

Exhibit B-86: Statement of Qualifications 2022 – NES



STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS 2022

NW ECOLOGICAL SERVICES

2801 Meridian Street, Suite 202, Bellingham, WA 98225
nwecological.com / t 360.734.9484

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overview

Northwest Ecological Services, LLC (NES) is a specialized environmental consulting firm. We set ourselves apart from the others by offering a refreshingly sincere and experienced alternative.

We are service-oriented. We believe in building client trust and understanding so we can better understand your needs and find tailored, reasonable solutions. To help build this relationship, we offer staff consistency and to provide clear communication and leadership.

We are adaptable and responsive. With a team of specialized professionals, our size also allows us to be nimble and provide quick turn-around.

We bring a wealth of experience. We have over 30 years of experience in providing dependable environmental services to both public and private sector clients. Our professionals work collaboratively to make the most of our knowledge and skills sets.

We are proud of our efficient and effective use of resources. We recognize funds are precious and should be used to provide results and on-the-ground solutions. We are careful with our administrative costs and can ensure project funds are used to their maximum benefit.

We look forward to working with you.

contact information

Northwest Ecological Services, LLC
2801 Meridian Street, Suite 202
Bellingham, Washington 98225
360.734.9484
www.nwecological.com

molly@nwecological.com
collin@nwecological.com



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experience and expertise

NES has over 30 years of experience in providing dependable environmental services to both public and private sector clients. Our professionals work collaboratively to utilize our shared knowledge and skillsets. NES professionals have performed wetland and biological assessments over on 33,000 acres [1991-2021].

NES has the full capability to provide all aspects of environmental permitting in-house. NES has decades of experience providing environmental studies including wetland delineations, fish and wildlife habitat assessments, biological assessments (BA), Section 7 consultations, and mitigation plan development, design and implementation.

NES regularly obtains local critical areas permit approvals, Hydraulic Project Approvals (HPAs), and Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 401 and 404 permits at the State and Federal levels for our clients. NES is proud of our excellent rapport with local, state and federal regulatory staff.

OUR AREAS OF EXPERTISE

Wetland Reconnaissance and Delineations using the Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual (Corps, 1987) and Regional Supplements (Corps, 2010) methodology on properties ranging in size from less than one acre to several hundred acres.

Wetland Functional Assessments and Categorizations for permitting projects and mitigation design; utilizing the current Washington State Department of Ecology Wetland Rating System for Western Washington (Hruby, 2014).

Critical Area Impact Assessments to identify opportunities for avoidance/minimization of impacts and evaluation of functions at risk.

Stream and Shoreline Inventories and Surveys, including analysis of existing conditions and evaluation of restoration and enhancement potential. Preparing shoreline, stream assessments, and ordinary high water mark determinations.

Endangered Species Assessments/ Evaluations for State and Federal endangered, threatened and sensitive plant and wildlife species.

FEMA Habitat Assessments for projects within regulated floodplains.

Designing Mitigation and Restoration Plans for wetland and riparian creation, restoration, enhancement, wildlife habitat improvement design, and stormwater wetland design.

Environmental Permitting for Local, State, Tribal, and Federal Authorization related to wetlands, streams, and shorelines; including Joint Aquatic Resource Permit Applications (JARPAs) for federally regulated projects.

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professionals

Currently, NES has two senior ecologists and three junior staff ecologists. NES professionals have a minimum of a Bachelor of Science (BS) in biology, environmental science, or in natural resource processes. Our staff includes two Professional Wetland Scientists (PWS), certified by the Society of Wetland Scientists (SWS), and one Wetland Professional in Training (WPIT).

NES principals always provide all Client services directly and would be involved in all aspects of each project. Any one of our three junior ecologists would provide project support.

Below is a summary of each individual's education, experience, and certifications. A full resume for Molly and Collin, our two senior ecologists, are included at the end of this SOQ.

Molly Porter, PWS

Education

BS in Environmental Science, Western Washington University, 2003

Experience

Molly Porter is a senior ecologist and owner of NES. During her 18-year tenure with NES, Molly has performed numerous wetland delineations, environmental and fish/ wildlife assessments, mitigation design, stream & shoreline review, and environmental permitting throughout the north Puget Sound region.

Certifications

Certified as a Professional Wetland Scientist (PWS) by the Society of Wetland Scientists (#2064)
WSDOT approved Biological Assessment Author



Collin Van Slyke, PWS

Education

BS in Environmental Science, Western Washington University, 2014

Experience

Collin is a senior ecologist and owner of NES. Collin has over eight years of ecological experience. Collin has performed wetland delineations, environmental and fish/ wildlife assessments, mitigation design, stream & shoreline review, and environmental permitting throughout the Puget Sound region.

