



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
**DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY**

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

May 22, 2024

Port of Seattle  
ATTN: Matthew Szymanowicz  
P.O. Box 1209  
Seattle, WA 98111

Re: Water Quality Certification Order No. **22583** (Corps No. NWS-2014-0413), Port of Seattle East Waterway Maintenance Dredging Program, King County, Washington

Dear Matthew Szymanowicz:

On January 8, 2024, Port of Seattle submitted a request for a Section 401 Water Quality Certification (WQC) under the federal Clean Water Act for the Port of Seattle East Waterway Maintenance Dredging Program, King County, Washington.

On behalf of the state of Washington, the Department of Ecology certifies with conditions 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,

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Loree' Randall, Section Manager  
Aquatic Permitting & Protection Section  
Shorelands and Environmental Assistance Program

WQC Order No. 22583, Corps No. NWS-2014-0413

Aquatics ID No. 135208

May 22, 2024

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Enclosure (3)

By certified mail: 9489 0090 0027 6381 5323 65

Sent via e-mail: [Szymanowicz.m@portseattle.org](mailto:Szymanowicz.m@portseattle.org)

E-cc: LeeAnn Simmons, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Laura Inouye, Ecology

[ECYREFEDPERMITS@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:ECYREFEDPERMITS@ecy.wa.gov)

**In The Matter of Granting a Water Quality  
Certification with Conditions to the Port of Seattle**  
pursuant to 33 U.S.C. 1341 (FWPCA § 401), RCW 90.48.120,  
RCW 90.48.260 and Chapter 173-201A WAC

Port of Seattle  
Attn: Matt Szymanowicz  
P.O. Box 1209  
Seattle, WA 98111

<b>WQC Order No.</b>	22583
<b>Corps Reference No.</b>	NWS-2014-0413
<b>Site Location</b>	Port of Seattle East Waterway Maintenance Dredging Program, located within the Lower Duwamish Waterway, Seattle, King County, Washington.

Port of Seattle 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 Port of Seattle East Waterway Maintenance Dredging Program, located within the Lower Duwamish Waterway, Seattle, King County, Washington. The following processing dates are listed below:

- On October 10, 2023, the Port of Seattle submitted a pre-filing meeting request.
- On January 8, 2024, Ecology received a request for Clean Water Section 401 Water Quality Certification.
- On January 25, 2024, Port of Seattle submitted additional information, and the Department of Ecology (Ecology) considered the Request valid on this date.
- On January 30, 2024, Ecology issued a public notice for the project.
- Ecology’s “Reasonable Period of Time” for this project has been established as January 8, 2025.

The project proposes berth and channel maintenance events within the East Waterway (EW) adjacent to Port Terminals T-18, T-25, T-30, T-46, and Pier 28 (using Slip 27), and within the adjacent EW federal navigation channel, as shown in the JARPA figures. Maintenance events will be scheduled as necessary to address “high spots” or shoals that develop due to resuspension and settlement of EW sediments, as well as removal and replacement of damaged fender piles and backfilling of areas as required for slope stability after dredging. Up to 21,000 cubic yards of clean sand or gravel may be placed within the dredge prism footprint, over the 10 year period, at a thickness of six inches to one foot in certain areas to meet anti-degradation requirements. Maximum depths for the various areas are shown in the

table below<sup>1</sup>. Disposal will be determined on a case-by-case basis in coordination with the Dredged Material Management Office (DMMO). Sediment sampling to support dredging at these locations is also covered under this certification.

**East Waterway Maintenance Dredging Program Representative Locations and Elevations**

Location	Project Elevation (MLLW)	Elevation after 1 foot Advanced Maintenance (MLLW)	Elevation after 2 feet of Allowable Overdredge (MLLW)	Surface Area Estimate (acres) <sup>1,2</sup>	Total Surface Area (acres)
Navigation Channel (North of Station 49+50)	-51	-52	-54	0.7	56.6
Navigation Channel (South of Station 49+50)	-34	-35	-37	0.8	12.5
T-18 (Stations 00+00 to 49+50)	-51	-52	-54	1.8	18.5
T-18 (Stations 49+50 to 61+50)	-40	-41	-43	1.4	4.5
T-25 (Stations 44+00 to 61+50)	-50	-51	-53	4.5	6.3
Pier 28/Slip 27	-40	-41	-43	1.5	2.5
T-30 (Stations 17+00 to 37+00)	-50	-51	-53	1.0	7.4
T-46	-50	-51	-53	1.2	15.3

The project sites are located at in the East Waterway, within the Lower Duwamish Waterway, King County, Washington, within Water Resource Inventory Area (WRIA) 9 (Green/Duwamish and Central Puget Sound). Section, Township, and ranges for the terminals are presented below:

- T-18 NW and SW of ¼ Section, Section 7 and 18, Township 24N, Range 4E
- T-25 NE and SE of ¼ Section, Section 7 and 18, Township 24N, Range 4E
- Slip 27 SE of ¼ Section, Section 7, Township 24N, Range 4E
- T-30 NE and SE of ¼ Section, Section 7, Township 24N, Range 4E
- T-46 NW and SW of ¼ Section, Section 6, Township 25N, Range 4E

**Authorities**

In exercising authority under 33 U.S.C. §1341, 40 CFR Part 121, RCW 90.48.120, RCW 90.48.260, and Chapter 173-201A, 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.

