

## Project Description for Ebey Island Access Redevelopment Incorporating Addenda 22-001, 22-054, and 23-010 to DNS 20-062

The project scope for the Ebey Island Access Redevelopment project has undergone additional revisions since Addendum 22-054 was issued on December 9, 2022. These changes are being added to the original SEPA determination and first two addenda as a third addendum. The current project description below incorporates changes from all three addenda.

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) is proposing to re-develop an existing public parking area and access to Deadwater Slough on the WDFW owned Ebey Island Unit of Snoqualmie Wildlife Area. The site is a 5.41-acre parcel and a 143.36 acre parcel located within the larger 1,273-acre Ebey Island Unit, much of which is closed to public access for the protection of waterfowl nesting and rearing habitat during the non-hunting season. The Unit is open for pheasant and waterfowl hunting seasons and wildlife viewing and other recreational opportunities in designated areas.

This project will provide an upgrade to an existing access meant for recreational opportunities for wildlife viewing and non-motorized boat use. This project proposes to re-grade and gravel an existing hog-fuel parking lot, create two Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant parking spaces, ADA accessible path, install a wildlife viewing blind, install a hand-carry boat launch and landing, and create a 5 ft wide wood chip trail to provide walking access to both the viewing blind and the north hand-carry boat launch/landing. The entrance will be moved approximately 40 ft to the south, away from the intersection of 51st Ave SE and 20th St SE to comply with the Snohomish County Engineering Design and Developments Standards (EDDS 2-04). The existing entrance will be blocked off with cement ecology blocks.

Ground disturbance will occur at the parking area to a depth of 12 inches and at the hand-carry boat launch locations (both banks of Deadwater Slough) to a depth of 12 inches. Other limited ground disturbances will be associated with trail construction and stormwater dispersion area implementation. No disturbance will occur below the ordinary high-water mark (OHWM) of Deadwater Slough as the hand-carry boat launch and landing will be located above OHWM. The landing will occur on the south bank of Deadwater slough on a separate parcel of the Ebey Island Unit, owned by WDFW. This site will not be accessible to public vehicle access.

Existing impervious surface is 15,732 square feet (sf) of hog fuel parking and entry areas, some of which will be replaced with gravel. Total impervious surface will increase due to the development of a new asphalt paved entrance, ADA designated parking spaces, ADA accessible path, wood-chip walking paths and proposed hand-carry boat launch and landing, which will add +3,179 sf of impervious surface. The total proposed impervious surface will be 18,911 sf.

### Wetland

One wetland (Wetland A) was identified on site and is classified as a Category II riverine wetland, located along the banks of Deadwater Slough. Wetland A is characterized by emergent vegetation including Douglas' spirea (*Spiraea douglasii*) and broad-leaf cattail (*Typha latifolia*). Invasive reed canary grass (*Phalaris arundinacea*) is present throughout the wetland and along

the shores of Deadwater Slough. Following Snohomish County Code (SCC) 32.62A.320, the wetland buffer is 110 ft.

A delineation of the ordinary high water mark (OHWM) of Deadwater Slough was completed on February 12, 2020, and corresponded in the field to approximately elevation 2.50 feet North American Vertical Datum 1988 (NAVD88). Using the rating system in SCC 30.62A.230(1), Deadwater Slough is classified as a Type F (fish habitat<sup>1</sup>) water. Type F waters have a standard buffer of 150 feet.

#### Stormwater and BMPs – Full Dispersal

During the construction phase of the project, specific best management practices (BMPs) will be put in place to manage and minimize any potential impacts to the site. This includes the use of erosion control BMPs, such as straw wattles or silt fencing, which will be in place for the duration of construction and removed as appropriate based on the BMP. See Sheets 4 and 5 of the plan set.

