



P.O. Box 1200
Seattle, WA 98111-1200

Tel: (206) 726-3000
Fax: (206) 728-3252

www.portseattle.org

SEPA DETERMINATION OF NON-SIGNIFICANCE (DNS) OF PROPOSED ACTION

Lower Duwamish River Habitat Restoration Plan

The Port of Seattle has completed an environmental analysis, including review of pertinent and available environmental information and preparation of an Environmental Checklist for the following proposal:

Description of the Proposed Action: The Port of Seattle has prepared an evaluation of potential fish and wildlife habitat restoration actions using port-owned bank line and aquatic area in the lower Duwamish River. The objective of the Lower Duwamish River Habitat Restoration Plan (Duwamish restoration plan) is to evaluate estuarine restoration opportunities at port-owned sites and to present a planning and policy framework for shoreline and aquatic area restoration coincident with continuing marine commerce and industrial use. The Duwamish restoration plan provides an inventory of potential fish and wildlife habitat restoration opportunities and guidance for future implementation efforts, including coordination with federal, state, and City of Seattle actions and programs.

The Duwamish restoration plan lists 31 potential fish and wildlife habitat restoration opportunities located in port-owned shoreline and aquatic area in the Duwamish Waterway. These restoration opportunities include potential for restoring tide flat, marsh, and riparian habitat. Each of the potential restoration actions may include combinations of the following activities: (1) removal of existing bank line and aquatic area rubble, riprap, and derelict materials; (2) removal of non-native, invasive plants; (3) re-grading bank line area to create more gradual slopes, expanding aquatic and shoreline area; (4) creating low-slope inter-tidal substrate areas as exposed mud/sand habitat or for the purpose of establishing marsh vegetation; (5) creating bank line slope areas suitable for planting of native riparian vegetation; and, (6) installation of erosion-control, bank line stabilization measures, including use of large-woody-debris and fiber materials. No specific project proposals are included in the Duwamish restoration plan and the present environmental checklist reviews the Duwamish restoration plan as a non-project action, pertaining to fish and wildlife habitat restoration programs and policies, and areas with the potential for habitat restoration.

Lead Agency: Port of Seattle (SEPA No. 08-11)

Location: The properties included in the Lower Duwamish River Habitat Restoration Plan include port-owned bank line and aquatic area along the margins of the approximately 5.3 mile long Duwamish Waterway, area extending from the south margin of Harbor Island, river mile 4.7, in south Elliott Bay, upstream to the head of navigation at Turning Basin Number Three, river mile 5.3.

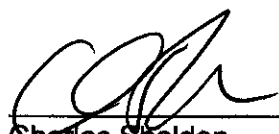


Determination: This environmental evaluation has been prepared following the provision of the Washington State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) under Chapter 43.21C, Revised Code of Washington (RCW), Chapter 197-11, Washington Administrative Code (WAC), and Resolution 3028, Port of Seattle SEPA Policies and Procedures. As lead agency, the Port has determined that the proposal will not have a probable significant adverse impact on the environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is not required under RCW 43.21C.030 (2) (c).

Supporting Information: Information used to reach this determination, and applicable State laws and Port of Seattle policies, regulations, and procedures are available for public review at the Port of Seattle Engineering Services Department, Second Floor Bid Counter, Pier 69, 2711 Alaskan Way, Seattle. Refer any questions relating to this determination or proposed actions to George Blomberg, Port of Seattle, Environmental Review and Permitting, P.O. Box 1209, Seattle, WA 98111 Telephone: 206-728-3194.

Public and Agency Comment: No action will be taken on this proposal until 4:00 PM on January 7, 2008, during which time public and agency comments will be received by the Port. Following the fourteen (14) day review period, the Port will (1) formally adopt this Determination of Non-Significance; or (2) clarify or review the proposal; or (3) complete additional environmental analyses, as appropriate. The Port will accept public and agency comments until 4:00 PM on January 7, 2008. All comments submitted to the Port will receive a prompt response. Please refer questions and comments about this determination or the proposal to George Blomberg, Port of Seattle, Environmental Review and Permitting, P.O. Box 1209, Seattle, WA 98111, or the Port of Seattle electronic mail Internet address at SEPA.p@portseattle.org. Include your mailing address when submitting comments to the electronic Internet address.

Appeals: This SEPA DNS determination may be appealed by filing a writ of review in King County Superior Court within twenty-one (21) days of the date the Port formally adopts this determination pursuant to Port of Seattle Resolution Nos. 3028, 3211 and 3539



Charles Sheldon
Managing Director, Seaport
December 11, 2008