Coho Environmental

533 NE 90th St. • Seattle, WA 98115
206.778.9274 • tad.deshler@cohoenvironmental.com • cohoenvironmental.com

# MEMORANDUM

**To:** Eric Nassau, Kane Environmental

**From:** Tad Deshler

**Subject:** Duvall property (15820 Main Street NE) Terrestrial Ecological Evaluation

**Date:** August 31, 2016

As requested, I made a site visit on August 30, 2016 to the Duvall property at 15820 Main Street NE for the purposes of evaluating habitat quality in support of the Terrestrial Ecological Evaluation (TEE) for the property. I am a qualified field biologist with experience at conducting TEEs.

The subject property is located within the commercial district of Duvall. As such, there is no significant ecological habitat within the property boundaries. On the west side of Main Street, behind (west) of the commercial businesses located on that side of the street, there is a relatively narrow (approximately 20 ft wide) band of shrubs, dominated by the invasive species Himalayan blackberry (*Rubus armeniacus*) and Japanese knotweed (*Polygonum cuspidatum*). This shrub zone provides little habitat value and would not be considered undeveloped land (Figure 1).

West of the commercial businesses on Main Street are approximately a dozen residences that are part of Riverside Village Co-op. Other than scattered landscaping and a couple of small trees, there is no habitat within these residences and these parcels would also not be considered undeveloped land.

The closest undeveloped land to the subject property is located between the Snoqualmie River and the Snoqualmie River Valley Trail, immediately west of the residences in the Riverside Village Co-op. Approximately 0.5 acres of undeveloped land in this zone are within 500 ft of the subject property (Figure 1).

The habitat zone adjacent to the river includes several mature trees up to 90 ft tall, such as big leaf maple (*Acer macrophyllum*), red alder (*Alnus rubra*), black cottonwood (*Populus trichocarpa*), Pacific dogwood (*Cornus nuttallii*), and hawthorn (*Crataegus* spp.), interspersed with smaller specimens of these same species. The understory includes several woody shrub species, such as *Cotoneaster* spp., snowberry (*Symphoricarpos* spp.), and English holly (*Ilex aquifolium*). The majority of the ground cover is provided by

Himalayan blackberry and sword fern (*Polystichum munitum*). In several areas, the blackberry creates an impenetrable thicket that would likely deter passage by larger mammal species. Although the tree and shrub species likely provide reasonably high quality bird habitat, the ubiquitous presence of blackberry underneath the tree and shrub canopy compromises the overall habitat quality in this area. Consequently, the habitat quality of the site was designated as intermediate, per MTCA Table 749-1 (attached).

The attached MTCA Table 749-1 documents the simplified TEE exposure analysis procedure. Although the subject property is currently used as commercial property, it is zoned Old Town, which allows for residential use. Therefore a value of 1 was given for line 2. The sum of lines 2-5 is 8, which is larger than the value of 5 entered on line 1. Therefore, the simplified evaluation is considered complete for this site.