Certifications

Certified as a PWS by the Society of Wetland Scientists (#3129)



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Candice Trusty, BS

Education

BS in Environmental Science, Western Washington University, 2018

Experience

Candice is an ecologist with NES and has been providing environmental services within the north Puget Sound since 2019. Her experience includes the assessment of wetland and fish & wildlife critical areas, fish removal, biological surveying, and habitat restoration.

Certifications

Certified as a WPIT by the Society of Wetland Scientists



Michael Whitehurst, BS

Education

BS in Marine Biology, University of Florida, 2016

Experience

Michael is an ecologist with NES and has been providing environmental services within the north Puget Sound since 2019. Michael provides support during wetland delineations, fish and wildlife assessments, and mitigation design. Outside of his wetland work, Michael's experience includes marine and freshwater organism identification, marine and terrestrial botany, and water quality sampling and analysis.

Certifications

Certificate in Wetland Science and Management, University of Washington, 2019



Alexandre Pederson, BS

Education

Bachelor of Science in Ecological Engineering, Oregon State University, 2019

Experience

Alex joined the NES team in 2021. He currently provides support for wetland delineations, mitigation design, and monitoring of mitigation sites. Prior to NES, his experience with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) has included includes bioremediation, watershed and stormwater management, and sampling and analysis of biological, chemical, and physical properties of soils.



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project profiles

NES performs a wide variety of environmental services for both public and private clients. The following are selected examples of recent projects:

Bellingham School District:



2007 Wade King Elementary School Build

2009 Cordata Elementary School Build

2020 Alderwood Elementary School Re-build

2020 Squalicum High School Improvements

2021 Gordon Carter Outdoor Education Facility Well Project

2021 Cordata Elementary Parking Improvements Feasibility

NES has worked with the Bellingham School District on several projects ranging from minor expansion and improvements to construction of new school facilities. NES's services have included wetland/stream delineations, mitigation design, off-site mitigation review, and development feasibility assessments. NES obtained environmental permits including CWA Section 404 and Section 401, and local critical area ordinance authorization.

Cordata Center: 2010 - present

NES provided environmental consulting services for the Cordata Center project, including a wetland delineation of the 50-acre project site and the 39-acre off site mitigation site. NES worked with the project team to develop a plan that maximized site development while avoiding and reducing impacts to wetlands and biological resources. NES designed a mitigation plan for unavoidable wetland impacts and assisted in obtaining a CWA Section 404 Individual Permit from the Army Corps and Section 401 permit from the Department of Ecology. The project is currently under construction.

Work on the Bear Creek site also included coordination with the owners, the COB Parks Department, and permitting of trails in conjunction with the mitigation area.

NES continues to provide mitigation monitoring services which include monitoring and continued coordination with maintenance contractors and permitting agencies to ensure success of both sites.



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Sunset Village: 2016 - present

NES worked with the project team to permit Sunset Village, a multi-family housing development in Bellingham, WA. The project included a wetland delineation, impact assessment, on-site and off-site mitigation plans. NES obtained environmental permits for wetland and buffer impacts and assisted in obtaining City, Ecology, and Corps permits. Off-site mitigation included establishment of a 12-acre advance mitigation site with wetland creation and rehabilitation to be used for this and future development projects. The project is currently under construction and NES continues to provide oversight of the mitigation elements.

City of Bellingham Parks:

Cordata Community Park, Phase 1 and 2: 2016 – present

Whatcom Falls Park- Woburn Parking Areas

Samish Crest Trail

Whatcom Creek Trail: Racine to Frasier

Juliana Park, Phase 1

NES has worked with the City Parks Department on numerous park projects that have ranged from development of new parks to smaller trail extension or park improvement/ expansion projects. Most recently, NES is working with the City of Bellingham and the Cordata Community Park project team to permit a new park. NES worked with the project team to develop a plan that maximized site development while avoiding and reducing impacts to wetlands and biological resources. NES' services included a wetland delineation, impact assessment, mitigation plan, and environmental permitting. Phase 1 is currently under construction and NES is providing oversight and monitoring of the mitigation elements. Phase 2 is in the planning stage, and NES is providing continued consulting services.



Bellingham Public Works, Habitat Restoration Master Plan: 2012 - 2014

NES worked as a subconsultant to Environmental Science Associates on a science-based plan to help the City prioritize restoration and protection actions for the City's terrestrial, aquatic, and riparian habitats. As part of the team, NES helped inventory and assess the City's resources, creating a library of resources and a city-wide GIS map. The assessment included scoring habitat features for existing function. NES also supported the project's public outreach components including public meetings and technical advisory meetings. Finally, NES worked with the City to identify restoration opportunities.

