



US Army Corps
of Engineers
Portland District



WASHINGTON STATE
DEPARTMENT OF
E C O L O G Y

Joint Public Notice

Application for a Department of the Army Permit and a Washington Department of Ecology Water Quality Certification and/or Coastal Zone Management Consistency Concurrence

US Army Corps of Engineers

Regulatory Branch
Post Office Box 2946
Portland, OR 97208-2946
Telephone (503) 808-4368
Attn: Danielle Erb, Project
Manager

WA Department of Ecology

SEA Program
Post Office Box 47600
Olympia, WA 98504-7600
Telephone (360) 407-6068
Attn: SEA Program, Federal
Permit Coordinator

Public Notice Date:

October 19, 2016

Expiration Date:

November 20, 2016

Reference No.: NWP-2003-
602-1

Name: Port of Wahkiakum

Interested parties are hereby notified that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) and the Washington Department of Ecology (Ecology) have received an application to perform work in waters of the U.S. as described below and shown on the enclosed drawings dated October 12, 2016.

The Corps will review the work in accordance with Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (CWA) and Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act. Ecology will review the work pursuant to Section 401 of the CWA, with applicable provisions of State water pollution control laws and the Coastal Zone Management Act.

APPLICANT:

Port District No. One of Wahkiakum County
Attention: Jackie Lea
500 2nd Street
Cathlamet, WA 98612
Email: Port1@cni.net
Telephone: (360) 795-3501

APPLICANT'S AGENT:

Maul Foster & Alongi, Inc.
Attention: Joshua Elliott
2001 NW 19th AVE, Suite 200
Portland, OR 97209
Email: jelliott@maulfoster.com
Telephone: (503) 501-5236

LOCATION: The project site is located at the Elochoman Slough and Marina, which is a side channel of the Columbia River, in Cathlamet, Wahkiakum County, Washington. The site is in

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Section 2, Township 8 North, Range 6 West. Latitude and Longitude: 46.20614° North, 123.38724° West.

WORK: The permittee has proposed to conduct maintenance dredging of the Elochoman Slough and Marina. Dredging would occur over a ten-year period where the permittee would dredge up to 28,000 cubic yards of accumulated sediments in the first year, with another 10,000 cubic yards removed every 5 years as needed for 10 years.

Sediment within Elochoman Slough would be removed to a channel depth of -10 feet Columbia River Datum (CRD) with a 2-foot overdredge allowance (-12 feet CRD). Sediment within the Elochoman Marina would be dredged to -7 feet CRD with a 2-foot overdredge allowance (-9 feet CRD).

Material would be dredged by the Port's hydraulic pipeline cutterhead suction dredge. The dredged material would be pumped, dewatered, and placed as fill into the former sewage treatment lagoons, which have an existing outfall to the Columbia River.

PURPOSE: Maintenance dredging of the Elochoman Slough and Marina is needed to provide adequate navigation depth necessary for accessing the marina.

Dredged Material Testing: Project sediments were evaluated in accordance with the Sediment Evaluation Framework for the Pacific Northwest (SEF). The interagency Portland Sediment Evaluation Team (PSET) implements the SEF for the Corps Portland District. For this project, the PSET has determined that sediments in the project area are suitable for unconfined, aquatic disposal and exposure.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: The work would be complete over a 10-year period.

MITIGATION: The permittee would minimize impacts to the aquatic environment by dredging during the approved in-water work window. There would be no wetland or wetland buffer impacts associated with this project. The applicant did not propose compensatory mitigation in the permit application. The Corps will determine the type and amount of compensatory mitigation necessary to offset environmental losses from the proposed project.

ENDANGERED SPECIES: The Endangered Species Act (ESA) requires federal agencies to consult with the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) and/or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) pursuant to Section 7 of the ESA on all actions that may affect a species listed (or proposed for listing) under the ESA as threatened or endangered or any designated critical habitat. After receipt of comments from this public notice, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will evaluate the potential impacts to proposed and/or listed species and their designated critical habitat.

