

# Exhibit B-92: Statement of Qualifications – Graham-Bunting Associates

# Statement of Qualifications

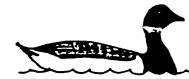


## **Graham-Bunting Associates** Environmental and Land Use Services

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## *Graham-Bunting Associates*

### **Prospectus**

Graham-Bunting and Associates (GBA) was established in 1996 by Oscar Graham and Patricia Bunting as an environmental and land use services business. The genesis for this firm lies in the recognition that today's complex regulatory environment frequently requires the property owner to seek reliable technical assistance. This understanding is reflected in our mission statement:

***Graham-Bunting Associates are committed to providing accurate, reliable and affordable technical services to assist property owners in successfully meeting their regulatory needs.***

Graham-Bunting and Associates draw upon a collective thirty years experience in private and public sectors performing regulatory assistance, shoreline inventories, wetland, fish and wildlife site assessments, landscape restoration mitigation designs and associated permits. GBA does not provide legal assistance but rather a full range of technical and environmental analysis and land use services. GBA provides site analysis services and assistance in the preparation of environmental documents including:

#### Environmental

- Shoreline Inventories, Classifications and Rankings
- Certified Wetland Reconnaissance/Delineation
- Impact Assessment/Mitigation Proposals/Monitoring
- Biological Assessments for federal Endangered Species Act (ESA) compliance
- Federal Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)
- Fish and Wildlife Site Assessments for local Critical Area Ordinances

#### Permitting

GBA provides assistance and support with:

- Shoreline Substantial Development/Conditional Use Variance Permits
- Joint Aquatic Resources Permit Applications, Hydraulic Permit Approvals
- Zoning Approvals
- Boundary Line Adjustments, Short Plats, Subdivisions

#### Mitigation Design

- Marine Shore Defense and Restoration Strategies
- Mitigation design for specific wildlife species
- Landscape/mitigation, restoration and enhancement designs
- Bio-Engineering/Vegetative Erosion Control

#### Qualified Professionals

GBA meets the qualifications of the definition of "Qualified Professional" for wetlands, watercourses and wildlife habitat conservation areas as defined by local jurisdictions. We have BA degrees and experience in these applicable fields related to biology and environmental studies. We also have relevant professional experience and training in functional assessments and mitigation techniques. We exceed the 2 years of related work experience. We continue to extend and update our education experience with additional workshops, trainings and certification courses. We work cooperatively with qualified professionals capable of providing other critical area services.



## **Project Team/Statement of Qualifications**

### **Oscar Graham (Co-Principal/Environmental Planner)**

Mr. Graham holds a Bachelors Degree in Urban Studies and Land Use Planning from the University of Puget Sound and a Certification from the National Wetlands Science Training Cooperative for Jurisdictional Delineation of Wetlands in the Pacific Northwest. He is trained and certified in Determining the Ordinary High Water Mark of streams, preparation of Shoreline Master Programs, preparation of federal applications such as NEPA, TEPA and JARPA in conjunction with FHWA funding projects, state permitting such as SEPA and HPA's, mitigation techniques and functional assessments. He spent two years in Juneau, Alaska as the Planning Supervisor and Interim Director for the City and Borough of Juneau. While there he managed large scale projects such as a controversial golf course with 65 fish streams and projects related to cruise ship tourism and marine shorelines for waterfront planning that required federal approval from the Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Forest Service and state approval from Alaska Fish & Game. More recently he has worked as Deputy Director of Skagit County Planning and Development Services in Northwest Washington where he managed regulatory programs for the County. He has also worked as a Senior Planner/Shoreline Administrator with Skagit County. As Senior Planner he was responsible for the administration of the Skagit County Land Use Code, contributed to the drafting of the Environmental Element of the Skagit County Comprehensive Plan and was principal author of the County Critical Areas Ordinance. As Shoreline Administrator he coordinated the shoreline permit process and prepared amendments to the shoreline Master Program. While at Skagit County, he published Coastal Zone Disaster Mitigation, Skagit County, Washington (1993). He is one of the founding board members of the Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group and served as a board member for the Skagit Land Trust. Mr. Graham assisted in the establishment of GBA and became co-principal in 1996.