Meridian Roundabout Feasibility Study, Bellingham Public Works: 2019

NES worked with the project team to assess feasibility of several design alternatives for a potential roundabout and traffic improvements project on Meridian St, at the intersections of Squalicum Way and Birchwood Ave. NES worked with the team to analyze alternatives and recommend a plan that balances all project elements, provides traffic improvement while minimizing impacts to streams, buffers, and floodplains.

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Lummi Nation Public Works Projects:

Lummi Training and Technical Center: 2020-Present

Lummi Wellness Center: 2019-2020

Lummi Community Park: 2018- Present

Gooseberry Point Wastewater Treatment Plant: 2020

Salish Village Travel Center: 2018-2020



Lummi Nation Housing Projects:



Mackenzie 4, 5 and 6 Single Family Plat: 2009 - 2021

Grace Erickson Single Family Housing: 2009 - Present

Kwina Apartment Project: 2009 - 2021

Olsen Housing Phases I and II: 2009

Turkeyshoot Single Family Plat: 2009

Lummi Nation Safety Improvements:

2010 Haxton Way Bicycle and Pedestrian Pathway

2014/2016 Kwina Road Sidewalk

2012/2020 Lummi Shore Drive Sidewalk



NES continues to work with the Lummi Nation to provide environmental consulting services for numerous projects. These have all generally included wetland delineations, working with the protect team on site design options in order to avoid impacts to regulated features, and preparation of mitigation or mitigation bank use plans for unavoidable impacts. In many cases, NES also prepared an ESA Assessment and assisted in obtaining a CWA Section 404 (nationwide and individual) Permits from the Army Corps and Section 401 permit from Lummi Natural Resources.

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Wetland Mitigation Banking, City of Bellingham: 2016 – present

Beginning in 2016, NES has assisted the City of Bellingham with investigating potential wetland mitigation banking sites based upon future needs in the city. NES identified and assessed potential Bank sites within the City and unincorporated Whatcom County associated with target watersheds. NES utilized the WDOE Credit/Debit Method to evaluate ecological lift potential and site value. Currently, NES is preparing the critical areas report for the first two phases of their proposed Bank, participating in the Mitigation Bank Instrument (MBI) development, and participating in the Bank certification process with the IRT. NES has developed rapport with IRT members and is familiar with the lengthy and complex process of Bank establishment and management.



Wetland Inventory, Bellingham Planning: 2003 and 2015

2003: NES was the prime consultant for a Wetland Inventory of the City of Bellingham Urban Growth Areas. Together with Nahkeeta Northwest, NES developed a comprehensive GIS database identifying wetland locations and other environmentally sensitive features. Project tasks included review of existing data, field surveys, GIS mapping, and creation of a DBF compatible database.

2015: NES was the sole consultant hired to update the City's current information on wetlands, streams, buffers, and wildlife habitat along the City's northern extent and surrounding Urban Growth Area. NES reviewed the exiting GIS database for information and identified areas of deficiencies. Information was updated using aerial photographs, LiDAR, site visits, and best professional judgement. NES mapped and categorized wetlands, streams, associated buffers and regulated wildlife habitat and associated buffers. NES also assessed areas for potential regional mitigation sites.



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Wetland Planning & Management, Lummi Nation: 2011 - present

NES continues to provide wetland management and planning services for the Lummi Nation Natural Resources Department. The services support the Lummi Nation's core environmental program. Projects include updating



their Wetland Inventory database through wetland field reconnaissances, wetland ratings, data forms, and GIS support services. NES also provides wetland management training for Lummi Natural Resources staff. Additional projects include wetland delineations, impact assessments, mitigation design, Endangered Species Act compliance, environmental permitting, and monitoring services for the Lummi Nation Wetland and Habitat Mitigation Bank.

Mitigation Bank Monitoring, Lummi Nation: 2018 – present

NES assisted with monitoring data collection and reporting for the Lummi Nation Wetland and Habitat Mitigation Bank. Data collection included measuring the success of the enhancement activities performed at the Phase 1A Nooksack Delta Site. Parameters including plant growth, survivorship, and reduction of invasive species were obtained. This documentation is used to demonstrate attainment of the performance standards established in the Mitigation Banking Instrument.



Single Family Development- Ongoing

NES staff has provided environmental permitting assistance for countless single family development projects. Services for these projects generally includes a wetland delineation, critical area report, a mitigation plan if needed, and permitting assistance to obtain local, state, and federal permits if required. NES provides construction oversight and mitigation monitoring for many of these projects to meet permit requirements.