<sup>1</sup> 1/8/2024 Joint Aquatic Resources Permit Application

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 Seattle’s request for a Section 401 Water Quality Certification for the Port of Seattle East Waterway Maintenance Dredging Program, located within the Lower Duwamish Waterway, Seattle, located in King 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 January 8, 2024, and 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
1/8/2024	State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA)	Final SEPA Determination of Non-Significance, East Waterway Maintenance Dredging Program, dated 11/15/2015	Lindsay Pulsifer, Port of Seattle
1/8/2024	Joint Aquatic Resources Permit Application (JARPA) Form	JARPA, dated 4/10/2014	Jon Sloan, Port of Seattle
1/22/2024	Biological Assessment	Biological Evaluation, dated April 2014	Anchor QEA, LCC
4/10/2024	Letter (with three enclosures)	RE: NWS-2014-000413; Aquatics tracking I.D. number: AQ135208	Matt Szymanowicz, Port of Seattle

4/10/2024	Draft Water Quality Monitoring Plan	Final Water Quality Monitoring Plan Terminal 18 Maintenance Dredging Project (dated November 2015). (Letter Enclosure A)	Anchor QEA, LCC
4/10/2024	Draft General Work Plan	Dredging and Re-grading On-Call  (At Various Port of Seattle Marine Facilities), October 2, 2015 (Letter Enclosure B)	American Construction Company, Inc.
4/10/2024	Draft Dredge Plan	Work Plan Addendum for the Terminal 18, Maintenance Dredging Project (January 12, 2016) (Letter Enclosure C)	American Construction Company, Inc.

Issuance of this Section 401 Water Quality Certification for this proposal does not authorize the Port of Seattle 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 Seattle 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 Seattle. Specific condition justifications and citations are provided below.

#### A. General Conditions

1. In this WQC Order, the term “Project Proponent” shall mean the Port of Seattle 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. 22583 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 January 8, 2024, 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 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. To transfer this WQC Order to a new owner or operator the Project Proponent shall:
- a. Complete a Request for Transfer of Order with a specific transfer date of the WQC Order's obligations, coverage, and liability and submit it to Ecology per condition A.2. Link to form: <https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/publications/SummaryPages/ECY070695.html>;
  - b. Provide a copy of this WQC Order to the new owner or operator; and
  - c. The transfer is not considered valid until the Project Proponent receives written notification from Ecology that the transfer has been approved.
- 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. 22583, Corps Reference No. NWS-2014-0413, 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 or pre-dredge meetings;
  - c. At least ten (10) days prior to conducting activities for each in-water work window; and
  - d. Within seven (7) days of completion of activities for each in-water work window.
    - 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 will expire on February 1, 2026.

- Justification - Certifications are required for any license or permit that authorizes an activity that may result in a discharge. 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 Lower Duwamish Waterway may be conducted between July 16 and February 14 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:
  - a. Temporary area of mixing for turbidity established within the state water quality standards for marine waters (WAC 173-201A-210) is as follows:
    01. 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 revise the Draft Water Quality Monitoring Plan (WQMP), identified in Table 1, to be consistent with the conditions of this WQC Order and provide project and contactor specific details. The revised Plan shall be submitted to Ecology's Federal Permit Manager (per Condition A.2 of this Order) for review at **least 2 weeks prior to the pre-dredge meeting** as per condition E7 prior to beginning any work covered by this WQC Order.
  - Justification - This condition is necessary to ensure that the monitoring and BMPs that are proposed by the Project Proponent and authorized by Ecology are conducted to protect 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.
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, and Chapter 173-204 WAC.

## **E. Dredging and Disposal**

1. 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.
2. All suitable dredged material will be disposed of by bottom dump barge at the Elliott Bay open-water disposal site.
  - Justification - Ecology has reviewed the project and the BMPs for a specific type of disposal technique and disposal location. If different in-water disposal sites 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), and WAC 173-225-010.
3. All unsuitable material will be trans loaded 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.

4. 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.
5. 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.
6. All debris larger than two (2) feet in any dimension shall be removed from the dredged sediment prior to disposal at the open water site. Similar-sized debris floating in the dredging or disposal area shall be removed.
  - 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. A pre-dredge meeting is required to be convened prior to the start of dredging. A **Dredging and Disposal Work plan** (work plan), season-specific **Water quality Monitoring Plan** (WQMP)(condition D4), and DMMP **Suitability Determination Memorandum** (SDM)(condition E8) shall be submitted to Ecology per Condition A2 at least two weeks prior to the pre-dredge meeting. The work plan and WQMP will be consistent with the examples in Table 1. The work plan shall include the following:
  - a. General information including schedule, primary contact, and hours of operation.
  - b. Dredged quantities and disposal location, including any upland locations.