### **Patricia Bunting (Co-Principal/Wetland Ecologist/Professional Wetland Scientist (PWS))**

Ms. Bunting holds a Bachelors Degree in Landscape Architecture from the University of Washington (1990), has been certified as a Professional Wetland Scientist (PWS) from the Society of Wetland Scientists, and holds a certificate from the Wetland Training Institute for the completion of training in wetland delineations using the same methods as the Corps Wetland Delineation Certification Program. Further training and certifications include; Fish Species and Habitat Identification for Wetland Biologists, Western Washington Wetland Rating System, Guidance on Wetland Mitigation, Hydrogeomorphic Waters/Wetland Assessments, Stream Habitat Restoration Guidelines and How To Determine the Ordinary High Water Mark. She is responsible for project management, performs wetland delineations, wetland ratings, mitigation and monitoring plans, shoreline inventories for updating ordinances, fish and wildlife assessments and biological assessments to fulfill local, state and federal permitting requirements. She prepares third-party review regarding the Critical Areas Ordinance for the City of Sultan. She has worked in the private sector as a restoration ecologist, wetland ecologist and environmental planner since 1990, specializing in the assessment and management of aquatic areas. She has managed large contracts with local and state agencies regarding wetlands, fish and wildlife reports for permitting on road construction projects. She has worked for Alaska Department of Fish & Game division of Wildlife Conservation collecting data for wildlife management, administering regulations, permitting, and education for human animal conflicts. While employed at the University of Washington, she conducted research at the Center for Urban Horticulture relating to the effects of soil saturation on poplar species. She has been recognized as a technical assistant in poplar tree studies published in the Journal of Botany.



## Oscar Graham

**Education:** Bachelor of Arts in Urban Studies: Land Use Planning  
University of Puget Sound, Tacoma, WA (1977)

**Certification:** National Wetlands Science Training Cooperative for Jurisdictional Delineation of  
Wetlands in the Pacific Northwest (1990)

**Training:** Determining Ordinary High Water Mark, Methods for Assessing Wetland Functions,  
Guidance on Wetland Mitigation, Western Washington Wetland Rating System

### Work History:

#### **(1996-Present) Graham-Bunting & Associates, Land Use and Environmental Services**

##### Owner/Environmental Planner/Co-Principal:

Responsible for working with property owners, businesses, agencies, tribal entities and local governments in the preparation of environmental documents and aquatic resource plans required under federal, state and local regulations. Provides direction and assistance to professional biologists and ecologists in the completion of work products ranging from biological assessments, shoreline inventories, jurisdictional wetland delineations, baseline inventories, restoration plans and amendments to local shoreline management programs. Prepares proposals, grants, bids and budgets. Makes presentations to citizens groups and review authorities including planning commissions and local legislative bodies.

#### **(2004-2007) Skagit County Department of Planning and Development Services**

##### Deputy Director:

Responsible for management and supervision of County regulatory programs including zoning, land division, environmental review (SEPA), shoreline management, critical areas and code enforcement. Worked with citizen groups, agencies, tribes and elected officials in the development of local ordinances and plans under the mandates of the Growth Management Act. Assisted with re-organization of planning and building functions into a team based program emphasizing customer service and enterprise based funding.

#### **(2000-2002) City and Borough of Juneau Alaska, Community Development Department**

##### Planning Supervisor/Interim Director:

Responsible for supervision of six planning staff members. Provide guidance and support to professional level staff in the review of major land use proposals including City initiated harbors and cruise ship infrastructure development projects. Provide direct supervision and technical guidance for coastal zone and aquatic resource management programs. Worked on a cooperative basis with state and federal agencies (Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Alaska Department of Natural Resources, National Marine Fisheries Services, Corps of Engineers) in the review of multi jurisdictional projects. Also served as Interim Community Development Director (July – October 2001) responsible for supervision of a staff of thirty and 2.5 million dollar annual budget.

#### **(1988-1996) Skagit County Department of Planning and Development** Senior Planner Supervisor

Responsible for supervision of the Current Planning Section including shoreline management, environment, grant administration and code compliance functions. Provided support and direction for six professional staff planners. Presented staff analysis and recommendations to Planning Commission and Board of county Commissioners. Drafted and coordinated adoption of plans and ordinances including Skagit County Critical Areas Ordinance, Environmental Element of the Skagit County Comprehensive Plan, Aquaculture and Hydropower Sections of the Skagit County Shoreline Management Master Program. Published Coastal Zone Disaster Mitigation, Skagit County Washington (1992) through a cooperative agreement between Skagit County, Washington State Department of Ecology and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. A discussion of mitigation measures associated with coastal flooding, erosion and slope failure.

#### **(1981-1987) Washington State Department of Ecology** Environmentalist 2 (Crew Chief)

Responsible for the supervision of conservation projects including stream enhancement, flood control, oil spill response and marine data collection. Prepared environmental reports and assessments documenting baseline environmental conditions associated with the Padilla Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve. Published Utilization of Conservation Corps Crews in the Rehabilitation of Oiled Birds Washington State Department of Ecology, (1986).