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references

Ali Taysi, Principal

AVT Consulting LLC
1708 F Street
Bellingham, Washington 98225
360.527.9445
ali@avtplanning.com

J.P. Slagle, PE

Freeland & Associates
220 West Champion Street, Suite 200
Bellingham, WA 98225
360.650.1408
jpslagle@freelandengineering.com

Curtis Lawyer, Director of Capital Projects

Bellingham School District #501
1306 Dupont Street
Bellingham, Washington 98225
360.676.6531
curtis.lawyer@bellingshamschools.org

Brent Cowden, President

Cowden Gravel & Ready Mix
3463 Cedarville Road
Bellingham, WA 98226
360.592.4200
brent@cowdeninc.com

Jonathan Schilk

City of Bellingham Parks and Recreation
210 Lottie Street
Bellingham, Washington 98225
360. 778-7000
jschilk@cob.org

Analiese Burns

Habitat and Restoration Manger
Bellingham Public Works
2221 Pacific Street
Bellingham, Washington 98229
360.778.7968
acburns@cob.org

Other references available upon request.

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2801 Meridian Street, Suite 202, Bellingham, WA 98225
nwecological.com / t 360.734.9484

Northwest Ecological Services
2801 Meridian Street, Suite 202
Bellingham, WA 98225

O: 360.734.9484
C: 206.240.0337

molly@nwecological.com



Molly M. Porter

professional experience

Wetland Delineations

Over 17 years of experience with field reconnaissance, delineations, WDOE ratings, functional assessments

Stream / Shoreline Delineations

Highly knowledgeable with reconnaissance, delineations, OHWM determinations, habitat assessment

Mitigation

Successfully complete feasibility reviews, bank use plans, restoration plans, wetland/stream mitigation designs, construction oversight, and monitoring

Endangered Species Act (ESA) Assessments

Experienced author of No Effect Letters
Biological Assessments / Biological Evaluations,
FEMA/NMFS BiOp Habitat Assessments

Environmental Permitting

Consistently and effectively obtain:
CWA 404/401 Nationwide and Individual permits
WDFW HPA permits
WA Shoreline Management Act permits
Local Critical Areas Ordinance permits
ESA compliance
SEPA / NEPA checklists and EIS documentation

Mitigation Monitoring

Diverse experience monitoring project success, performance standards, developing contingency plans, and providing contractor coordination

associations

Society of Wetland Scientists
Washington Native Plant Society

education

Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science

Huxley College of the Environment
Western Washington University, December 2003

certifications & continuing education

Certified Professional Wetland Scientist

Society of Wetland Scientists (#2064)

Basic Wetland Delineation

Portland State University, 2004

Ordinary High Water Mark Determination

WA Coastal Training Program, 2010

Biological Assessment Preparation for Transportation Projects

WA State Department of Transportation 2013

Washington State 2014 Wetland Rating System

WA Coastal Training Program, 2014

relevant employment

Northwest Ecological Services

consulting ecologist, 2004 to present
Bellingham, WA

Institute for Watershed Studies, WWU

laboratory technician/field technician, 2002-2004
Bellingham, WA

Bureau of Land Management

biological technician/habitat assessments, 2003
Corvallis, OR

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Northwest Ecological Services
2801 Meridian Street, Suite 202
Bellingham, WA 98225

O: 360.734.9484
C: 425.466.1299

collin@nwecological.com



Collin J. Van Slyke

professional experience

Wetland Delineations

Experience with field reconnaissance, delineations, WDOE ratings, functional assessments

Stream / Shoreline Delineations

Knowledgeable with reconnaissance, delineations, OHWM determinations, habitat assessment

Mitigation

Successfully complete wetland and buffer mitigation designs including large scale wetland creation, bank use plans, construction oversight, and monitoring

Environmental Permitting

Consistently and effectively obtain local, state, and federal environmental permits including:
CWA 404/401 Nationwide and Individual permits
WDFW HPA permits
WA Shoreline Management Act permits
ESA compliance
SEPA checklists
Local Critical Areas Ordinance permits

Mitigation Monitoring

Diverse experience monitoring project success, performance standards, developing contingency plans, and providing contractor coordination

associations

Society of Wetland Scientists
Society of Ecological Restoration

education

Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science

Huxley College of the Environment
Western Washington University, June 2014

certifications & continuing education

Certified Professional Wetland Scientist

Society of Wetland Scientists (#3019)

Basic Wetland Delineation

Western Washington University, 2014

Washington State 2014 Wetland Rating System

WA Coastal Training Program, 2014

Ordinary High Water Mark Determination

WA Coastal Training Program, 2016

relevant employment

Northwest Ecological Services

consulting ecologist, 2014 to present
Bellingham, WA

Public Works- Snohomish County

surface water intern, 2013
Everett, WA

Washington State Parks

park aide, 2012
Bellingham, WA

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