

WHATCOM COUNTY

Planning & Development Services
5280 Northwest Drive
Bellingham, WA 98226-9097
360-778-5900, TTY 800-833-6384
360-778-5901 Fax



J.E. "Sam" Ryan
Director

SEPA Distribution List
SEP2016-00117
Date of Issuance: March 10, 2017

Please review this determination. If you have further comments, questions or would like a copy of the SEPA checklist, phone the responsible official at (360) 778-5900. Please submit your response by the comment date noted on the attached notice of determination.

WA State Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation via email
Gretchen Kaehler, gretchen.kaehler@dahp.wa.gov

SEPA Unit, WA State Department of Ecology, Olympia via email
sepaunit@ecy.wa.gov

WA State Department of Fish and Wildlife via email
Joel Ingram, joel.ingram@dfw.wa.gov

WA State Department of Natural Resources via email
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US Army Corps of Engineers

Lummi Nation Natural Resources
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Trevor Delgado via email - tdelgado@nooksack-nsn.gov

Terry J. Wechsler via email wechslerlaw@comcast.net

Applicant
City of Bellingham Public Works
Analiese Burns via email - acburns@cob.org

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J.E. "Sam" Ryan
Director

SEPA Determination of Nonsignificance (DNS)

File: SEP2016-00117

Project Description: Restoration of historic wetlands, tidal and sedimentary processes, and fish passage to improve habitat for juvenile salmonids involving approximately 30,000 cu. yds. of grading.

Proponent: City of Bellingham Public Works

Address and Parcel #: Little Squalicum Park APN #s: 380223420211, 380223347164, 380223344168, 380223330305, 380223168178, 380223076234, 380225130445

Lead Agency: Whatcom County Planning & Development Services

Zoning: Heavy Impact Industrial & Recreation and Open Space

Comp Plan: Urban Growth Area **Shoreline Jurisdiction:** Urban & Aquatic

The lead agency for this proposal has determined that with proper mitigation, no significant adverse environmental impacts are likely. Pursuant to RCW 43.21C.030(2)(c), an environmental impact statement (EIS) is not required. This decision was made following review of a completed SEPA environmental checklist and other information on file with the lead agency. This information is available to the public on request.

☐ There is no comment period for this DNS.

☒ Pursuant to WAC 197-11-340(2), the lead agency will not act on this proposal for 14 days from the date of issuance indicated below. Comments must be received by 4:00 p.m. on March 24, 2017 and should be sent to: Kyla Walters, kwalters@whatcomcounty.us

Responsible Official: Mark Personius, mpersoni@whatcomcounty.us

Title: Assistant Director

Telephone: 360-778-5900

Address: 5280 Northwest Drive
Bellingham, WA 98226

Date of Issuance: March 10, 2017

Signature: _____

An aggrieved agency or person may appeal this determination to the Whatcom County Hearing Examiner. Application for appeal must be filed on a form provided by and submitted to the Whatcom County Current Planning Division located at 5280 Northwest Drive, Bellingham, WA 98226, during the ten days following the comment period, concluding April 3, 2017.

You should be prepared to make a specific factual objection. Contact Whatcom County Current Planning Division for information about the procedures for SEPA appeals.

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J.E. "Sam" Ryan
Director

**SEPA Determination of Nonsignificance (DNS)
Legal Notice**

To be published one time only on: **March 10, 2017**

CHARGE TO: Whatcom County Planning & Development Services
5280 Northwest Drive
Bellingham, Washington 98226
Acct #451232

**WHATCOM COUNTY GIVES PUBLIC NOTICE THAT THE FOLLOWING SEPA
THRESHOLD DETERMINATION OF NON-SIGNIFICANCE (DNS) HAS BEEN
ISSUED TODAY SUBJECT TO THE 14 DAY COMMENT PERIOD
CONCLUDING ON, March 24, 2017.**

File: SEP2016-00117

Project Description: Restoration of historic wetlands, tidal and sedimentary processes,
and fish passage to improve habitat for juvenile salmonids involving
approximately 30,000 cu. yds. of grading.