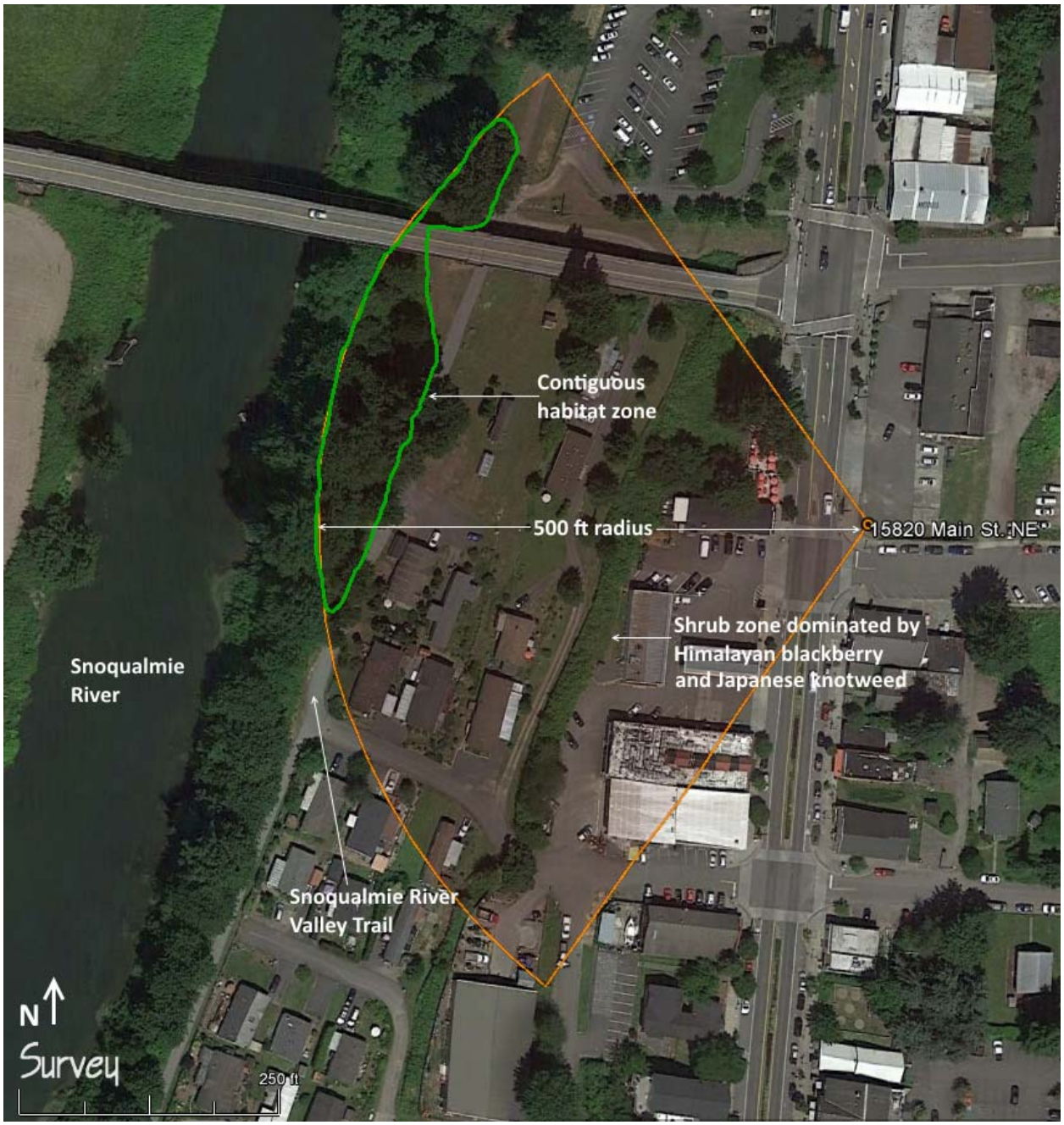


**Figure 1. Nearest habitat zone to 15820 Main Street NE**

**Table 749-1**
**Simplified Terrestrial Ecological Evaluation – Exposure Analysis Procedure under WAC 173-340-7492(2)(a)(ii).[a]**

| | |
|---|---|
| Estimate the area of contiguous (connected) undeveloped land on the site or within 500 feet of any area of the site to the nearest 1/2 acre (1/4 acre if the area is less than 0.5 acre). "Undeveloped land" means land that is not covered by existing buildings, roads, paved areas or other barriers that will prevent wildlife from feeding on plants, earthworms, insects or other food in or on the soil. | |
| **1)** From the table below, find the number of points corresponding to the area and enter this number in the box to the right. | **5** |
| Area (acres) / Points<br>0.25 or less — 4<br>0.5 — 5<br>1.0 — 6<br>1.5 — 7<br>2.0 — 8<br>2.5 — 9<br>3.0 — 10<br>3.5 — 11<br>4.0 or more — 12<br>**Measured from the green polygon shown on Figure 1** | |
| **2)** Is this an industrial or commercial property? See WAC 173-340-7490(3)(c). If yes, enter a score of 3 in the box to the right. If no, enter a score of 1. | **1** |
| **3)** Enter a score in the box to the right for the habitat quality of the site, using the rating system shown below[b]. (High = 1, Intermediate = 2, Low = 3) | **2** |
| **4)** Is the undeveloped land likely to attract wildlife? If yes, enter a score of 1 in the box to the right. If no, enter a score of 2. See footnote c. | **1** |
| **5)** Are there any of the following soil contaminants present: Chlorinated dioxins/furans, PCB mixtures, DDT, DDE, DDD, aldrin, chlordane, dieldrin, endosulfan, endrin, heptachlor, benzene hexachloride, toxaphene, hexachlorobenzene, pentachlorophenol, pentachlorobenzene? If yes, enter a score of 1 in the box to the right. If no, enter a score of 4. | **4** |
| **6)** Add the numbers in the boxes on lines 2 through 5 and enter this number in the box to the right. If this number is larger than the number in the box on line 1, the simplified terrestrial ecological evaluation may be ended under WAC 173-340-7492 (2)(a)(ii). | **8** |

**Footnotes:**

a It is expected that this habitat evaluation will be undertaken by an experienced field biologist. If this is not the case, enter a conservative score (1) for questions 3 and 4.

b **Habitat rating system.** Rate the quality of the habitat as high, intermediate or low based on your professional judgment as a field biologist. The following are suggested factors to consider in making this evaluation:
**Low:** Early successional vegetative stands; vegetation predominantly noxious, nonnative, exotic plant species or weeds. Areas severely disturbed by human activity, including intensively cultivated croplands. Areas isolated from other habitat used by wildlife.
**High:** Area is ecologically significant for one or more of the following reasons: Late-successional native plant communities present; relatively high species diversity; used by an uncommon or rare species; priority habitat (as defined by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife); part of a larger area of habitat where size or fragmentation may be important for the retention of some species.
**Intermediate:** Area does not rate as either high or low.

c Indicate "yes" if the area attracts wildlife or is likely to do so. Examples: Birds frequently visit the area to feed; evidence of high use by mammals (tracks, scat, etc.); habitat "island" in an industrial area; unusual features of an area that make it important for feeding animals; heavy use during seasonal migrations.