## **Patricia Bunting, Professional Wetland Scientist (PWS)**

**Education:** Bachelors in Landscape Architecture  
University of Washington, Seattle, WA (1990)  
Additional courses toward Masters Degree (Aquatic Ecology)  
Skagit Valley Community College (2006-2008)

**Certifications:** Wetland Training Institute, Wetland Delineation  
Professional Wetland Scientist (PWS)  
Fish Species and Habitat Identification for Wetland Biologists

**Workshops:** Stream Bank Protection Using Vegetation, Bioengineering,  
Dept. of Ecology & WDFW Training: Stream Habitat Restoration, Ordinary High Water  
Mark Identification, Eelgrass Delineation, Forage Fish Surveys  
Wetland Rating, Wetland Mitigation, Stream Restoration

**Memberships:** Society of Wetland Scientists, Skagit Fisheries Enhancement, Skagit Land Trust

### **Work History:(1996 - present) Graham-Bunting & Associates Land Use and Environmental Services**

Owner/Wetland Ecologist: Responsible for all aspects of business operations. Field and office tasks include; permitting, wetland delineations and reports, fish & wildlife site assessments and biological assessments as required by the Endangered Species Act and Critical Areas Ordinances. Develop mitigation plans and monitoring programs for wetlands, fish and wildlife habitats to comply with local, state and federal requirements including federally funded projects or projects on federal, state and county owned lands. Prepares baseline document reports, permits for federal, state and local compliance and shoreline inventories for updating jurisdictional shoreline policies.

### **(2000-2002) Alaska Fish and Game, Wildlife Conservation**

Field Office Assistant working directly under the supervision of the South East regional area biologist. Responsible for preparing and issuing permits, direct public assistance regarding wildlife issues often on an emergency basis, data collection of wildlife species, wildlife education and management assistance. Assisted the public and the staff biologist with code interpretation and rewriting of the code for approval.

### **( 1992-1996) Skagit County Planning and Community Development: Assistant Planner**

Participated in the development of the Skagit County Comprehensive Plan in accordance with the Growth Management Act. Drafted the Mineral Resource, Utility and Open space elements of the Plan and coordinated the citizen participation process. Assisted in the development of the draft Skagit County Critical Area Ordinance. Compiled and coordinated the draft critical area map resources. Assisted in watershed mapping and water quality testing for the Samish Bay Watershed Plan and participated on the committee for the Padilla Bay Watershed Plan.

### **(1989-1991) Harvard and Associates, Landscape Architecture, Seattle, WA : Restoration Ecologist**

Project manager and project designer for sensitive areas located in planned residential developments, subdivisions, stream restoration/relocations, and slope erosion planting designs. Wetland reconnaissance and delineation by identifying vegetation, hydric soils, and hydrology consistent with the Army Corps of Engineers 1987 & 1989 Wetland Delineation Manuals, determination of the condition of on site trees as possible hazard trees to be selectively removed. Supervised removal and installation of plants for stream restoration projects.

### **(1986-1989) Center for Urban Horticulture, University of Washington**

Plant Technician and Assistant Researcher  
Flood study research plant technician in the Plant Physiology Lab. Cultivated and propagated poplar trees. Produced experiments for research on flood stress of trees.



## **Selected Records of Past Performance**

Graham Bunting & Associates (GBA) has conducted numerous site assessments addressing wetlands, fish and wildlife habitat conservation areas and associated permitting for local, state and federal jurisdictions since 1996. Locally, we have collective project experience in Skagit, Whatcom, San Juan, Snohomish, Island, King and Douglas Counties. GBA has also produced shoreline inventories, wetland delineations and mitigation plans, marine biological eelgrass/macro-algae surveys, and biological site assessments to comply with local, state and federal regulations. Following are representative examples of projects performed.

### **Padilla Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve, Department of Ecology, (Skagit County)**

GBA was contracted with Department of Ecology to perform a wetland delineation at the Padilla Bay Research Reserve to be utilized for on-site long term planning. Wetlands were mapped with GPS and incorporated into the Reserves data base for future planning.

### **Stream Inventories for Fish Passage Projects associated with various Skagit County Roads**

GBA contracted with local engineers and Skagit County to perform wetland delineations and stream data collection in support of local, state and federal permitting requirements to remove fish barriers created by historical road building practices.

### **Boat Launch Ramp for Padilla Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve, Ecology**

GBA prepared a Fish & Wildlife Site Assessment for the proposed improvements to the Dept. of Ecology's boat launch ramp in Bay View. Mitigation was prepared for shoreline buffer impacts.

