

SALISH SEA NEARSHORE PROGRAMMATIC (SSNP) CONSULTATIONS  
 LIST OF REQUIREMENTS  
 Version: May 25, 2023

**Project Design Criteria (PDC) #10 Dredging and Debris Removal to maintain functionality of culverts, water intakes and outfalls**

Programmatic Endangered Species Act (ESA) Consultations [National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) reference number WCRO-2019-04086, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) reference number FWS/R1/2002-0048454] have been completed for the activities listed below. If you can design your project to meet all of the requirements of the Programmatic Biological Opinions (i.e. General Construction Measures, and Essential Fish Habitat Conservation Recommendations, and PDC's) including the specific project design criteria listed below, then the review of your ESA consultation and permit application will be streamlined. The submittal of this list is not required. However, to further expedite your review you may include a description of how you meet these requirements in your SSNP application materials.

Activities Covered
Restore lost or impaired function of culvert, water intake, or outfall (Can include the addition of a fish screen for any water intake or point of diversion)
Multiple year maintenance dredging or debris removal
Notification Requirements
NMFS notification and verification is required for this activity category. USFWS notification is required for this activity category. The application materials and notification should include the information below if applicable.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minimization and avoidance plan</li> <li>• Submerged Aquatic Vegetation (SAV) Survey</li> <li>• If an alteration from the PDC is requested, provide documentation in the notification. See Program Administration Section 6 of the Biological Opinions for supporting information and examples. Verification from both NMFS and USFWS is required if an alteration is requested.</li> </ul>

Project Design Criteria	
	The purpose of this action is to clear obstructing, clogging, or blocking material and restore full operation to the existing culvert, intake, or outfall. Therefore, dredging is expected to only be of a limited footprint or volume.
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	The applicant shall provide a plan to demonstrate how the action will avoid and minimize impacts. NMFS review and verification is required.
	<b>Dredging or Excavation</b>
	Dredging will require SAV surveys in marine work areas to determine presence of aquatic vegetation.
	Dredging or excavation will be limited to the greatest extent possible. Dredging or excavation can only occur at water intake or divisions with a fish screen meeting NMFS fish screen criteria and NMFS fish passage criteria.

	The dredging must not alter the originally designed character, scope, size, or location of the project area.
	All dredged or excavated materials and subsequent leave surface (newly exposed sediment) must be suitable and verified for in-water disposal/exposure using newly acquired or historical data based on criteria in the Sediment Evaluation Framework. See the Biological Opinion for supporting information.