

### **ADDENDUM TO:**

Determination of Nonsignificance (DNS), Parcel 14 Grading and Habitat Restoration Projects, issued 1/3/2013 and Addendum dated 3/11/2015, by the Port of Tacoma; and the associated Environmental Checklist, submitted 1/2/2013 by the Port of Tacoma.

This Addendum consists of the following information:

1. Minor changes in the project description.
2. A determination that there is no material change to the environmental impacts or SEPA Checklist associated with the change in the project.

## ADDENDUM TO EXISTING ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTS

### **Description of Current Proposal:**

The Port of Tacoma (Port) has progressed the design of the Lower Wapato Creek Habitat Project (Habitat Restoration Project) and have re-applied for local, state, and federal permits in early 2020. This SEPA addendum is being issued to modify the SEPA project description for the Habitat Restoration Project to replace the originally proposed 19-foot-wide bottomless culvert on Wapato Creek at 12<sup>th</sup> Street E with an approximately 50-foot-wide single span bridge. In addition, this addendum updates the SEPA drawings and changes the project back to the originally proposed advance mitigation site instead of a mitigation bank site.

No changes to the Parcel 14 Grading & Drainage District 23 Ditch Alterations Project are proposed.

**Proponent(s):** Port of Tacoma

**Location:** The Habitat Restoration Project is located in the cities of Tacoma and Fife, entirely within Section 1, Township 20 North, Range 3 East, Willamette Meridian. The project is generally located on the Port's Parcel 14 located between SR-509 and 12<sup>th</sup> Street E, and Alexander Ave E and the Drainage District 23/Fife Ditch. The project is located within tax parcels 0320017003, 03200130055, 0320013157, 0320013158 for the project site and tax parcel 0320011117 for the soil disposal/stockpile site.

**Lead Agency:** Port of Tacoma

**Title of Document(s) being Added to or Modified; Date and Preparing Agency:** Parcel 14 Grading and Habitat Restoration Projects 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 Tacoma Commission Resolution 2016-06-PT, *Public Hearing/Adoption of SEPA Resolution 2016-06-PT* and Procedures adopted October 20, 2016.


**If the document being added to or modified is the subject of a pending appeal, or has been found inadequate on appeal, please describe:** N/A

**These documents are available to be read at (place/time):** Port of Tacoma, Environmental Programs Department, One Sitcum Plaza, Tacoma, Washington, 98421 from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Monday through Friday.

This addendum is issued under WAC 197-11-600(4)(c), and 197-11-625. This addendum and its attachments add analysis and information about the proposal,

**Contact Person:** Mark Rettmann, Project Manager, Port of Tacoma, P.O. Box 1837, Tacoma, WA 98401-1837. Telephone: 253-592-6716

**SEPA Responsible Official:** Dakota Chamberlain, Chief Facilities Development Officer, Port of Tacoma, P.O. Box 1837, Tacoma, WA 98401-1837, (253) 592-6734.

  
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Dakota Chamberlain

8/5/2020  
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Date

## SEPA Addendum

### PARCEL 14 GRADING AND HABITAT RESTORATION PROJECTS (Lower Wapato Creek Habitat Project)

#### PROJECT MODIFICATION DESCRIPTION

July 28, 2020

**PROJECT NAME:** Parcel 14 Grading and Habitat Restoration Projects  
(Lower Wapato Creek Habitat Project)

**PROPONENT:** Port of Tacoma (Port)

**LOCATION:** The Habitat Restoration Project is located in the Cities of Tacoma and Fife, entirely within Section 1, Township 20 North, Range 3 East, Willamette Meridian. The project is generally located on the Port's Parcel 14 located between SR-509 and 12th Street E, and Alexander Ave E and the Drainage District 23/Fife Ditch. The project is located within tax parcels 0320017003, 03200130055, 0320013157, 0320013158 for the project site and tax parcel 0320011117 for the soil disposal/stockpile site.

**PROJECT CONTACT:** Mark Rettmann  
Environmental Project Manager II  
Port of Tacoma  
Phone: (253) 592-6716

#### INTRODUCTION

This SEPA addendum is being issued to modify the SEPA project description to modify the SEPA project description for the Habitat Restoration Project to replace the originally proposed 19-foot-wide bottomless culvert on Wapato Creek at 12<sup>th</sup> Street E with an approximately 50-foot-wide single span bridge. In addition, this addendum updates the SEPA drawings and changes the project back to the originally proposed advance mitigation project instead of a mitigation bank project.

No changes to the Parcel 14 Grading & Drainage District 23 Ditch Alterations Project are proposed.

#### EXPLANATION OF CHANGES TO THE APPROVED PROJECT DESCRIPTION

### **General Description (clarifies and revises SEPA Checklist A.11):**

The SEPA Checklist dated January 2, 2013, DNS threshold determination dated January 3, 2013, and SEPA Addendum dated March 11, 2015 consisted of two projects. The first project is the Parcel 14 Grading & Drainage District 23 (DD 23) Ditch Alterations Project (Grading Project) and the second project is the Lower Wapato Advanced Mitigation Project (Habitat Restoration Project). This SEPA addendum modifies the previous description for the Habitat Restoration Project as follows:

- The project will also be referred to as the Lower Wapato Creek Habitat Project (LWCHP).
- The originally proposed 19-foot-wide bottomless culvert on Wapato Creek at 12th Street E is replaced with an approximately 50-foot-wide single span bridge (see permit drawings dated June 1, 2020).
- SEPA drawings for the Habitat Restoration Project are replaced with the permit drawings dated June 1, 2020.
- The type of mitigation project is changed back to the originally proposed advance mitigation project instead of a mitigation bank project detailed in the SEPA Addendum dated March 11, 2015. Updated project information is provided in the Joint Aquatics Resources Application (JARPA) dated May 5, 2020, the Draft Advance Mitigation Plan dated June 1, 2020, and in the other related project documents listed below under A.8.

