

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

South Park Public Shoreline Access Site, Shoreline Rehabilitation Project, West Shoreline Duwamish Waterway, Eighth Avenue South and South Portland Street

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 proposed shoreline rehabilitation project includes re-grading port-owned Duwamish Waterway margin and adjacent City-owned South Riverside Drive right-of-way to restore inter-tidal and shoreline conditions and improve publicly accessible shoreline.

The proposed project includes approximately 180 linear feet of port-owned shoreline and upland on the west margin of Duwamish Waterway and the water-ward portion of South Riverside Drive, City of Seattle right-of-way, adjacent to port shoreline ownership. The existing abrupt and eroding filled shoreline area includes industrial rubble, debris, and a derelict wooden barge. Existing upland area includes unimproved Port shoreline property and City right-of-way formerly used for vehicle parking and uncovered construction materials storage.

The proposed shoreline rehabilitation project includes two elements: (1) inter-tidal area clean-up, including removal of an existing derelict wooden barge and removal of industrial debris and rubble and (2) re-grading an existing eroding, rubble filled bank line, removing previously placed fill material to rehabilitate inter-tidal area, followed by installation of large woody debris, native marsh, riparian, and upland vegetation. The proposed shoreline rehabilitation work will be accomplished as follows:

Remove existing derelict wooden barge and inter-tidal rubble: The derelict barge will be separated into sections and all barge material removed from the inter-tidal area (totaling approximately 1210 square feet). Concrete, metal, and other debris occupying adjacent inter-tidal area will also be removed, totaling approximately 2665 square feet. Derelict barge and inter-tidal industrial debris removal will re-expose and rehabilitate a combine total of approximately 4075 square feet of existing inter-tidal area.

Shoreline re-grading and excavation: Shoreline restoration will include reducing existing shoreline and upland elevations from approximately plus 15 to 16 feet MLLW to approximately plus 11 to 13 feet MLLW. The MHHW contour will shift up to 15 linear feet land-ward, providing approximately 1975 square feet of restored, rehabilitated inter-tidal area suitable for establishing marsh vegetation.

Following excavating and re-grading of the eroding, rubble bank line, the re-shaped shoreline will be stabilized using rock-filled gabions, shaped with vegetation planting tubes and pockets, to form a terraced, vegetated bank edge. The vegetated gabions will include approximately 180 linear feet, between plus 14 and 11 feet MLLW. The water-ward base of the vegetated gabions will be protected with large woody debris anchored at the toe of the terraced gabion slope.

Upland excavation will include grading to create a surface water collection/retention swale. Existing grade elevations will be reduced approximately 1.5 to 2.0 feet, to 14.5 to 13 feet MLLW.

Shoreline and upland excavation materials will be stockpiled on site in the form of a landscape mound. Placement of excavation materials includes use of locking concrete barriers to form a back-wall for containing excavated materials as an elevated landscape mound. Approximately 180 linear feet of concrete barrier will be installed, allowing for a contoured mound sloping up-ward from existing grade, approximately plus 15 MLLW, to a top-of-slope elevation at approximately plus 23 feet MLLW. The landscape mound will be placed in existing upland area and include a total of approximately 475 cubic yards of stockpiled excavated materials.

Restored inter-tidal area, between approximately plus 11 feet and 13 feet MLLW will be planted with native marsh vegetation. Total area of new marsh plantings is expected to be approximately 1975 square feet.

In order to stabilize shoreline and upland slope conditions, and to improve shoreline natural resource value, native riparian vegetation will be installed at the site. Shoreline and upland vegetation will include approximately 8350 square feet riparian and upland trees, shrubs, and ground cover.

Existing below-grade sanitary sewer and water lines will remain, unaffected by site grading activities.

Location of Proposed Action: The proposed shoreline rehabilitation site, including combined Port of Seattle, Duwamish Waterway property and South Riverside Drive, City of Seattle, right-of-way area, has no street address. The project site is located on the west shoreline of the Duwamish Waterway, near River Mile 3.2, approximately 450 linear feet east of the South Riverside Drive/South Holden Street/Seventh Avenue South intersection and approximately 170 feet north of the South Portland Street/Eight Avenue South intersection.

Lead Agency: Port of Seattle (SEPA No. 12-03)

Determination: The Port of Seattle has completed an environmental evaluation of the proposed shoreline rehabilitation project including review of pertinent and available environmental information, following the provisions 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 Port Commission Resolution 3650, Port of Seattle SEPA Policies and Procedures. On April 12, 2012, as lead agency, the Port determined the proposal would 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). Any action to set aside, enjoin, review, or otherwise challenge such action on the grounds of noncompliance with the provisions of Chapter 43.21C RCW (State Environmental Policy Act) shall be commenced within 21 days from the date of last newspaper publication of the notice or be barred. Port Commission Resolution 3650 contains the procedures for appealing a SEPA decision of the Port of Seattle.

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. Any questions relating to this determination or to the proposed actions should be referred to George Blomberg, Port of Seattle, Environmental Review and Permitting, P.O. Box

1209, Seattle, WA 98111. Tel: 206-728-3194. The document is also available for review online at <http://www.portseattle.org/Environmental/Environmental-Documents/SEPA-NEPA/Pages/default.aspx>

Public and Agency Comment: No action will be taken on this proposal until after the 14-day public comment period expires at 4:00 PM on August 10, 2012, after which the Port will (1) formally adopt this Determination of Non-Significance; (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 August 10, 2012. Please refer any questions relating to this determination or to the proposed actions to George Blomberg, Port of Seattle, Seaport Environmental and Planning, P. O. Box 1209, Seattle, WA 98111. Telephone: 206-787-3194 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 No. 3650 and RCW 43.21C.080

Signature on File

Linda Styrk, Managing Director
Seaport Administration
July 24, 2012