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**ANY PERSON OR AGENCY MAY APPEAL THE COUNTY'S COMPLIANCE WITH WAC
197-11 BY FILING AN APPEAL WITH THE WHATCOM COUNTY PLANNING AND
DEVELOPMENT SERVICES LOCATED AT 5280 NORTHWEST DRIVE, BELLINGHAM,
WA 98226. APPEALS MUST BE MADE WITHIN 10 DAYS AFTER THE END OF THE
COMMENT PERIOD.**

153500

WHATCOM COUNTY

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J.E. "Sam" Ryan
Director

SEP 2014 - 0177 ¹¹⁷

SEPA Environmental Checklist

Purpose of Checklist:

Governmental agencies use this checklist to help determine whether the environmental impacts of your proposal are significant. This information is also helpful to determine if available avoidance, minimization or compensatory mitigation measures will address the probable significant impacts or if an environmental impact statement will be prepared to further analyze the proposal.

Instructions for Applicants:

This environmental checklist asks you to describe some basic information about your proposal. Please answer each question accurately and carefully, to the best of your knowledge. You may need to consult with an agency specialist or private consultant for some questions. You may use "not applicable" or "does not apply" only when you can explain why it does not apply and not when the answer is unknown. You may also attach or incorporate by reference additional studies reports. Complete and accurate answers to these questions often avoid delays with the SEPA process as well as later in the decision-making process.

The checklist questions apply to all parts of your proposal, even if you plan to do them over a period of time or on different parcels of land. Attach any additional information that will help describe your proposal or its environmental effects. The agency to which you submit this checklist may ask you to explain your answers or provide additional information reasonably related to determining if there may be significant adverse impact.

Use of Checklist for Non-Project Proposals:

For non-project proposals (such as ordinances, regulations, plans and programs), complete the applicable parts of sections A and B plus the Supplemental Sheet for Non-project Actions (Part C). Please completely answer all questions that apply and note that the words "project", "applicant", and "property or site" should be read as "proposal", "proponent" and "affected geographic area", respectively. The lead agency may exclude (for non-projects) questions in Part B - Environmental Elements that do not contribute meaningfully to the analysis of the proposal.

Received

DEC 13 2015

Whatcom County PDS

A Background

- 1 Name of proposed project, if applicable: ✓
Little Squalicum Estuary
- 2 Name of applicant: City of Bellingham, Public Works Dept. - Analiese Burns ✓
Applicant phone number: (360)778-7968
Applicant address: 2221 Pacific Street
City, State, Zip or Postal Code: Bellingham, WA 98225
Applicant Email address: acburns@cob.org
- 3 Contact name: City of Bellingham, Public Works Dept. - Analiese Burns ✓
Contact phone number: (360)778-7968
Contact address: 104 W. Magnolia Street
City, State, Zip or Postal Code: Bellingham, WA 98225
Contact Email address: acburns@cob.org
- 4 Date checklist prepared: June 29, 2013 ✓
- 5 Agency requesting checklist: Whatcom County ✓
- 6 Proposed timing or schedule (including phasing, if applicable): ✓
Start date: Jan 2017 or Sept 2018 End date: March 2017 or Nov 2018
See Advanced Environmental Solutions, 2016. Little Squalicum Estuary Biological Evaluation for Information ESA Consultation Version: May 2012, Section 6.A Table 6-1. Construction Activity Sequencing and Duration
- 7 Do you have any plans for future additions, expansion, or further activity related to or connected with this proposal? Yes ☐ No ☒ full text shown ✓
If yes, explain:
- 8 List any environmental information you know about that has been prepared, or will be prepared, directly related to this proposal: ✓
Little Squalicum Shoreline Restoration Feasibility Study Prepared by: Coastal Geologic Services
Critical Area Delineation Report, Little Squalicum Park Estuary Project, prepared by Northwest Ecological Services, LLC, Dated June 2014.
Biological Evaluation for Informal ESA Consultation, 2016, Prepared by Advanced Environmental Solutions.
Focused Environmental Site Characterization, Final Report, Little Squalicum Creek Estuary Project, Herrenkohl Consulting LLC 6/27/13
Little Squalicum Creek Estuary Soil and Groundwater Characterization, WA Dept of Ecology 2/2013
An Archeological Survey and Evaluation of a Portion of Little Squalicum Park, Bellingham, Washington, Wessen & Associates, Inc. 12/2005
- 9 Do you know whether applications are pending for governmental approvals of other proposals directly affecting the property covered by your proposal? full text shown ✓
Yes ☐ No ☒
If yes, explain.