### **Farm-To-Market and State Route 20 Bridge Improvement**

GBA contracted with Skagit County Public Works to provide assessments that addressed impacts to fish, wildlife and wetlands for an improved stream crossing of Higgins Slough at the intersection of Farm-To-Market and State Route 20. A biological assessment was prepared to address the endangered species act. Federal, state and local permits were obtained.

### **Pressentin County Park (Marblemount, WA)**

GBA contracted with Skagit County Parks and Recreation Department to conduct a Critical Areas Site Assessment addressing wetlands, fish and wildlife and cultural resources. The subject property is located in an area adjacent to the Skagit River, which contains productive fish habitat wetland systems and archaeological resources. GBA worked cooperatively utilizing community input, federal funding sources and The Nature Conservancy in identifying mitigation measures designed to avoid critical area impacts and allow for park development. Upon completion of the site assessments, GBA prepared a draft Environmental Assessment pursuant to the requirements of NEPA.

### **Dike District #3 (Skagit River) Fish Enhancement Project**

GBA prepared baseline document report, wetland delineation and Corps permit to assist the Dike District in moving back a portion of the Skagit River Levee, south of Mount Vernon. This project was funded with Salmon Recovery Funds. The project included moving three residences out of the floodway of the Skagit River.

### **Skagit County Compliance with FEMA/NMFS Biological Opinion**

GBA assisted the Planning Department with meetings, review, discussions and preparation of the 2012 Code for Flood Plain Development regarding ESA species. This required direct communications with FEMA and NMFS.



### **Dike District #1 and #22 (Skagit River)**

GBA contracted with the dike districts to conduct Wetland, Fish and Wildlife Habitat Conservation Area Site Assessments inclusive of mitigation plans and Shoreline Permit Approvals. Permit approvals were needed for levee repairs and enhancement.

### **Edison Slough Drainage Improvement Project (Skagit County)**

GBA worked under sub-contract with Montgomery Water Group, Inc. to produce a fish and wildlife site assessment, wetland delineation, impact analysis and mitigation plan as required by local and federal jurisdictions. Mitigation included the state's first self-regulating tide gate.

### **Avon Allen Road Improvement Project (Skagit County)**

GBA contracted with Skagit County Public Works Department to conduct a Biological Assessment. A thorough analysis of project effects on endangered flora, fauna and fish listed by the Endangered Species Act was produced and submitted for approval by National Marine Fisheries Service and US Fish & Wildlife Service pursuant to ESA under the Federal Highways Environmental Classification Summary Checklist.

### **Town of Concrete Shoreline Master Plan Update**

GBA contracted with the Town of Concrete through a grant from the State Department of Ecology to update the Town's Shoreline Master Program (SMP) as mandated by Ecology (WAC 173-26). The project included preparation of a shoreline characterization and inventory report, draft SMP and presentations to citizen groups, Town Planning Commission and Town Council. GBA worked cooperatively with the Ecology Project Officer and Town Council to complete the project on schedule. A public hearing was held in the spring of 2013 pursuant to local adoption. The SMP was subsequently adopted by Ecology without additional amendments in the autumn of 2013.

### **Improvements to Dream Field Complex (Mount Vernon, WA)**

GBA collected wetland data and prepared a wetland delineation in association with proposed improvements to the dream field baseball complex. The proposal included improvements to restroom facilities and pipeline extensions to the city sanitary sewer. In addition to technical tasks, GBA also consulted with permit authorities and obtained approval of a Nationwide Permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for wetland impacts.

### **Little Mountain Creek Interpretative Nature Trail (Mount Vernon, WA)**

GBA collected stream and wetland data adjacent to Little Mountain Creek to site a multi-use non-motorized, interpretive, nature trail and bridge crossing of the creek. The project included characterization and classification of the stream and delineation of the wetlands along the wetted perimeter. GBA prepared a joint aquatic resource permit application (JARPA), which was submitted to local, state and federal agencies for review. The project is slated for construction during 2012.

### **Gages Slough Mitigation and Non-Motorized Plan for Assessment Unit No. 10**

GBA prepared a mitigation plan for Gages Slough Assessment Unit #10 as identified in the Gages Slough Wetland Study (1998) and the Final Update for Gages Slough, Wetland Study Technical Report (2007) in conjunction with off site wetland buffer impacts. The mitigation plan included restoration of 1.97 acres of degraded buffer to Gages Slough. The plan also included an upland foot path and picnic area to be included as a long term non-motorized plan for the Gages Slough Corridor.





