



US Army Corps
of Engineers®
Seattle District

Public Notice

REQUEST FOR PERMISSION TO ALTER A U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS PROJECT UNDER 33 USC 408 (Section 408) & NOTICE TO PREPARE AN ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Planning, Environmental and Cultural
Resources Branch
ATTN: Section 408 Coordinator
P.O. Box 3755
Seattle, WA 98124-3755

Public Notice Date: 13 September 2019
Expiration Date: 12 October 2019
Reference: 408-NWS-2019-0028

PROJECT TITLE: Bellingham Cold Storage Berth Dredging Project (Section 408 Reference Number: 408-NWS-2019-0028)

REQUESTER: In compliance with U.S.C. Title 33, Chapter 9, Subchapter 1, Section 408, Bellingham Cold Storage (Requester) has requested permission from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) to alter the Squalicum Waterway (Federal Project), an existing Federal navigation channel in Bellingham Bay at Bellingham in Whatcom County, Washington. The Squalicum Waterway and maintenance dredging by the Department of the Army was authorized by the Rivers and Harbors Act of 3 July 1930 (House Document 290, 71st Congress, 2nd Session). The project was constructed in 1931; additional Congressional action in 1937 authorized dredging of berthing areas adjacent to the inner portion of the channel and a turning basin at mid-channel on the northwest side, both authorized at -26 feet mean lower low water (MLLW). Federal maintenance began in 1949 and has continued to the present.

Authorized features of the Federal navigation project include:

- From deep water to the pier head line, a waterway entrance channel 200 feet wide and 26 feet deep at MLLW.
- A turning basin 700 feet long, 26 feet deep, and 216 to 516 feet wide.
- A channel 300 feet wide by approximately 3,500 feet long.

LOCATION: The proposed Bellingham Cold Storage Berth Dredging Project is located in Bellingham, Whatcom County, Washington. The proposed project is adjacent to Bellingham Cold Storage, located at 2825 Roeder Avenue. See Sheets 1-4, enclosed, for project vicinity map, drawings, and disposal site locations.

REQUESTER'S PROPOSED ACTION: The dredge area is approximately 75 feet wide by 1,015 feet long (1.7 acres) from station 16+30 to Station 5+60. To address contamination in one area of the dredge prism (station 7+00 to Station 5+60), the following approach is proposed:

- From Station 16+30 to Station 7+00, the dredge design depth is -26 feet MLLW with a 2 foot allowable over dredge and 2 feet advance maintenance dredging to -30 feet MLLW. The dredged material would be disposed at Rosario Strait dispersive disposal site.
- From Station 7+00 to Station 5+60, the overall dredge design depth is -30 feet MLLW. Dredged Material deemed suitable for open water disposal would be taken to the Port Gardner in-water disposal site. Dredge material deemed unsuitable due to dioxin contamination, would be taken to the Republic Services Roosevelt Regional Municipal Solid Waste Landfill in Roosevelt, WA.

Mechanical dredging would be performed using a crane-mounted clamshell excavation bucket operated from a barge. The barge would be positioned using a tug. The surface layer of unsuitable material located near the north berth would be dredged first and placed in a barge designed to allow dewatering at the site (i.e., a flat barge with sides or a hay bale perimeter and turbidity-controlled drainage). Following dewatering, the unsuitable material would be transported in the barge to an appropriate off-loading facility in Bellingham Bay to be placed in containers for transport to the Republic Landfill in Roosevelt. For all other layers within the dredge prism, the dredged material would be placed in a split-bottom barge for transport to the selected open-water placement site. The water from the dredged material would be collected on the disposal barge and disposed with the dredged material.

The purpose of this work is to restore and maintain adequate navigation depth for commercial vessels.

Only project elements that alter the Federal Project are within the scope of the Section 408 review. For this project, only the dredging impacting the Federal navigation channel will be considered under the Section 408 analysis.

EVALUATION: USACE has determined that the Bellingham Cold Storage Berth Maintenance Dredging Project would entail an alteration to the Federal Project, and therefore requires permission under Section 408.

NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT: A decision on a Section 408 request is a federal action subject to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and other federal environmental and cultural resources compliance requirements. Pursuant to NEPA, an Environmental Assessment will be prepared evaluating two alternatives: 1) no action

(i.e., denial of 408 permission) and 2) requester's proposed alteration as discussed above (i.e. issuance of 408 permission). If significant effects on the quality of the human environment are subsequently identified and cannot be mitigated, USACE will initiate an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and afford all the appropriate participation opportunities attendant to an EIS. The public is invited to comment on the impacts of the proposal on the quality of the human environment.

AUTHORITY: The authority to grant permission for temporary or permanent use, occupation, or alteration of any USACE civil works project is contained in Section 14 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899, as amended, codified at 33 USC 408 ("Section 408"). Section 408 authorizes the Secretary of the Army, on the recommendation of the Chief of Engineers, to grant permission for the alteration or occupation or use of a USACE project if the Secretary determines that the activity would not be injurious to the public interest and would not impair the usefulness of the project. The Secretary of Army's authority under Section 408 has been delegated to USACE, Chief of Engineers. USACE Chief of Engineers has further delegated the authority to USACE, Directorate of Civil Works and Division and District Engineers, depending upon the nature of the activity.