- 10 List any government approvals or permits that will be needed for your proposal, if known. ✓

Whatcom County: Shoreline Exemption, Critical Area Permit, Land Disturbance Permit (Fill and Grade), Stormwater Permit; Washington Dept. of Ecology (DOE): 401 Water Quality Certification, NPDES Construction Stormwater General Permit; WDFW: Hydraulic Project Approval; USACE: Section 10 and 404.

- 11 Give brief, complete description of your proposal, including the proposed uses and the size of the project and site. There are several questions later in this checklist that ask you to describe certain aspects of your proposal. You do not need to repeat those answers on this page. (Lead agencies may modify this form to include additional specific information on project description.) ✓

Project restores a lost barrier embayment along the shores of Bellingham Bay. Historic wetlands, tidal and sedimentary processes and fish passage at Little Squalicum Park will be restored/re-established through the creation of a 2.1 ac inter-tidal estuary with connection to the Bay. Little Squalicum Creek will be re-routed into the estuary as a tidal channel. Optional - If excavated soils are clean and suitable in substrate size and components, they may be placed as beach nourishment sediment within the nearshore to the north of the project site.

The project maximizes habitat benefits to nearshore species as a continuation of the shoreline restoration and habitat enhancement proposed by the City of Bellingham's Little Squalicum Park Master Plan. The project also increases nearshore resilience that is critical for climate change. A riparian buffer will be planted around the lagoon to provide thermal protection, stormwater filtration, and species richness. Existing Park trail for public access will be retained, but re-routed.

- 12 Location of the proposal. Give sufficient information for a person to understand the precise location of your proposed project, including a street address, if any, and section, township, and range, if known. If a proposal would occur over a range of area, provide the range or boundaries of the site(s). Provide a legal description, site plan, vicinity map, and topographic map, if reasonably available. While you should submit any plans required by the agency, you are not required to duplicate maps or detailed plans submitted with any permit applications related to this checklist. ✓

Project is located on Whatcom County Assessor's Tax Parcels 3802234202110000, 3802233471640000, 3802233441680000, 3802233303050000, 3802251304450000, 3802231681780000, and 3802230762340000 in the Southeast 1/4 of Section 23, Township 38 North, Range 2 East, Whatcom County WA.
Submitted project plans include a vicinity map.

B Environmental Elements

1 Earth

a. General description of the site:

- ☒ Flat
- ☐ Rolling
- ☐ Hilly
- ☒ Steep Slopes
- ☐ Mountainous
- ☐ Other

b. What is the steepest slope on the site (approximate percent slope)?

11% in work area, up to 90% slope in adjacent non work areas.

c. What general types of soils are found on the site (for example, clay, sand, gravel, peat, muck)? If you know the classification of agricultural soils, specify them and note any agricultural land of long-term commercial significance and whether the proposal results in removing any of these soils.

Urban land (40%)- Whatcom (30%)-Labounty (20%) Complex (Soil Unit #172), 0-8% slopes, is mapped on-site. Silt and gravelly loams, sand and mucky loams are present.

