State of Washington
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
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ADDENDUM 21-039 TO MITIGATED DETERMINATION OF NONSIGNIFICANCE (MDNS) 13-074
DATED: OCTOBER 28, 2013

Name of Proposal: MDNS 13-074: SOOS CREEK FISH HATCHERY REDEVELOPMENT

Description of Addendum 21-039: Note that a previous Addendum (16-016) was issued for earlier design changes and modified plans. This Addendum 21-039 is for Water Filtration System Upgrades.

In 2017 the Soos Creek hatchery began major renovations in order to address a series of environmental and resource management issues that threatened the continued function of the hatchery. This renovation was necessary in order to upgrade facilities that were constructed 70 years ago and had outlived their life expectancy and to address the altered flow regime of Big Soos Creek (Soos Creek) resulting from upstream development. Due to the scale of this renovation project, permitting and construction have been carried out in phases dependent on funding made available by the legislature. The most essential components of the redevelopment (relocating the hatchery facilities to the northern site outside of the Soos Creek 100-year floodplain) have been prioritized and were completed in 2019. However, additional upgrades to the hatchery's water treatment system are still necessary in order to address fish pathogens within the water and Soos Creek's altered flow regime, both of which threaten the health of the salmon stock and the continuation of hatchery operations. The funding for these water treatment upgrades has become available due to the support of the Muckleshoot Tribe and WDFW is proposing to construct these system upgrades in 2022. The upgrades would take place within the footprint of the disturbed area from the 2017 phase of the hatchery redevelopment and would not involve work within Soos Creek. This project would result in 3,797 square feet (SF) of additional impervious surfaces within the buffer of Soos Creek and would be mitigated for accordingly.

This project proposes to install a water treatment supply for the raceways and the hatchery building. For the raceway water supply treatment, three drum filtration units will be constructed in a new filter building located in the area east of the raceways. Additionally, the existing pump back system will be expanded to include two more reuse pumps, which will require redesigning the reuse screening, expanding the sump footprint, and adding packed column aerators to Distribution Box 2. A new fish release channel will be installed to the north of the raceway ponds, which will be optimized by adding submerged weirs. For the hatchery water supply treatment, the existing fine settling pond will be adapted with two new drum filtration units. A metal canopy will be constructed over the existing fine settling pond to protect the new equipment. Additional electrical upgrades will be made to ensure the electrical infrastructure supports the new mechanical upgrades to include total load, backup power, controls, alarms, uninterruptible power supply (UPS) and spare pathways. Finally, two pipes will be resized in

order to meet proper water flow specifications (a 24" pipe will be resized to 36" and a 24" pipe will be resized to 42").

The project work will take place within the 200-foot shore jurisdiction and within the 165 foot aquatic buffer of Soos Creek. No work will take place below the ordinary high water mark (OHWM) of Soos Creek. The project will result in an additional 3,797 SF of impervious surface within the buffer. The majority of this new impervious surface will come from the raceway filter building (1835 SF) and the metal canopy over the fine settling pond (1547 SF) with the screened water chamber (96 SF), reuse pump vault expansion (68 SF) and Distribution Box 2 expansion (250 SF) accounting for the remaining impervious surface additions.

Soos Creek Hatchery is 73,524 SF, though the project will be restricted to the North Site. The existing impervious surface of the Soos Creek Hatchery is 52,636 SF and the new impervious area being developed is 3,797 SF for a new impervious surface of 56,433 SF. This would represent a 5% increase in impervious surfaces, which would be mitigated through the planting of native species within the aquatic buffer (mitigation plan sheet in development).

These impacts would be mitigated at a ratio of 1:1 with the planting of 3,797 SF of the western bank of Soos Creek, ensuring no net loss to the shoreline environment. All of the project activities would take place outside of the 100-year floodplain. The riparian habitat enhancement proposed as mitigation for the project would restore the buffer habitat where the old hatchery facilities were previously located.

Description of Original Proposal:
The first phase includes redevelopment of the critical functions of hatchery operation that are located in or immediately adjacent to Soos Creek. The second phase includes the remaining important elements of the hatchery operation. The third phase completes the redevelopment with support facilities such as staff housing and public amenities that serve visitor needs.

The project will first replace the in-water structures including construction of a new water intake, new adult pond, and creation of a fish ladder. The existing lumber shed will be demolished and removed. The northern bridge across Soos Creek will be widened and elevated and include improvements with timber curbs and hand railing.

Once the new fish ladder, adult ponds, and intake prove fully functional the existing adult pond, diversion dam, intake facility, and downstream weir of the adult pond will be removed. Soos Creek will be restored at the location of the existing adult pond to historic bankfull widths. The upstream weir will be reconstructed with new materials to retain the diversion dam function with a tainter-gate allowing for fish migration up- and down-stream approximately 6 weeks/year. Riparian restoration of the areas impacted by removal of the former in- and near-water structures will be conducted directly upon their removal to complete the first phase of redevelopment.

