

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

September 4, 2025

WA Department of Transportation ATTN: Mark Stamey 1091 Andis Road Burlington, WA 98233

Re: Coastal Zone Management Federal Consistency Decision for I-5 Tributaries to Friday,

Lake, and Chuckanut Creeks – Fish Passage (Friday Creek) (Corps No. NWS-2025-0530-

DOT), Friday Creek, Skagit County, Washington

### Dear Mark Stamey:

On July 7, 2025, the Department of Ecology (Ecology) received a Certification of Consistency with the Washington State Coastal Zone Management Program (CZMP) for the above project. Ecology issued a 21-day public notice on July 22, 2025. Pursuant to Section 307(c)(3) of the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 as amended, Ecology concurs with WA Department of Transportation's determination that the proposed work is consistent with Washington's CZMP.

This project proposes replacing 13 existing fish barriers with three fish passable culverts. The South, Middle, and North Tributaries to Friday Creek currently pass under Interstate 5 and Lake Samish Road through a system of 12 culverts and one gabion control structure. These culverts and control structure will be replaced by combining the South and Middle tributaries with the North tributary west of Interstate 5. The new, combined stream channel will pass under the existing roadways through the three new, 4-sided box culverts. Downstream of the new structures on the North Tributary, a floodplain bench will be excavated on the right bank and planted with native vegetation, improving connectivity between an existing wetland and the stream. Additional restoration elements include removing an existing fish barrier culvert and installing large woody debris in the channel and along the length of the floodplain bench.

The project will result in temporary and permanent impacts to streams and wetlands. The streams will temporarily be diverted during construction to protect water quality, and all temporary wetland impacts from construction access and traffic bypass will be restored by replanting with native species. Combining the three tributaries and building the new culverts will permanently impact wetlands. The new channel and culverts will provide approximately

Corps No. NWS-2025-0530-DOT, Aquatics ID No. 145388 September 4, 2025 Page 2 of 3

4,209 linear feet of aquatic habitat on the South Tributary, approximately 6,719 linear feet of aquatic habitat on Middle Tributary, and approximately 4,619 linear feet of aquatic habitat on the North Tributary.

The project site is located on Interstate 5, milepost 240.3 to milepost 241.7, South, Middle, and North tributaries to Friday Creek and wetlands, Skagit County, Washington.

If you have any questions regarding Ecology's decision, please contact Penny Kelley at penny.kelley@ecy.wa.gov.

# Your right to appeal

You have a right to appeal this decision 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 decision:

- File your notice of appeal and a copy of this decision 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 decision 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://eluho.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

Corps No. NWS-2025-0530-DOT, Aquatics ID No. 145388 September 4, 2025 Page 3 of 3

> Attn: Appeals Processing Desk PO Box 47608 Olympia, WA 98504-7608

## **E-Mail Address:**

Jan Randell

ecologyappeals@ecy.wa.gov

Sincerely,

Loree' Randall on behalf of

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

Sent via e-mail: mark.stamey@wsdot.wa.gov

E-cc: Samantha Standford, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Joelle Cihak, WSDOT Amy Atkinson, WSDOT

fedconsistency@ecy.wa.gov