See:

Focused Environmental Site Characterization for the Little Squalicum Creek Estuary Project

Prepared by Herrenkohl Consulting LLC June 27, 2013

Little Squalicum Estuary Soil sampling and characterization, Aspect Consulting, 2016

LSE Geotechnical Analysis, Materials Testing and Consulting, 2016

d. Are there surface indications or history of unstable soils in the immediate vicinity? Yes ☐ No ☒

If so, describe.

e. Describe the purpose, type, total area, approximate quantities and total affected area of any filling excavation or grading proposed.

Project proposes the excavation of approximately 35,900 cy to create the proposed estuary and connection to Little Squalicum Creek. Approximately 690 cy of fill will be placed in 428 sf of wetland and 3,000 sf (~354 lf) of abandoned stream channel after relocating Little Squalicum Creek. (see attached Supplemental Sheet for full text)

Indicate source of fill.

On-site

See attached

Indicate where excavation material is going.

Off-site export/disposal at permitted sites is proposed for any site excavated soils that are not used for beach nourishment enhancements or on-site fill in vicinity of abandoned stream channel.

- f. Could erosion occur as a result of clearing, construction, or use? ✓

Yes ☒ No ☐

If so, generally describe.

As with any grading project the possibility of erosion exists during construction activities.

- g. About what percent of the site will be covered with impervious surfaces after project construction (for example, asphalt or buildings)? ✓

This project will not increase or decrease the impervious surfaces on site.

- h. Proposed measures to reduce or control erosion, or other impacts to the earth, if any: ✓

Site specific SWPPP and Best Management Practices (BMPs), as outlined in the 2012 Stormwater Management Manual for Western Washington, will be implemented for erosion control and sediment management.

2. Air

- a. What types of emissions to the air would result from the proposal during construction, operation and maintenance when the project is completed (i.e., dust, automobile, odors, or industrial wood smoke)? ✓

During construction, dust and construction equipment exhaust. No emissions post-project.

If any, generally describe and give approximate quantities if known. ✓

Dust and construction equipment exhaust emissions will be temporary and negligible during construction, There will be no emissions post project.

- b. Are there any off-site sources of emissions or odor that may affect your proposal? Yes ☐ No ☒ ✓

If so, generally describe.

None are known

- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control emissions or other impacts to air, if any: ✓

Excavating equipment will have required emission control and dust will be controlled as necessary.

3. Water

a. Surface:

- (1) Is there any surface water body on or in the immediate vicinity of the site (including year-round and seasonal streams, saltwater, lakes, ponds, wetlands)? Yes ☒ No ☐

If yes, describe type and provide names. If appropriate, state what stream or river it flows into.

Little Squalicum Creek, Bellingham Bay, Freshwater wetlands, 3 Cat. III, 4 Cat. IV.

- (2) Will the project require any work over, in, or adjacent to (within 200 feet) the described waters? Yes ☒ No ☐

If yes, please describe and attach available plans.

Wetland excav/fill, estuary conversion

Bay - beach nourishment, tide channel creation to estuary

Creek -relocate. tidal

- (3) Estimate the amount of fill and dredge material that would be placed in or removed from surface water or wetlands and indicate the area of the site that would be affected. 7,949 cy excavation, 690 cy fill, 5,000-10,000 cy fill, See attached project plans for affected area.

Indicate the source of fill material.

7,346 cy excavation Wetlands A, C, D & F. 650 cy fill abandoned creek channel, 40 cy fill Wetland B. Bay: 60 cy dredge, 5,000-10,000 cy nearshore fill. Creek: 357 cy excavation

- (4) Will the proposal require surface water withdrawals or diversions? Yes ☒ No ☐

Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.

The proposed estuary will permanently divert Little Squalicum creek from its current channel.

Does the proposal lie within a 100-year floodplain?

Yes ☒ No ☐

If so, note location on the site plan.

Bellingham Bay -Coastal Zone V - high velocity waves.

- (5) Does the proposal involve any discharges of waste materials to surface waters? ✓

Yes ☐ No ☒

If so, describe the type of waste and anticipated volume of discharge

b. Ground Water:

- (1) Will ground water be withdrawn from a well for drinking water or other purposes? Yes ☐ No ☒ ✓

If so, give a general description of the well, proposed uses and approximate quantities withdrawn from the well. Will water be discharged to groundwater? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.

