



**NOTICE of MITIGATED DETERMINATION OF NON-SIGNIFICANCE (MDNS)
South Terminal Berth Improvements / Mill A Interim Action
Port SEPA File No. 2018-03**

The Port of Everett has issued a mitigated determination of non-significance (MDNS) under the State Environmental Policy Act Rules (Chapter 197-11) for the following project:

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSAL: The proposal entails maintenance dredging activities and infrastructure improvements at the South Terminal Wharf in to improve vessel navigation in response to anticipated needs of the Port's current customers' cargoes getting heavier and larger. The proposal also includes completion of a portion of the Mill A Cleanup under an Interim Action Agreement with WA Department of Ecology (ECY).

The proposal includes four main components, including mitigation:

1. **Structural Improvements:**
 - a. Two new 15-foot square concrete mooring dolphins supported on a total of 18, 24-inch-diameter steel pipe piles, new mooring hardware, railings, and a fender system consisting of eight (total), 12-inch-diameter steel pipe fender piles, all connected by aluminum, fully grated catwalks (two 100-ft lengths by 6-ft wide). Construction of the dolphins is expected to require use of 18, 24-inch-diameter, uncoated, temporary, steel pipe piles installed and removed utilizing a vibratory hammer.
 - b. Fender point improvements at five locations along the face of the existing wharf including removal of five, 35-foot-long portions of the existing fender system (175 feet total) and installation of a total of 50 16-inch HP16 piles. Work includes removal and disposal of existing creosote treated timber chocks and walers, and extraction of 20 existing fender piles. The new fendering system includes five new 15-foot-diameter, 30-foot-long, floating, removable pneumatic fenders. A sand cover will be placed prior to pile driving to minimize the potential for disturbance and transport of contamination.
 - c. Two new higher capacity mooring bollards at the South Terminal dolphin berth trestle. Work includes replacing four concrete deck panels to be cast in place. Approximately 18, temporary, uncoated 24-in diameter steel pipe piles may be utilized to facilitate the work.
2. **Maintenance Dredging:** The proposed maintenance dredging of approximately 25,840 cubic yards of material will occur within the existing historical dredge footprint to -40 feet (MLLW) plus 1 foot overdredge allowance. The dredge area is within the Weyerhaeuser Mill A Former cleanup site that is being administered by ECY under the Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA). Total dredge area is approximately 81,435 square feet (sf). Dredging will be conducted using a barge-mounted dredge. Dredged material that is suitable for open water disposal will be disposed at the Port Gardner Bay open-water disposal site located in Everett, Washington. Dredged material unsuitable for open-water disposal will be transported to an upland disposal facility. The removal of contaminated material will be coordinated with ECY Toxics Cleanup Program (TCP) staff who oversee the overall cleanup activities at the site.
3. **Slope Armoring:** Slope armoring will be constructed on the dredge transition slopes to maintain slope stability, contain any exposed contaminated materials and protect against propeller scour. The total surface area of new armor fill is approximately 4,609 sf. A layer of coarse sand and pea gravel (fish mix) will be used to fill the interstices and cover a portion of the armoring.
4. **Environmental Mitigation:** The project has been designed to avoid and minimize adverse impacts to the estuarine system, however, some impacts are unavoidable. Approximately 1,424 sf of overwater shading impacts will be mitigated for by the use of Union Slough advanced mitigation credits.

Permanent benthic habitat displacement will be mitigated for through demolition of 20 12-inch fender piles and an 8-pile creosote treated timber dolphin, the removal of contaminated material, placement of coarse sand and pea gravel mix (“fish mix”) over approximately 3,022 sf of armored area, and approximately 115 sf of Union Slough advanced mitigation site credits.

Prior to dredge activities, approximately 900 sf of eelgrass will be salvaged from within the proposed dredge area and transplanted to the nearby Pigeon Creek delta. After dredging is completed, the Port will also transplant 1,800 sf of eelgrass to the Pigeon Creek delta using donor stock from surrounding healthy eelgrass habitat. These actions will compensate for the loss of temporal function from transplanting the eelgrass and any additional unforeseen project related impacts to nearshore benthic function. The Port will implement a five-year monitoring plan. If success criteria are not met, the Port will supplement the existing planting or enter into adaptive management with applicable resource agencies.

The proposed project is anticipated to occur from July 2019 through June 2020. All in-water construction will be completed within the allowable work windows (July 16 through February 15).

PROPONENT AND LEAD AGENCY: Port of Everett

LOCATION OF PROPOSAL: The property is located in the NW quarter of Section 30, Township 29 North, Range 5 East and in the NE quarter of Section 25, Township 29 North and Range 4 East, Willamette Meridian. The approximate street address is 3210 Terminal Avenue, Everett, Washington. Tax Parcel identification numbers 29053000201800, 29042500400200 and 29053000203400.

After review of a completed checklist and other information on file with the agency, the Port of Everett has determined that this proposal will not have a probable adverse impact on the environment.

Copies of the MDNS and other file information are available at the Port of Everett Administrative Office located at 1205 Craftsman Way, Suite 200, Everett, WA 98201, or contact Laura Gurley by phone at (425) 388-0720 or via email at LauraG@portofeverett.com.

The public is invited to comment on the MDNS by submitting written comments no later than November 13, 2018 to Paul Brachvogel, Chief of Legal Affairs/SEPA Responsible Official, at P.O. Box 538, Everett, WA 98206, or via email at SEPAComments@portofeverett.com, subject line: “SEPA South Terminal Berth Improvements”

Phone number (425) 259-3164.



Paul Brachvogel, Chief of Legal Affairs
SEPA Responsible Official
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