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

Seattle-Tacoma International Airport (SEA)
Aquatic Mosquito Control Program

The Port of Seattle (Port) has completed an environmental analysis, including review of pertinent and available environmental information and preparation of a State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) Checklist for the Aquatic Mosquito Control Program.

Description of Proposed Project Action: SEA is applying for coverage under Washington State Department of Ecology’s Aquatic Mosquito Control General Permit (General Permit) to carry out a mosquito population control program. The mosquito control program would be implemented to minimize insect populations that attract hazardous wildlife such as birds, per SEA’s Hazardous Wildlife Protection Plan. SEA has stormwater ponds with the potential to host large populations of mosquitos. Receipt of the General Permit coverage would allow SEA to apply pesticides to these stormwater ponds. The General Permit authorizes the use of multiple pesticides however SEA is most likely to use an approved pesticide that is a naturally occurring soil bacterium that can effectively kill mosquito larvae present in water. No measurable environmental health hazards are associated with exposure to this pesticide, which is non-toxic to mammals, birds, and fish.

Between May and September, SEA pest management staff will inspect ponds (Figure 1) for mosquito larvae presence. If activity is present, then the pesticide would be applied directly to the pond(s) to manage the populations. All treatments authorized by coverage under Ecology’s General Permit will be performed by, or supervised by, a licensed applicator who will follow Ecology’s "Best Management Practices for Mosquito Control, May 2004 (publication number 03-1 0-023) or equivalent.

Location of Proposed Action: Seattle-Tacoma International Airport,
17801 Pacific Highway South
SeaTac, WA 98158

Lead Agency: Port of Seattle (SEPA File Number 2024-01)

Determination: The Port of Seattle completed an environmental evaluation including review of pertinent 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 of Seattle Commission Resolution No. 3650, and Port of Seattle SEPA Policies and Procedures. The Port of Seattle’s SEPA determination concludes that environmental impacts of the proposal are not significant.

Supporting Information: Information used to reach this determination and applicable State laws and Port of Seattle polices, regulations, and procedures are available for public review at the Port
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Public and Agency Comment: The DNS and Environmental Checklist for this project was published on March 8, 2024. The Port’s Final DNS is now being issued based on the final determination of no significant environmental impacts. Please refer any questions relating to this determination or to the proposed actions to Steve Rybolt, Port of Seattle, Aviation Environment and Sustainability Department, P.O. Box 68727, Seattle, Washington 98168. Telephone 206.787.5527. Email SEPA@portseattle.org. Include your mailing address when submitting comments to the electronic Internet address.

Appeals: The Port’s decision on the proposal described above and the Port’s issuance of a Final DNS on this proposal constitute the Port’s Final SEPA decision. 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 of issuance pursuant to Port of Seattle Resolution No. 3650. Any appeal of the SEPA DNS must also satisfy the requirements of RCW 43.21C.075.

Sarah Cox, Director, Aviation Environment and Sustainability and SEPA Responsible Official
Port of Seattle, Seattle – Tacoma International Airport
April 1, 2024