#### **City of Mount Vernon Parks and Recreation (Mount Vernon, WA)**

GBA performed a wetland delineation, prepared a mitigation plan and prepared permits for the proposed Kiwanis Park at 18<sup>th</sup> and Broadway streets. The project involved permitting for a .90 acre wetland fill and over three acres of proposed mitigation and monitoring plan. The mitigation plan has been approved by federal and state agencies. GBA is currently contracted with Mount Vernon Parks and Recreation department to perform five years of monitoring.

#### **City of Mount Vernon Shoreline Inventory (Mount Vernon, WA)**

Graham-Bunting & Associates were contracted by the City of Mount Vernon to conduct a shoreline inventory and ranking system of existing environmental baseline conditions along an eight mile portion of the Skagit River. This inventory was grant funded by the Dept. of Ecology to assist the City with developing the City's Shoreline Master Program which is intended to contribute to the long-term recovery of proposed, threatened and endangered species. The inventory was initiated by convening a technical support review group. Inventory and ranking protocols were established by GBA for environmental baseline conditions for the functional criteria of the physical, biological and land-use features.

#### **Skagit County Public Works FEMA Funded Road Repair Projects (Skagit River)**

GBA was contracted to prepare environmental documents for wetlands, fish and wildlife, shoreline and associated permits to repair damage to numerous roads around Skagit County. This involved preparing local, state and federal permit applications to rebuild road banks below the OHWM of the Skagit River, a designated shoreline.

#### **Marine Biological Eelgrass/Macro Algae Survey and Associated Permits (Flounder Bay)**

GBA conducted a SCUBA assisted marine biological survey for proposed residential dock impacts as required by the state Department of Fish & Wildlife, Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Fish & Wildlife and the City of Anacortes for shoreline permitting and ESA impact analysis.

#### **Reservation Road Improvement Project (Turners Bay)**

GBA contracted with Skagit County Public Works Department to conduct a Shoreline Permitting and Critical Areas Site Assessment, which included wetland, fish, wildlife and cultural resource elements. These investigations were conducted in association with a proposed road improvement project located in an area of documented freshwater and estuarine wetlands, salmon and eagle habitats, and archaeological resources. Local, state, federal and tribal permit approvals were obtained. GBA worked collectively to minimize impacts and develop a mitigation plan, which restored fish passage and tidal action to an eight acre salt marsh.

#### **Kiwanis Park Wetland Interpretive Boardwalk (Mount Vernon, WA)**

GBA collected wetland data, prepared a wetland delineation and assisted in the design of an interpretive trail and boardwalk located in a forested wetland within a City park. The boardwalk utilized a pin foundation method to suspend the walking surface above wetlands. In addition to technical tasks, GBA prepared and obtained federal, local and state authorizations and permits. The wetland trail and boardwalk was designed in a manner to focus users attention on the physical features and functions of the wetlands.



### **Marine Biological Eelgrass/Macro Algae Survey, Deception Pass**

GBA conducted a SCUBA assisted marine biological survey at Deception pass to meet the requirements of the State Department of Fish and Wildlife for a residential marine dock proposal. GBA prepared a report and processed applications required by the Army Corps of Engineers, state and local jurisdictions including SEPA checklist.

### **Ducks Unlimited “Barley for Birds” Program**

GBA contracted with Ducks Unlimited to conduct a Wetland, Fish and Wildlife Site Assessment on the Washington State Department of Fish & Wildlife’s land on the Samish Flats. This project assisted Ducks Unlimited (a non-profit organization) in satisfying the permitting requirements of the County Critical Areas Ordinance for waterfowl enhancement.

### **Salish Estuary Monitoring (Fidalgo Bay)**

GBA developed and conducted a monitoring program for three years on a sensitive shoreline area that was the subject of an enforcement action by EPA. Fifteen monitoring sites were inspected every 3 months. Flora, fauna and fish data were recorded and sent to EPA as a requirement of the enforcement action.

### **Wetland and Stream Mitigation Monitoring**

GBA performs monitoring for approved mitigation plans including the Skagit County Administration Building and Data Center. The monitoring reports are approved by the City of Mount Vernon.

### **Heronry Reconnaissance (Oak Harbor, WA)**

GBA in conjunction with WDFW, prepared a reconnaissance report for a housing development located within 500 feet of a potential heronry.

### **Island County Public Works, Wetland Site Assessment**

East Camano Drive/Cross Island Road/Arrowhead Road Intersection improvements in the year 2000. GBA conducted field delineation and prepared a report addressing jurisdictional wetlands associated with the road improvements.