justification - This condition is necessary to prevent oil and hazardous materials spills from causing environmental damage and to ensure compliance with water quality requirements. The sooner a spill is reported, the quicker it can be addressed, resulting in less harm. Ecology must protect waters of the state from all discharges and potential discharges of pollution that can affect water quality to protect aquatic life and beneficial uses.*

- *Citation - Chapter 90.48 RCW, RCW 90.48.030, RCW 90.48.080, Chapter 90.56 RCW, RCW 90.56.280, Chapter 173-201A WAC, WAC 173-201A-300 - 330, WAC 173-204-120, WAC 173-225-010, and WAC 173-303-145.*
5. Notify Ecology's Regional Spill Response Office immediately if chemical containers (e.g., drums) are discovered on-site or any conditions present indicating disposal or burial of chemicals on-site that may impact surface water or ground water.
- *Justification - Oil and hazardous materials spills cause environmental damage. The sooner a spill is reported, the quicker it can be addressed, resulting in less harm. Ecology must protect waters of the state from all discharges and potential discharges of pollution that can affect water quality to protect aquatic life and beneficial uses.*
  - *Citation - Chapter 90.48 RCW, RCW 90.48.030, RCW 90.48.080, Chapter 90.56 RCW, RCW 90.56.280, Chapter 173-201A WAC, WAC 173-201A-300 - 330, WAC 173-204-120, WAC 173-225-010, and WAC 173-303-145.*

### Your right to appeal

You have a right to appeal this Order to the Pollution Control Hearings Board (PCHB) within 30 days of the date of receipt. The appeal process is governed by Chapter 43.21B RCW and Chapter 371-08 WAC. "Date of receipt" is defined in RCW 43.21B.001(2). More information is available at [www.eluho.wa.gov/content/11](http://www.eluho.wa.gov/content/11).

To appeal, you must do all of the following within 30 days of the date of receipt of this Order:

- File your notice of appeal and a copy of this Order with the PCHB (see filing options below). "Filing" means actual receipt by the PCHB during regular business hours as defined in WAC 371-08-305 and -335. "Notice of appeal" is defined in WAC 371-08-340.
- Serve a copy of your notice of appeal and this Order on the Department of Ecology, in paper form, by mail or in person (see addresses below). E-mail is not accepted.

You must also comply with other applicable requirements in Chapter 43.21B RCW and Chapter 371-08 WAC.

### Filing an appeal with the PCHB:

For the most current information regarding filing with the PCHB, visit:  
<https://elaho.wa.gov/content/11>

#### Filing by mail

##### Mailing Address:

Pollution Control Hearings Board  
PO Box 40903  
Olympia, WA 98504-0903

#### Filing in person (or by certified mail/courier)

##### Street Address:

Pollution Control Hearings Board  
1111 Israel RD SW, STE 301  
Tumwater, WA 98501

#### Filing electronically

##### E-mail Address:

Pchb-shbappeals@elaho.wa.gov

### Serving a copy of the appeal on Ecology:

Electronic copies of appeals are not accepted at the Department of Ecology per WAC 371-08-305(10)

#### Filing by mail

##### Mailing Address:

Department of Ecology  
Attn: Appeals Processing Desk  
PO Box 47608  
Olympia, WA 98504-7608

#### Filing in person (or by certified mail/courier)

##### Street Address:

Department of Ecology  
Attn: Appeals Processing Desk  
300 Desmond Drive SE  
Lacey, WA 98503

### Contact Information

Please direct all questions about this WQC Order to:

Laura Inouye  
Department of Ecology  
360-515-8213  
[Laura.Inouye@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:Laura.Inouye@ecy.wa.gov)

### More Information

- **Pollution Control Hearings Board Website**  
<http://www.elaho.wa.gov/content/11>
- **Chapter 43.21B RCW - Environmental and Land Use Hearings Office – Pollution Control Hearings Board**  
<http://app.leg.wa.gov/RCW/default.aspx?cite=43.21B>



- **Chapter 371-08 WAC – Practice and Procedure**  
<http://app.leg.wa.gov/WAC/default.aspx?cite=371-08>
- **Chapter 34.05 RCW – Administrative Procedure Act**  
<http://app.leg.wa.gov/RCW/default.aspx?cite=34.05>
- **Chapter 90.48 RCW – Water Pollution Control**  
<http://app.leg.wa.gov/RCW/default.aspx?cite=90.48>
- **Chapter 173.204 WAC – Sediment Management Standards**  
<http://apps.leg.wa.gov/WAC/default.aspx?cite=173-204>
- **Chapter 173-200 WAC – Water Quality Standards for Ground Waters of the State of Washington**  
<http://apps.leg.wa.gov/WAC/default.aspx?cite=173-200>
- **Chapter 173-201A WAC – Water Quality Standards for Surface Waters of the State of Washington**  
<http://apps.leg.wa.gov/WAC/default.aspx?cite=173-201A>

**Signature**

Dated this 8<sup>th</sup> day of March 2023 at the Department of Ecology, Lacey, Washington



Brenden McFarland, Section Manager  
Environmental Review and Transportation Section  
Shorelands and Environmental Assistance Program

Company