ESSENTIAL FISH HABITAT: The Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, as amended by the Sustainable Fisheries Act of 1996, requires all Federal agencies to consult with the NMFS on all actions, or proposed actions, permitted, funded, or undertaken by the agency, that may adversely affect Essential Fish Habitat (EFH). The proposed action would

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impact EFH in the project area. If the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) determines that the proposed action may adversely affect EFH for federally managed fisheries in Washington waters, the Corps will initiate EFH consultation with the NMFS. The Corps' final determination relative to project impacts and the need for mitigation measures is subject to review by and coordination with the NMFS.

CULTURAL RESOURCES: The District Engineer has reviewed the latest published version of the National Register of Historic Places, lists of properties determined eligible and other sources of information. An historic properties investigation has been conducted within the permit area. No sites determined eligible for or listed on the National Register of Historic Places were found to exist within the permit area. The District Engineer invites responses to this public notice from Native American Nations or tribal governments; Federal, State, and local agencies; historical and archeological societies; and other parties likely to have knowledge of or concerns with historic properties in the area. This public notice initiates consultation under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act with any Tribe that has information or concerns with historic properties in the proposed permit area.

PUBLIC HEARING: Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for public hearings shall state, with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing.

EVALUATION – CORPS: The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impacts, including cumulative impacts, of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefits, which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal, must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered, including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, historic properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, floodplain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownership, and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

The Corps is soliciting comments from the public; Native American Nations or tribal governments; Federal, State, and local agencies and officials; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for the work. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the activity.

The described discharge will be evaluated for compliance with guidelines promulgated by the Environmental Protection Agency under authority of Section 404(b)(1) of the CWA. These

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guidelines require an alternatives analysis for any proposed discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States.

EVALUATION – ECOLOGY: Ecology is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, Native American Nations or tribal governments, State, and local agencies and officials; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this activity. Ecology will be considering all comments to determine whether to certify or deny certification for the proposed project.

COMMENT AND REVIEW PERIOD: Conventional mail or e-mail comments on this public notice will be accepted and made part of the record and will be considered in determining whether authorizing the work would not be contrary to the public interest. In order to be accepted, e-mail comments must originate from the author's e-mail account and must include on the subject line of the e-mail message the permit applicant's name and reference number as shown below. Either conventional mail or e-mail comments must include the permit applicant's name and reference number, as shown below, and the commenter's name, address, and phone number. All comments whether conventional mail or e-mail must reach this office, no later than the expiration date of this public notice to ensure consideration.

Copies of this public notice which have been mailed or otherwise physically distributed feature project drawings in black and white. The electronic version features those drawings in color, which we think more accurately communicates the scope of project impacts. To access the electronic version of this public notice, go to the Portland District's web page at <http://www.nwp.usace.army.mil/>.

CORPS COMMENTS: All e-mail comments should be sent to Danielle.H.Erb@usace.army.mil. Conventional mail comments should be sent to U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Regulatory Branch, Attn: Danielle H. Erb, Post Office Box 2946, Portland, OR 97208-2946. All comments received will become part of the administrative record and are subject to public release under the Freedom of Information Act including any personally identifiable information such as names, phone numbers, and addresses.

ECOLOGY COMMENTS: Any person desiring to present views on the project pertaining to a request for water quality certification under Section 401 of the CWA and/or Coastal Zone Management consistency concurrence, may do so by submitting written comments to the following address: Washington State Department of Ecology, Attention: Federal Permit Coordinator, Post Office Box 47600, Olympia, Washington 98504-7600, or e-mail to ecyrefedpermits@ecy.wa.gov.

To ensure proper consideration of all comments, responders must include the following name and reference number in the text of their comments: Elochoman Marina and Slough, NWP-2003-602-1.

Encl: Thirteen (13) sheets, labeled NWP-2003-602-1