Redevelopment of the remainder of the fish rearing facilities will follow, in a second phase, including construction of a hatchery building (with incubation racks, rearing troughs, and offices), fish feed storage building, an abatement pond, two water-system settling ponds, and two sets of rearing ponds. Once the new ponds (abatement, settling, and rearing) prove fully functional the outdated southern rearing ponds shall be restored to wetland habitat suitable for the likely hydrology and soils regime that will be established in this location. Demolition of the hatchery buildings and other structures, with the exception of existing rearing ponds 1-8, the storage garage, and the maintenance building, are scheduled for removal during this phase. The

remaining areas, mostly within the jurisdictional shoreline area, shall be enhanced with a native vegetative community commensurate with the natural area of this shoreline environment.

The final phase of construct consists of two staff residences and public amenities. Demolition of the old Auburn Maintenance Buildings including: main maintenance building, lumber shed, equipment storage building, and another storage building will occur followed by construct of two residences, parking areas, kiosks, restrooms, paved connections and enhancement and restoration to a substantial portion of former Soos Creek Fish Hatchery.

The proponent shall incorporate the following mitigation measures into the project:
The three-part project has been planned methodically to avoid actions that cause adverse environmental effects. Even with efforts to minimize impacts, several components were down-sized, there remain unavoidable impacts that require mitigation. The redevelopment has been sequenced to assure that the development impacts occurring in each phase includes mitigation, listed below, that more than adequately addresses these impacts.

Phase I

A. Removal of in-stream adult pond to an adjacent upland location,
B. Installation of a fish ladder to allow up-stream migrating fish to access the hatchery adult pond and up-stream habitat when released to through return conduit,
C. Enhancement and/or restoration of riparian zones associated with the former hatchery near-stream facilities, including these areas:
    1. existing adult pond, including all of the lower weir (footings, etc.), and
    2. existing intake facility, including removal of the diversion dam.
D. Endangered species, cultural and historical resource considerations shall be fully addressed and mitigation specific to the in-water, and near-water, work proscribed in concert with US Army Corps of Engineers, the Muckleshoot Tribe, the Services (NMFS & USFWS), King County and the Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation. Two listed species are reared in this hatchery: Puget Sound Chinook and Puget Sound steelhead trout. The federal and state environmental review processes include cultural and historical resource considerations.

Phase II

A. Remove southern rearing ponds and restored the whole area to wetland habitat suitable for this location. This restoration plan must be completed prior the construction of any new rearing pond; and shall be a required component of the permitting, notably under King County's SMP, prior to Phase II approval. A preliminary restoration plan for Phase II will be included in Phase I reviews.
B. The hatchery buildings and other structures shall be properly evaluated and inventoried as with regard to their historical significance. A Historic Property Evaluation shall be conducted.
C. Where structures have been removed, including paved areas, areas shall be enhanced with a native vegetative community commensurate with the natural area of this shoreline environment. As stated above, this enhancement plan must be finalized prior the construction or demolition of any structures; and will be a required component of the permitting with preliminary restoration plans included in Phase I reviews.

Phase III

A. Where structures have been removed, including paved areas, areas shall be enhanced with a native vegetative community commensurate with the natural area of this shoreline environment.
B. Preliminary restoration plans will be included in Phase I and Phase II reviews with an adequate level of detail to afford public and permit reviewers to determine that mitigation requirements are being met.

Proponent/Applicant: Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW)
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Location of Proposal, including street, if any: WDFW Soos Creek Hatchery, 13030 SE Auburn-Black Diamond Road, Auburn, King County, Washington: Township 21N, Range 5E, Section 16.

Lead Agency: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW)

This addendum is being distributed pursuant to WACs 197-11-600 and 197-11-625. The updated information provided above does not substantially change the analysis of significant impacts in the existing environmental checklist. Based on the original DNS and the updated information provided in this addendum, we have determined that a new threshold determination is not warranted. There is no comment period associated with this SEPA addendum.

Responsible Official: Lisa Wood

Position/Title: SEPA/NEPA Coordinator, WDFW Habitat Program, Protection Division

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Applicants may view the supporting documents for this addendum on the WDFW SEPA website: https://wdfw.wa.gov/licenses/environmental/sepa/closed-final.

If you have questions about this DNS or the details of the proposal, contact Lisa Wood at SEPADesk2@dfw.wa.gov.

DATE OF ISSUE: August 3, 2021 **SIGNATURE:** Lisa Wood

SEPA Log Number: ADD 21-039 to MDNS 13-074