

SKAGIT COUNTY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

NOTICE OF DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION

File # PL20-0221 Skagit County Drainage District 21

Turner Creek Restoration and Maintenance Projects

Notice is hereby given that on May 22, 2020, Skagit County Drainage District 21 filed a Shoreline Substantial Development Permit application PL20-0221 to 1) create off-channel areas that serve as fish habitat and increase stream sinuosity, 2) realign Turner Creek to the north of the Beaver Lake Quarry; and 3) dredge two sections of Turner Creek between Beaver Lake Road and its confluence with East Fork Nookachamps Creek, in addition to dredging a short segment of an unnamed tributary located west of Beaver Lake Road, to increase flow capacity. The two sections to be dredged total approximately 0.8-mile out of the 1.4-mile stream reach between Beaver Lake Road and East Fork Nookachamps Creek.

To improve stream habitat complexity, the applicant proposes to install six wood structures within Turner Creek. At each location, an approximately 30-foot long portion of the stream bank will be “pulled back” 15 feet and excavated to a depth of approximately 9 feet from top of bank. An approximate 700 linear-foot reach of Turner Creek, adjacent to the Beaver Creek Quarry, will be realigned to the north of the existing channel. The vast majority of channel excavation will occur in the dry; in-water work will occur to connect the new channel to the upstream and downstream ends of the existing channel.

The applicant proposes to use a long reach excavator to dredge approximately 4 feet of materials from three reaches of Turner Creek, returning the channel depth to the designed 8-foot depth. The downstream-most reach is located near the mouth of Turner Creek (RM 0.05) upstream for approximately 1,800 feet (RM 0.4). Dredging of a short reach (approximately 500 feet long) will occur downstream of the Beaver Lake Quarry (between approximately RM 0.85 and RM 0.95), and dredging will also occur from upstream of the quarry for approximately 1,600 feet to Beaver Lake Road (between RM 1.1 and RM 1.4). To avoid and minimize impacts while gaining access to the stream, the applicant proposes use of timber mats, or similar, and low pressure excavator treads.

In addition to dredging, channel realignment, and off-channel areas proposed within Turner Creek, the applicant proposes to dredge approximately 375 linear feet of an unnamed tributary that drains Beaver Lake, from the confluence of Turner Creek upstream to Beaver Lake Road. The Turner Creek Realignment project element will relocate Turner Creek’s confluence with East Fork Nookachamps Creek to a location approximately 650 feet downstream of its current location. The stream realignment will utilize an existing side channel of the East Fork Nookachamps Creek that extends from near the existing confluence of Turner Creek, downstream to near the State Route (SR) 9 bridge.

The proposed project is located within a portion of the NW ¼ of Section 18, Township 34 N, Range 5 E, W.M., portions of Sections 11, 12, and 13, Township 34 N, Range 4 East, W.M. Parcels P24548, P24549, P24625, P24645, P30261 and P30271

The full application for this proposal is on file with Skagit County Planning and Development Services (PDS), and will be reviewed under the provisions of Skagit County Code (SCC). This information is

available to the public on request. Other permits may be necessary in the development of the project but are not included in this application: grading permit (Skagit County), HPA (WDFW), US Army Corps of Engineers authorization.

A public hearing before the Skagit County Hearing Examiner is required for this project.

Any person desiring to comment on or to be notified of the decision on this application should notify PDS in writing within thirty days of the date of final publication of this notice, which is July 16, 2020.

Skagit County accepts comments online only through the form at www.skagitcounty.net/pdscomments

To ensure comments are received and processed properly, comments are not accepted via email.

Written comments must be received by 4:30 pm, August 15, 2020.

Submit comments to:

Betsy Stevenson, AICP
c/o Skagit County Planning and Development Services
1800 Continental Place
Mount Vernon, WA 98273
(360) 416-1320

Transmitted to the Skagit Valley Herald July 8, 2020.

Please publish July 10, 2020 and July 16, 2020.

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