



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

Northwest Region Office
PO Box 330316, Shoreline, WA 98133-9716 • 206-594-0000

March 10, 2025

The Nature Conservancy
Attn: Randi Shaw
74 Wall Street
Seattle, WA 98121

Re: Amendment to 401 Water Quality Certification Order No. **21762** for U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Reference No. **202300128**, Port Susan Bay Estuary Restoration, Snohomish County, Washington

Dear Randi Shaw:

Enclosed is an amendment to Water Quality Certification Order No. 21762, issued on June 5, 2023, for the above project. We have also included a strikeout version of the Water Quality Certification that reflects the changes made. All other conditions of Water Quality Certification No. 21762 remain in effect.

The purpose of this amendment is to account for additional excavation in tidal channels needed to match elevations in the Stillaguamish Tribe's Zis a Ba II restoration project that will be created to the east. This additional excavation will prevent stranding of salmonid species once the adjacent restoration site is constructed.

If you have any questions, please contact Doug Gresham at doug.gresham@ecy.wa.gov or (425) 429-1846. The enclosed Amendment may be appealed by following the procedures described in the Amendment.

Sincerely,

Joe Burcar, Section Manager
Northwest Region Office
Shorelands and Environmental Assistance Program

First Amendment to Order No. 21762
Aquatics No. 140432, Corps No. 202300128
March 10, 2025
Page 2 of 2

Enclosure (2)

By certified mail: 9171 9690 0935 0233 1812 38

Sent via e-mail: randi.shaw@tnc.org

E-cc: Mae Ancheta, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Jason Griffith, Stillaguamish Tribe
Molly Bogeberg, Nature Conservancy
Erin Hanlon Brown, Ecology
Doug Gresham, Ecology
ECYREFEDPERMITS@ecy.wa.gov

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

The Nature Conservancy
ATTN: Randi Shaw
74 Wall Street
Seattle, WA 98121

| | |
|----------------------------|--|
| WQC ORDER No. | 21762 First Amendment |
| Corps Reference No. | 202300128 |
| Site Location | Port Susan Bay Estuary Restoration, located in Snohomish County, Washington. |

On June 5, 2023, the Washington Department of Ecology (Ecology) issued a 401 Water Quality Certification to Nature Conservancy for the above-referenced project pursuant to the provisions of 33 U.S.C. 1341 (FWPCA § 401).

Ecology received an amendment request on January 17, 2025, to account for additional excavation in tidal channels needed to match elevations of the Stillaguamish Tribe's Zis a Ba II restoration project that will be created to the east. This involves 8,200 cubic yards of additional excavation to prevent stranding of salmonid species once the adjacent restoration site is constructed. This excavated sediment would be sidecast into habitat mounds covering 72,000 square feet.

WQC Order No. 21762 dated June 5, 2023, is hereby amended as follows:

I. Project Description which reads:

The project proposes to excavate tidal channels within a 150-acre area at the mouth of the Stillaguamish River. This involves excavating 12 primary channels, 33 secondary and tertiary channels, and lowering/breaching an existing levee to increase tidal inundation throughout the estuary. The excavated material will be mounded to create 13 acres of high salt marsh habitat for natural colonization. This construction will temporarily impact 34 acres of estuarine wetland habitat but this restoration is self-mitigating.

Is replaced with:

The project proposes to excavate tidal channels within a 150-acre area at the mouth of the Stillaguamish River. This involves excavating 12 primary channels, 33 secondary and tertiary channels, and lowering/breaching an existing levee to increase tidal inundation throughout the estuary. The excavated material will be mounded to create 13 acres of high salt marsh habitat for natural colonization. This construction will temporarily impact 34 acres of estuarine wetland

habitat but this restoration is self-mitigating. Additional excavation of 8,200 cubic yards of tidal channels and the sediment would be sidecast into habitat mounds covering 72,000 square feet.

No other conditions or requirements of the above referenced Order are affected by this amendment.

Ecology retains continued jurisdiction to make modifications hereto through supplemental order, if it appears necessary to further protect the public interest.

Failure to comply with this amended Order may result in the issuance of civil penalties or other actions whether administrative or judicial, to enforce the terms of this amended Order.

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).

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 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 Order on the Department of Ecology, by 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.

Address and Location Information

Filing with the PCHB

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

Service on Ecology

Street Address:

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

Contact Information

Please direct all questions about this WQC Order to:

Doug Gresham
Department of Ecology
(425) 429-1846
Doug.Gresham@ecy.wa.gov

More Information

- **Pollution Control Hearings Board Website**
<http://www.eluho.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>

First Amendment to WQC Order No. 21762
Aquatics No. 140432, Corps No. 202300128
March 10, 2025
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Signature

Dated this 10 day of March, 2025, at the Department of Ecology, Shoreline Washington.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joe Burcar". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and a long, sweeping underline.

Joe Burcar, Section Manager
Northwest Region Office
Shorelands and Environmental Assistance Program

This document shows the activities and/or conditions that have been amended since the original Order was issued. Therefore, it is not the official certification and should only be used for information purposes only.

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

The Nature Conservancy
ATTN: Randi Shaw
74 Wall Street
Seattle, WA 98121

7/18/2023 – A minor edit
was made to WQC
Condition C.2.a.