- c. Dredging procedures and sequence.
- d. Debris removal protocols if material going to open water disposal sites.
- e. Sand cover requirements and procedures.
- f. Disposal procedures and sequence.
- g. Equipment list.
- h. A description of the BMPs to be used for dredging, dewatering, trans loading, sand cover placement, and disposal.
  - 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.
8. Prior to each dredging cycle, the project proponent shall contact the DMMP agencies to determine whether additional sediment testing is required. If additional testing is required, no dredging or disposal shall be conducted until the material has been tested and a suitability determination has been issued. This area ranks high in potential for contamination and recency determination. **Because the Port opted to request a permit prior to characterizing the sediments, the Port shall obtain a suitability determination from the DMMP at least 3 months prior to the proposed work start date for each season and location, unless otherwise approved by Ecology.**
  - Justification - The DMMP process confirms that material is suitable for in-water disposal and that the project meets state anti-degradation regulations.
  - Citation - Chapter 173-201A WAC, Chapter 173-201A-230 WAC, WAC 173-201A-240(1), WAC 173-201A-240(2), 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.
9. 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.
10. 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.
11. 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 173-201A WAC, WAC 173-201A-300(2)(e)(i), WAC 173-201A-310, WAC 173-204-120, and WAC 173-225-010.
12. Barges shall be kept free of material that could be blown into the 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 70A-200 RCW, RCW 79.02-300, Chapter 90.48 RCW, and WAC 173-225-010.
13. For each in-water work window, a post-construction report (see attachment B) must be submitted to Ecology per Condition A2 within 60 days of the end of the in-water work window. The post-construction report shall include the following:
- a. Description of the work conducted.
  - b. Pre- and post-bathymetric surveys.

- c. Dredged quantities (cubic yards) and disposal location, including any upland locations.
- d. Dredged area footprint with dredge bucket marks.
- e. Sand cover placement (if applicable for the location being dredged)
  - Justification - Ecology needs to confirm that dredging footprint and depth for each in-water work window complies with the project descriptions 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.

14. If 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 WQC 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).

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

- File your notice of appeal and a copy of this WQC Order with the PCHB (see filing information 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 WQC Order on the Department of Ecology mail, in person, or by email (see addresses below).

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

## Filing an appeal

### Filing with the PCHB

For the most current information regarding filing with the PCHB, visit: <https://elaho.wa.gov/> or call: 360-664-9160.

### Service on Ecology

#### Street Addresses:

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

#### Mailing Addresses:

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

#### E-Mail Address:

[ecologyappeals@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:ecologyappeals@ecy.wa.gov)

## Americans with Disabilities Act Information

### Accommodation Requests

To request ADA accommodation including materials in a format for the visually impaired, call Ecology at 360-407-6831 or visit <https://ecology.wa.gov/accessibility>. People with impaired hearing may call Washington Relay Service at 711. People with speech disability may call TTY at 877-833-6341.

## 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**  
<https://elaho.wa.gov>
- **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>

WQC Order No. 22583, Corps No. NWS-2014-0413

Aquatics ID No. 135208

May 22, 2024

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## Signature

Dated this 22nd day of May, 2024, at the Department of Ecology, Lacey, Washington.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Loree' Randall". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath it.

Loree' Randall, Section Manager

Aquatic Permitting & Protection Section

Shorelands and Environmental Assistance Program

## Attachment A

### Statement of Understanding Water Quality Certification Conditions

Port of Seattle East Waterway Maintenance Dredging Program

Water Quality Certification WQC Order No. 22583

As the Project Proponent for Port of Seattle East Waterway Maintenance Dredging Program project, I have read and understand the conditions of Washington State Department of Ecology WQC Order No. 22583, and any permits, plans, documents, and approvals referenced in the WQC Order. I have and will continue to ensure that all project engineers, contractors, and other workers at the project site with authority to direct work have read and understand the conditions of this WQC Order and any permits, plans, documents, and approvals referenced in the WQC Order.

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Signature

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Date

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Title

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Phone

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Company



## **Attachment B**

### **Information Required for Post-Construction Reports**

Port of Seattle East Waterway Maintenance Dredging Program

Ecology Order No. 22583

And

Corps Reference No. NWS-2014-0413

Ecology requires the following information for post-construction reports for each dredging event to be submitted under this Order. Ecology will accept additional information that may be required by other agencies.

#### **Background Information**

1. Project name.
2. Ecology Order number and the Corps reference number.
3. Name and contact information of the person preparing the as-built report. Also, if different from the person preparing the report, include the names of the project proponent.
4. Date the report was produced.

#### **Dredge Project Information**

5. Brief description of dredge plan with any changes from the approved plan made during construction. Include:
  - a. Bathymetric surveys (pre- and post dredging)
  - b. dredge bucket marks
  - c. dredge volume and disposal location
  - d. Important dates, including:
    01. Start of project construction.
    02. When dredging began and ended.
    03. Sand cover dates if applicable

6. Description of any problems encountered and solutions implemented (with reasons for changes) during dredging.
7. Estimated debris volume removed and disposal location, if dredged material is going to a DMMP open water disposal site.