KPFF Consulting Engineers completed a Stormwater Drainage Report in July 2022 and additional details can be found there. In summary, operational stormwater management elements consist of the following:

- The drainage design is based on Snohomish County Code (SCC), Chapter 30.63A, and the current Snohomish County Drainage Manual (January 2021). Water Quality & Flow Control requirements are fully addressed utilizing Full Dispersion (BMP T5.30).
- The pre-development drainage basin is 5.41 acres total. Stormwater runoff on-site currently infiltrates and naturally disperses through native vegetation before indirectly flowing into Deadwater Slough. No downstream issues are anticipated and the current flow pattern is to be maintained in the post-developed condition.
- On-site runoff from the gravel parking area, access entrance, and some trails will sheet flow to a 15,515-square-foot dispersion area with 100-foot minimum flow path. A 2-foot dispersion transition zone as shown in the plans will be provided to ensure flows are not concentrated and are evenly distributed in the dispersion area. The dispersion flow path area will be scarified and excavated to a 2-inch depth and compost will be added to match the existing grade. Willow stakes will be added to this area to provide vegetative cover.
- No underground utilities are proposed, and all upgraded impervious surfaces will fully sheet flow to proposed Full Dispersion facilities. No significant concentrated flow is anticipated and all existing TDAs have been maintained.
- In accordance with BMP T5.30 Full Dispersion, a 122,966 square-foot minimum native growth protection area (NGPA) is proposed and will be recorded before issuance of the LDA permit.

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<sup>1</sup> Per WAC 222-16-030(5)(h), "Fish habitat" means habitat which is used by any fish at any life stage at any time of the year, including potential habitat likely to be used by fish which could be recovered by restoration or management and includes off-channel habitat. Since fish are likely present in Deadwater Slough through flooding and agricultural ditch connections, and since Deadwater Slough could be directly connected to the Snohomish River or Ebey Slough through restoration actions (e.g., levee removal, water control structure removal), it is considered to be fish habitat.

### Mitigation

There will be no work below OHWM. There will be no impact within the delineated boundary of Wetland A. Impacts to the upland part of the site are proposed in the 110-foot standard Category II wetland buffer and the 150-foot standard Type F stream buffer, as well as impacts to shoreline jurisdiction (200 feet landward of OHWM of a Shoreline of the State and associated 100-year floodplain) outside of the stream and wetland buffer, due to constructing wood chip walking paths<sup>2</sup>, a gravel hand-carry boat launch/landing (north and south), a viewing blind, ADA-accessible parking spaces, ADA accessible path, stormwater dispersion transition zone and asphalt paved entrance. This will add 2,625 square feet (SF) of new impervious surface within the wetland and stream buffers. To offset this impact, **7,875 SF** of existing Himalayan blackberry will be removed, and the area will be planted with upland shrubs (4 feet on center) and trees (10 feet on center) (492 total). Additionally, 8 inches of fine bark mulch will be installed around the plantings to increase moisture content and reduce weed species from establishing. The planting area will be maintained to meet or exceed performance standards of at least 50% native plant cover in the first year, and 80% in years 2 and 3. No more than 25% invasive plant cover will be present within the planting area at the end of the three-year monitoring period.

This mitigation will meet a mitigation ratio of 3:1 (mitigation:impact) per SCC 30.62A.320(3). The quantification of impact is based on the net gain of impervious surfaces in the combined wetland and stream buffers. *The net gain of impervious surface within the wetland/stream buffer is 2,625 SF - multiplied by the 3:1 ratio equals 7,875 SF of required mitigation.*

The remaining existing Himalayan blackberry on site will be left in place to avoid additional ground disturbance and erosion potential.

### Project Totals

*1,766 SF of trails/boat launches/viewing blind (new impervious in stream/wetland buffer)*

*379 SF of new parking area (ADA parking in stream/wetland buffer)*

*271 SF of new asphalt (entrance in stream/wetland buffer)*

*209 SF of new dispersion transition zone (between gravel parking area and 100' flow path)*

*2,625 SF x 3 = 7,875 SF of planting area*

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<sup>2</sup> Because there is potential that the ground surface within the trail footprint may require compaction required to placement of geotextile fabric and wood chips, the wood chip trails will be counted as impervious surface, although runoff from the trail surface is expected be minimal.