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|----------------------------|--|
| WQC ORDER No. | 21762, First Amendment |
| Corps Reference No. | 202300128 |
| Site Location | Port Susan Bay Estuary Restoration, located in Snohomish County, Washington. |

The Nature Conservancy 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 Susan Bay Estuary Restoration, Snohomish County, Washington. The following processing dates are listed below:

- On February 15, 2023, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) sent a permit notification to Ecology that indicated that they are processing the project under Nationwide Permit (NWP) No. 27 and requires an individual Section 401.
- On March 2, 2023, The Nature Conservancy submitted a pre-filing meeting request.
- On April 3, 2023, Ecology received a request for Clean Water Section 401 Water Quality Certification.
- On April 5, 2023, Ecology issued a public notice for the project.

The project proposes to excavate tidal channels within a 150-acre area at the mouth of the Stillaguamish River. This involves excavating 12 primary channels, 33 secondary and tertiary channels, and lowering/breaching an existing levee to increase tidal inundation throughout the estuary. The excavated material will be mounded to create 13 acres of high salt marsh habitat for natural colonization. This construction will temporarily impact 34 acres of estuarine wetland habitat but this restoration is self-mitigating. [Additional excavation of 8,200 cubic yards of tidal channels will occur and the sediment would be sidecast into habitat mounds covering 72,000 square feet.](#)

The project site is located at 8380 236th St NW, near Stanwood, Snohomish County, Washington, Section 1, Township 31 N., Range 3 E., within Water Resource Inventory Area (WRIA) 5 - Stillaguamish River.

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 are 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 Nature Conservancy’s request for a Section 401 Water Quality Certification for the Port Susan Bay Estuary Restoration located in Snohomish 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 April 3, 2023, 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 |
|---------------|--|--|------------------------|
| 4/3/2023 | Joint Aquatic Resources Permit Application(JARPA) Form | JARPA signed on 2/7/2023 | The Nature Conservancy |
| 4/3/2023 | Drawings | Final Plans for Port Susan Bay Restoration, dated March 20, 2023 | ESA |
| 4/3/2023 | Wetland Delineation | Port Susan Bay Restoration, 2022 Test | ESA |

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|----------|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| | | Blasting-Critical Areas Report, dated November 2021 | |
| 4/3/2023 | Water Quality Monitoring Plan | Port Susan Bay Turbidity Memo | ESA |
| 4/3/2023 | Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan | Port Susan Bay Conservation Measures | ESA |
| 4/3/2023 | Dredge Plan | Tier 1 Dredged Material Evaluation for the Port Susan Bay Estuary Restoration Project, dated March 23, 2023 | Dredge Materials Management Office, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Seattle District |

Issuance of this Section 401 Water Quality Certification for this proposal does not authorize The Nature Conservancy 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 Nature Conservancy 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 Nature Conservancy. Specific condition justifications and citations are provided below.

A. General Conditions

1. In this WQC Order, the term “Project Proponent” shall mean The Nature Conservancy 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 and cc to doug.gresham@ecy.wa.gov. The submittals shall be identified with WQC Order No. 21762 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 April 3, 2023, 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

- c. 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 and cc to doug.gresham@ecy.wa.gov. Notifications shall be identified with WQC Order No. 21762 Corps Reference No. NWS-2023-128, 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.
3. If the project construction is not completed within 13 months of issuance of this WQC Order, the Project Proponent shall submit per Condition A2 a written construction status report and submit status reports every 12 months until construction and mitigation are completed.
- 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.

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 Port Susan Bay may be conducted between ~~August 1 and 30~~ **July 19 and October 31** 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 a 20 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. 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.
 5. 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.
 6. Monitoring results shall be submitted monthly 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.
7. 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. 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. Within the project limits¹ all environmentally sensitive areas including, but not limited to, wetlands, wetland buffers, shoreline riparian buffers and mitigation areas shall be fenced with high visibility construction fencing (HVF), prior to commencing construction activities. Construction activities include equipment staging, materials storage, and work vehicle parking. Note: This condition does not apply to activities such as pre-construction surveying and installing HVF and construction zone signage.
- a. If the project will be constructed in stages² a detailed description and drawings of the stages shall be sent to Ecology for review at least 20 days prior to placing HVF.

¹ Project limits include mitigation sites, staging areas, borrow sources, and other sites developed or used to support project construction.

² A stage is part of a project that has been separated into at least two distinct areas to be built during separate timeframes.

- b. Condition 5.a. shall apply to each stage.
- c. All field staff shall be trained to recognize HVF, understand its purpose and properly install it in the appropriate locations.
- d. HVF shall be maintained until all work is completed for each project or each stage of a staged 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, Chapter 173-201A WAC, WAC 173-201A-300 - 330, WAC 173-204-120, and WAC 173-225-010.
6. 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.
7. 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.
8. 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.
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. Work within waters of the state shall be conducted in the dry or during periods of low flow to the extent practicable.
- 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.
11. Temporary cofferdams, bladder dams, super sack dams, floating turbidity curtains, and bypasses used to divert water around the work area shall be in place prior to initiation of work below the OHWM. These shall be properly deployed and maintained in order to minimize turbidity and re-suspension of sediment.
- Justification - This condition ensures containment and limits movement of sediment that could cause water quality exceedances. 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

12. 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.
13. 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.
14. 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.
15. 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.
16. 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.
17. Turbidity curtains shall be properly deployed and maintained in order to minimize turbidity and re-suspension of sediment.
- Justification - This condition ensures containment and limits movement of sediment that could cause water quality exceedances. 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.
 - 173-201A-300, 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.