### **A. BACKGROUND**

#### **8. List any environmental information you know about that has been prepared, or will be prepared, directly related to this proposal.**

Below are additional documents that have been prepared for the LWCHP:

- Groundwater Monitoring Annual Summary. GeoEngineers, Inc. January 11, 2018.
- WDFW Fish Passage and Diversion Screening Inventory Database. Site ID 105 R121420a. WDFW. October 1, 2019.
- Culvert Structure Type Recommendation – Draft. GeoEngineers, February 6, 2020.
- Geotechnical Engineering Services Report Addendum – Draft. GeoEngineers, Inc. April 3, 2020.
- Salinity Measurements and Salt Tolerant Vegetation Survey – Draft. GeoEngineers, Inc. April 3, 2020.
- Hydrologic and Hydraulic Analyses – Draft, GeoEngineers, Inc. April 10, 2020.
- Floodplain Memo, GeoEngineers, Inc. May 1, 2020.
- Joint Aquatic Resources Permit Application (JARPA), Port of Tacoma. May 5, 2020.
- No Effects Memo, Port of Tacoma. May 5, 2020.
- Critical Areas Report, Port of Tacoma. May 29, 2020.
- Advance Mitigation Plan, Port of Tacoma. June 1, 2020.
- JARPA Permit Drawings, Port of Tacoma. June 1, 2020.
- See B.13 below for cultural documents.

## **B. ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS**

### **1. Earth**

- e. Describe the purpose, type, and approximate quantities of any filling or grading proposed. Indicate source of fill.**

The type and quantities of filling and grading have changed slightly based on progressing the project design and changing the Wapato Creek crossing to an approximately 50-foot-wide single span bridge. The LWCHP quantities are updated with the quantities identified in the May 5, 2020 JARPA, Section 8.E.

### **13. Historic and Cultural Preservation**

- b. Generally describe any landmarks or evidence of historic, archaeological, scientific, or cultural importance known to be on or next to the site.**

The Puyallup Tribe of Indians (PTOI) had expressed concern over the project area in early 2013. Since 2013, the Port has coordinated closely with the PTOI Council and staff regarding the location, the project, and the PTOI concerns. In July 2019, the Port received a letter of support for the Project from the PTOI along with specific conditions to implement during the project. Port staff is working closely with the PTOI staff to implement the conditions during design, permitting, and construction of the project.

Archaeological investigations and reports for the project include the following:

- 2008 – “Cultural Resources Assessment for the Blair-Hylebos Redevelopment Project”, Tacoma, Pierce County, WA, Cultural Resource Consultants, Inc. (CRC), Technical Report #358, CRC Project #0710G, November 6, 2008.
- 2012 – “Archaeological Assessment of Parcel 14, the East-West Road and Alexander Avenue, Tacoma, Pierce County, WA”, Cultural Resource Consultants, Inc., Technical Memo 1205H – 1, June 1, 2012.
- 2014 – “Cultural Resources Overview for the Parcel 14 Project, Tacoma, WA”, Cultural Resource Consultants, Inc., Technical Memo 1305E-5, May 9, 2014.
- 2014 – “Parcel 14 – Pad 3 Stormwater Storage Basin Monitoring, Port of Tacoma, Pierce County, WA”. Cultural Resource Consultants, Inc., Technical Memo #1402N-1.
- 2014 – Daily Archaeological Monitoring Log by Sonja Kassa, Cultural Resource Consultants, Inc. (CRC), CRC Project No. 1402Q, September 5, 2014.
- 2015 – “Review of Prologis Parcel 14 Development Geotech Logs”. Cultural Resource Consultants, Inc. October 2, 2015.

- 2016 – “Cultural Resources Assessment for the Prologis Parcel 14 Project, Pierce County, WA”. Cultural Resource Consultants, Inc., Technical Memo 1602G-2. June 27, 2016.
- 2016 - Archaeological Monitoring and Inadvertent Discovery Plan for Prologis Port of Tacoma Parcel 14 Development Project, Tacoma, Washington. June 27, 2016
- 2020 – Inadvertent Discovery Plan for the Port of Tacoma’s Lower Wapato Creek Habitat Project Subsurface Investigation. February 28, 2020.
- 2020 – “Results of Cultural Resources Monitoring for the Port of Tacoma - Parcel 14 Lower Wapato Combined Habitat Project Geotechnical Study, Pierce County, Washington”. Willamette Cultural Resources Associates, Ltd., Technical Memo. April 1, 2020.
- 2020 – “Results of Cultural Resources Monitoring for the Port of Tacoma - Parcel 14 Lower Wapato Combined Habitat Project Additional Geotechnical Study, Pierce County, Washington”. Willamette Cultural Resources Associates, Ltd., Technical Memo. May 26, 2020.