



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20314-1000

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

30 APR 2002

CECW-PM

MEMORANDUM FOR Commander, Northwestern Division (CENWD-CM-P)

SUBJECT: Green/Duwamish River Basin Ecosystem Restoration Project, Washington

A copy of the signed Record of Decision (ROD) for the subject project is enclosed. Please take appropriate action to distribute copies of the ROD to interested parties.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

Encl

Raleigh H. Leaf
for JAMES F. JOHNSON
Chief, Planning and Policy Division
Directorate of Civil Works

CF: CECW-P
CENWS-PM-PL
CECW-ZD
CECW-PM

RECORD OF DECISION

GREEN/DUWAMISH RIVER BASIN KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON FEASIBILITY STUDY

We have reviewed the Green/Duwamish River Basin Ecosystem Restoration Feasibility Study and Integrated Final Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (FPEIS), as well as correspondence received in response to coordination of this document. I find the plan recommended by the District Engineer, Seattle District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to be environmentally justified, technically feasible, cost-effective, in accordance with environmental statutes, and in the public interest. Thus, I approve the plan for construction.

Congress authorized the project in Section 101(b)(26) of the Water Resources Development Act of 2000. Over the past 150 years, a series of significant actions have adversely affected the fish and wildlife habitat in the Green/Duwamish River Basin and the 2000 Feasibility Report and FPEIS documents the investigation of a number of alternatives to address the identified ecosystem restoration needs of the Green/Duwamish River Basin. The plan of improvement recommended by the Chief of Engineers is the National Ecosystem Restoration plan and consists of the 45 project sites, to be implemented in 3 phases over a 10-year construction period. The 45 individual project sites range in size from fractions of an acre to hundreds of acres and generate local and basin-wide ecosystem restoration effects. Specific activities include: blockage removals, side channel construction and/or enhancement, levee modification, riparian revegetation, stream rehabilitation, large woody debris placement, side channel reconnection, tidal habitat construction, land slide rehabilitation, gravel replenishment and system-wide plantings. The project includes a monitoring plan to address project effectiveness at three different levels: (1) the evaluation of overall programmatic effectiveness; (2) the evaluation of site specific effects; and (3) implementation of adaptive management techniques.

In addition to a "no action" alternative, two other major alternatives were evaluated in the Corps of Engineers' report. The multi-species alternative evaluated an agency-coordinated concerted effort to implement restoration programs that would simultaneously maximize benefits to multiple fish and wildlife species where as the single-species alternative considered an agency-coordinated concerted effort to implement restoration programs that would benefit a single species, the recently listed Chinook salmon. The alternatives are described and discussed in the Feasibility Report and are hereby incorporated by reference. The multi-species alternative was identified as the environmentally preferable alternative; we are adopting that alternative for implementation. The plan with the greatest net benefits, without unacceptable environmental and social impacts was selected and recommended. No environmental mitigation features are included in the selected plan.

We have reviewed and evaluated documents concerning the proposed action; views of other agencies; and the various practicable means to avoid or minimize environmental harm from construction of this project.

All practicable means to avoid or minimize adverse environmental effects have been incorporated into the recommended plan. The public interest will best be served by implementing the improvements identified and described in the Final Feasibility Report and Integrated Final Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement.



ROBERT H. GRIFFIN
Major General, USA
Director of Civil Works

23 Apr 02

Date