- (2) Describe waste material that will be discharged into the ground from septic tanks or other sources, if any (for example: Domestic sewage; industrial, containing the following chemicals.....; agricultural; etc.). Describe the general size of the system, the number of houses to be served (if applicable), or the number of animals or humans the system(s) are expected to serve. ✓

Not Applicable

c. Water runoff (including stormwater):

- (1) Describe the source of runoff (including storm water) and method of collection and disposal, if any (include quantities, if known). ✓

The project will not alter existing surface water runoff or stormwater inputs.

Where will this water flow?

Will this water flow into other waters? Yes ☒ No ☐

If so, describe.

Surface water run-off from the site and upstream will flow into creek, estuary and Bellingham Bay. The abandoned, filled creek channel will be filled with permeable gravels to maintain subsurface connection between seeps/groundwater/Bay.

(2) Could waste materials enter ground or surface waters?

Yes ☒ No ☐

If so, generally describe.

Fuel and hydraulic oil spills may occur on site that could be transported into Little Squalicum Creek and Bellingham Bay.

(3) Does the proposal alter or otherwise affect drainage patterns in the vicinity of the site: Yes ☒ No ☐

If so, describe.

Currently constrained creek will be re-routed into open tidal channel/estuary.

- d. Proposed measures to reduce or control surface, ground, and runoff water impacts, if any: The contractor will have oil-absorbent materials on site to be used in the event of a petroleum product spill and measures to avoid petroleum products or other deleterious materials from entering surface waters will be taken. Although project work is proposed to occur during low flow conditions in Little Squalicum Creek, which can be dry seasonally, the excavation within estuary basin is expected to be conducted in wet conditions due to shallow groundwater and or contributing seepage from adjacent areas. Dewatering pumps will be used as needed and discharge from the pumps will be directed into a series of two Pond Cells 1 and 2 for settling sediments. A washed rock berm separates the cells and discharge from Cell 2 will be conveyed via a ditch to Bellingham Bay for final discharge

4 Plants

a. Check types of vegetation found on the site:

- ☒ Deciduous tree: alder, maple, aspen, other
- ☒ Evergreen tree: fir, cedar, pine, other
- ☒ Shrubs
- ☒ Grass
- ☐ Pasture
- ☐ Crop or grain
- ☐ Orchards, vineyards or other permanent crops
- ☒ Wet soil plants: cattail, buttercup, bullrush, skunk cabbage, other
- ☐ Water plants: water lily, eelgrass, milfoil, other
- ☐ Other types of vegetation

b. What kind and amount of vegetation will be removed or altered? ✓

Maintained lawn, scurb-shrub and forested habitat including 0.65 acres of disturbed PEM/PFO wetland vegetation will be removed and replaced with 2.1 acres of estuarine and restored riparian habitat. Between 0.1 and 0.5 acre of riparian shrubs/saplings removed from adjacent to abandoned creek channel.

c. List threatened or endangered species known to be on or near the site. ✓

No endangered or threatened native plant species are known to be on or near the Park.

d. Proposed landscaping, use of native plants, or other measures to preserve or enhance vegetation on the site, if any: ✓

Site restoration includes the installation of native estuarine/aquatic wetland and upland forest vegetation communities.

e. List all noxious weeds and invasive species known to be on or near the site. ✓

Himalayan blackberry, holly, reed canarygrass, thistle.

5. Animals

a. Check any birds and animals, which have been observed on or near the site or are known to be on or near the site: ✓

Birds:

☒ Hawk,
☐ Eagle,
☐ Other:

☐ Heron,
☒ Songbirds;

Mammals:

☒ Deer,
☐ Elk,
☐ Other:

☐ Bear,
☐ Beaver;

Fish:

☐ Bass,
☐ Trout,
☒ Shellfish;

☒ Salmon,
☐ Herring,
☐ Other:

b. List any threatened or endangered species known to be on or near the site. ✓

Chinook Salmon, steelhead, bull trout, Bocaccio, yelloweye and canary rockfish may be present in nearshore of Bellingham Bay, outside of the work area.

- c. Is the site part of a migration route? Yes ☒ No ☐

If so, explain.

This site, like the entire Puget Sound region lies with the western flyway for migratory birds.

- d. Proposed measures to preserve or enhance wildlife, if any:

Project goals are to increase available habitat and improve water quality for juvenile salmonids utilizing the Bay & LSC. Optional beach nourishment will enhance forage fish spawning habitat.

- e. List any invasive species known to be on or near site.

None known.

6. Energy and Natural Resources

- a. What kinds of energy (electric, natural gas, oil, wood stove, solar) will be used to meet the completed project's energy needs? Describe whether it will be used for heating, manufacturing, etc.

None.

- b. Would your project affect the potential use of solar energy by adjacent properties? Yes ☐ No ☒

If so, generally describe.

- c. What kinds of energy conservation features are included in the plans of this proposal? List other proposed measures to reduce or control energy impacts, if any:

Not Applicable

7. Environmental Health

- a. Are there any environmental health hazards, including exposure to toxic chemicals, risk of fire and explosion, spill, or hazardous waste that could occur as a result of this proposal? Yes ☐ No ☒

If so, describe.

Accidental spills of fuel and petroleum products may occur.

- (1) Describe any known or possible contamination at the site from present or past uses.

8,000 sf of shallow soils (0-5 feet bgs) (1,500 cy in-situ) near the northern portion of estuary basin excavation are documented as contaminated by petroleum (Herrenkohl Consulting, 2013). Removed soils will be disposed at facility off-site.

- (2) Describe existing hazardous chemicals/conditions that might affect project development and design. This includes underground hazardous liquid and gas transmission pipelines located within the project area and in the vicinity. ✓

None known.

- (3) Describe any toxic or hazardous chemicals that might be stored, used, or produced during the projects development or construction, or at any time during the operating life of the project. ✓

Fuel and petroleum products will be used by machinery during project construction.

- (4) Describe special emergency services that might be required. ✓

Fuel and oils spill response.

- (5) Proposed measure to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any: ✓

The contractor will have oil-absorbent materials on site to be used in the event of a petroleum product spill.

b. Noise

- (1) What types of noise exist in the area which may affect your project (for example: traffic, equipment, operation, other)? ✓

None.

- (2) What types and levels of noise would be created by or associated with the project on a short-term or a long-term basis (for example: traffic, construction, operation, other)? Indicate what hours noise would come from the site. ✓

See Advanced Environmental Solutions, 2016. Little Squalicum Estuary Biological Evaluation for Information ESA Consultation Version: May 2012

Section 7. Action Area

Section 9. Existing Environmental Conditions. Rockfish subsection

Section 10. Effects Analysis, Direct Impacts subsection

Section 13. Subsection C. Iii.

- (3) Proposed measures to reduce or control noise impacts, if any: ✓

None.

8 Land and Shoreline Use

a. What is the current use of the site and adjacent properties? ✓

Property is currently used as a park with trails and parking areas. Adjacent properties are tideland to the south, trail corridor to the west, industrial and education to the north, and residential uses to the east.

Will the proposal affect current land uses on nearby or adjacent properties? Yes ☐ No ☒ ✓
If so, describe.

b. Has the project site been used as working farmlands or working forest lands? Yes ☐ No ☒ ✓
If so, describe.

How much agriculture or forest land of long-term commercial significance will be converted to other uses as a result of the proposal, if any? ✓

If resource lands have not been designated, how many acres in farmland or forest land tax status will be converted to non-farm or non-forest use?

(1) Will the proposal affect or be affected by surrounding working farm or forest land normal business operations, such as oversized equipment access, the application of pesticides, tilling and harvesting? Yes ☐ No ☒ ✓

If so, how:

c. Describe any structures on the site. ✓

BNSF railroad trestle and supports, gravel trails, and the Eldridge Ave./Marine Dr. Bridge and supports are located on the site. A concrete pump house in poor condition is also present on the site.

- d. Will any structures be demolished? Yes ☐ No ☒ ✓
If so, what?
- e. What is the current zoning classification of the site? ✓
Whatcom County Zoned: ROS - Recreation Open Space, within the city of Bellingham UGA.
- f. What is the current comprehensive plan designation of the site? ✓
Urban Growth Area.
- g. If applicable, what is the current shoreline master program designation of the site? ✓
Urban and Aquatic.
- h. Has any part of the site been classified as a critical area by the city or county? Yes ☒ No ☐ ✓
If so, specify.
Wetlands, Squalicum Creek and the marine shoreline are Whatcom County regulated critical areas.
- i. Approximately how many people would reside or work in the completed project? ✓
None.
- j. Approximately how many people would the completed project displace? ✓
None.
- k. Proposed measures to avoid or reduce displacement impacts, if any: ✓
None proposed.
- l. Proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with existing and projected land uses and plans, if any: ✓
None proposed.
- m. Proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with nearby agricultural and forest lands of long-term commercial significance, if any? ✓
None proposed.

9 Housing

- a. Approximately how many units would be provided, if any? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.

☐ High
☐ Middle
☐ Low-income

Number of Units None. ✓

- b. Approximately how many units, if any, would be eliminated? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.

☐ High
☐ Middle
☐ Low-income

Number of Units None. ✓

- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control housing impacts, if any: ✓

None proposed.

10 Aesthetics

- a. What is the tallest height of any proposed structure(s), not including antennas; what is the principal exterior building material(s) proposed? ✓

Not applicable.

- b. What views in the immediate vicinity would be altered or obstructed? ✓

None.

- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control aesthetic impacts, if any: ✓

None proposed.

11 Light and Glare

- a. What type of light or glare will the proposal produce? What time of day would it mainly occur? ✓

None.

- b. Could light or glare from the finished project be a safety hazard or interfere with views? ✓

Not applicable.

- c. What existing off-site sources of light or glare may affect your proposal? ✓

None.

- d. Proposed measures to reduce or control light and glare impacts, if any: ✓

None proposed.

12 Recreation

- a. What designated and informal recreational opportunities are in the immediate vicinity? ✓

Project site is an existing City of Bellingham park with beach access.

- b. Would the proposed project displace any existing recreational uses? If so, describe. ✓

Project construction will require the temporary closer of the park in the work area, as well as temporary trail closures and possible reroutes. The Completed project will remove the recreational field (grass) and convert it to habitat.

- c. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts on recreation, including recreation opportunities to be provided by the project or applicant, if any: ✓

Any impacts from park and trail closures will be temporary. The abandoned creek channel and Wetland B will be filled in preparation for a future recreational field to replace the lost field.

13 Historic and Cultural Preservation

- a. Are there any buildings, structures, or sites, located on or near the site that are over 45 years old listed in or eligible for listing in national, state or local preservation registers located on or near the site? Yes ☐ No ☐ ✓

If so, specifically describe.

There are two Native American cultural resource sites within the park, including a shell midden and an archaeologically sensitive area. Due to the highly sensitive nature of these sites, their locations and contents are confidential. A complete description of these and other cultural resources can be found in the Archaeological Excavation Permit Application For Site 45-WH-726 (NAA., 2005).

- b. Are there any landmarks, features, or other evidence of Indian, historic use or occupation, this may include human burials or old cemeteries? ✓

Yes ☒ No ☐

Are there any material evidence, artifacts, or areas of cultural importance on or near the site? Yes ☒ No ☐ ✓

Please list any professional studies conducted at the site to identify such resources.

See attached report titled: APPENDIX E. AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY AND EVALUATION OF A PORTION OF LITTLE SQUALCIUM PARK BELLINGHAM WA prepared by Gary C. Wessen, PhD for Intergal Consulting, dated December 2005. ✓

- c. Describe the methods used to assess the potential impacts to cultural and historic resources on or near the project site. Examples: Include consultation with tribes and the Department of Archeology and Historic Preservation, archaeological surveys, historic maps, GIS data, etc. ✓

Archaeological survey.

- d. Proposed measures to avoid, minimize, or compensate for loss, changes to, and disturbance to resources. Please include plans for the above and any permits that may be required. ✓

The project has been designed to avoid excavation and soil disturbing activities within the existing cultural resource site on the property. Fill will be placed over cultural resource site, no soil disturbing activities will be allowed in this area.

14 Transportation

- a. Identify public streets and highways serving the site or affected geographic area and describe proposed access to the existing street system. Show on site plan, if any. ✓

Site is served by Eldridge Ave., Marine Dr., Lindbergh Ave., and West Illinois St.

- b. Is site or geographic area currently served by public transit? ✓

Yes ☒ No ☐

If not, what is the approximate distance to the nearest transit stop?

- c. How many parking spaces would the completed project have? How many would the project eliminate? ✓

No parking spaces will be completed or eliminated as a result of the project.

- d. Will the proposal require any new or improvements to existing roads, streets, pedestrian, bicycle or state transportation facilities, not including driveways? Yes ☐ No ☒ ✓

If so, generally describe (indicate whether public or private).

- e. Will the project use (or occur in the immediate vicinity of) ✓

- ☒ Water,
☒ Rail, or
☐ Air transportation?

If so, generally describe.

Project is located in the vicinity the BNSF Railroad and Bellingham Bay.

- f. How many vehicular trips per day would be generated by the completed project or proposal? If known, indicate when peak volumes would occur and what percentage of the volume would be trucks (such as commercial and non-passenger vehicles). What data or transportation models were used to make these estimates? ✓

Not Applicable.

- g. Proposed measures to reduce or control transportation impacts, if any: ✓

None proposed.

15 Public Services

- a. Would the project result in an increased need for public services (for example: fire protection, police protection, health care, schools, other)? ✓

Yes ☐ No ☒

If so, generally describe.

- b. Proposed measures to reduce or control direct impacts on public services, if any. ✓

None proposed.

16 Utilities

- a. Check utilities currently available at the site: ✓

☐ Electricity,
☐ Water,
☐ Telephone,
☐ Septic system,

☐ Natural gas,
☐ Refuse service,
☐ Sanitary sewer,
☐ Other

To Be Completed
By Applicant

Evaluation For
Agency Use Only

- b. Describe the utilities that are proposed for the project, the utility providing the service, and the general construction activities on the site or in the immediate vicinity which might be needed. ✓

None proposed.

Signature

The above answers are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that the lead agency is relying on them to make its decision. ✓

Signature: Aneluse R

Date Submitted: 8/1/16

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Reviewed by Whatcom County Planning & Development Services Staff

Staff Signature

Date

Little Squalicum Estuary

SEPA Supplemental Sheet

B.1.e

Project proposes the excavation of approximately 35,900 cy to create the proposed estuary and connection to Little Squalicum Creek. Approximately 690 cy of fill will be placed in 428 sf of wetland and 3,000 sf (~354 lf) of abandoned stream channel after relocating Little Squalicum Creek. 5,000-10,000 cy of fill may be placed as beach nourishment on approximately 1,530 linear feet of beach West of the estuary. Existing disturbed freshwater wetlands (0.66 acre) will be converted into the tidal system. Up to 0.5 acre (~2,700 cy) of additional excavated material may be placed in uplands surrounding the abandoned stream channel to compensate for the lost Park meadow. Fill will be graded, capped with topsoil and seeded.



- Vicinity Map



Subject Area

APN# 380223 420211; 380223 347164
 380223 344168; 380223 330305
 380223 168718; 380223 076234
 380225 130445

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March 2017

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