LIMITS OF SECTION 408 AUTHORITY: A requester has the responsibility to acquire all other permissions or authorizations required by Federal, state, and local laws or regulations, including any required permits from USACE Regulatory Program under Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 USC 403), Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 USC Section 1344), and/or Section 103 of the Marine Protection, Research and Sanctuaries Act of 1972 (33 USC 1413). In addition, an approval under Section 408 does not grant any property rights or exclusive privileges nor does it authorize any injury to the property or rights of others.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT: Comments on this Public Notice will be accepted and made part of the evaluation record and considered in determining whether the proposed alteration would be injurious to the public interest or would impair the usefulness of the Federal Project, as well as assessing the impacts of those determinations on the quality of the human environment. Interested parties may submit in writing any comments concerning this notice. USACE will consider all submissions received before the expiration date of this notice.

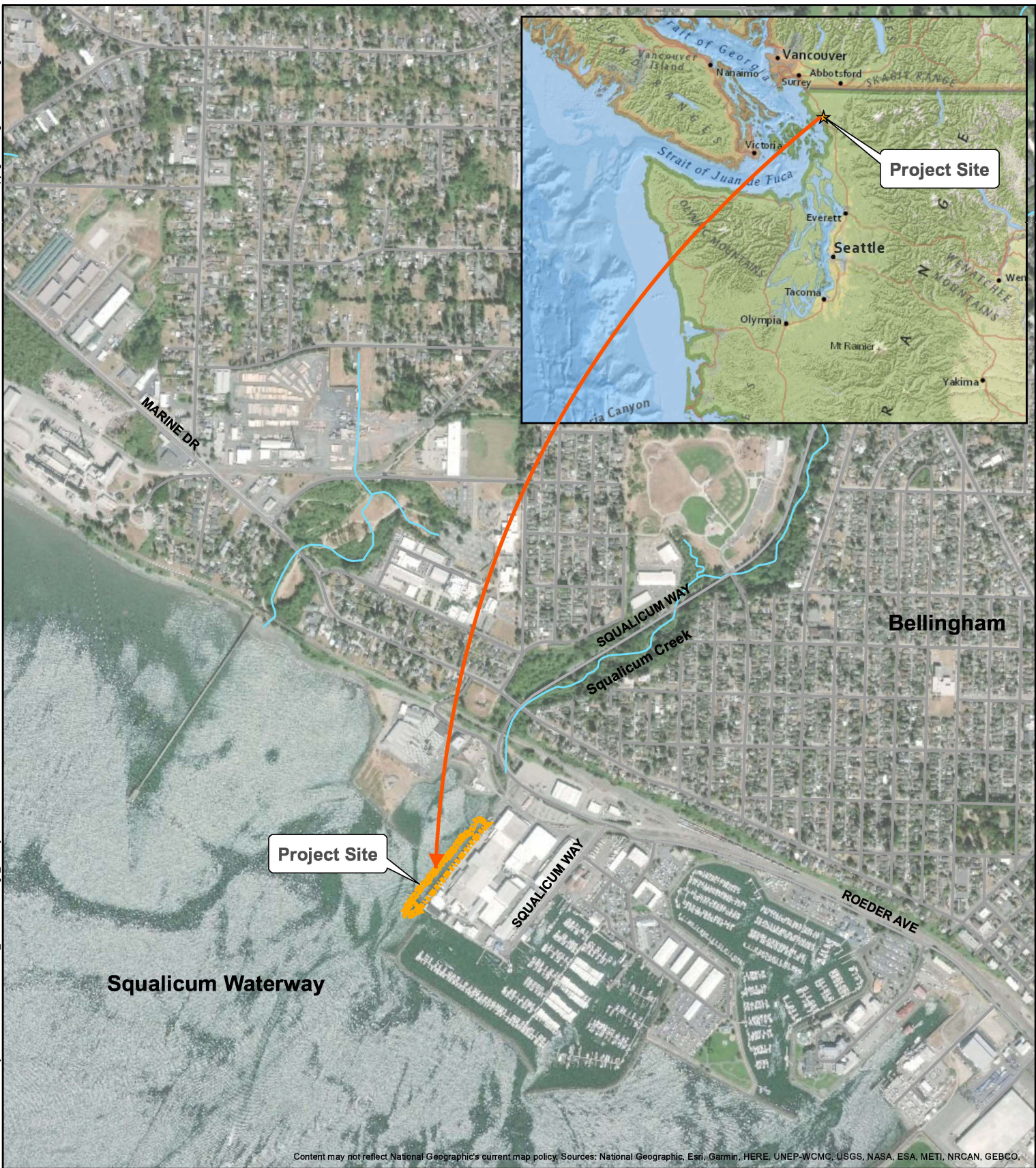
This Public Notice will be posted to the following website:
<http://www.nws.usace.army.mil/Business-With-Us/Section408/>

SUBMITTING COMMENTS: Comments pertaining to this public notice must be submitted via email or conventional mail on or before 12 October 2019, and include Reference Number 408-NWS-2019-0028. All comments received will become part of the administrative record and are subject to public release under the Freedom of Information Act, including personally identifiable information such as names, phone numbers, and addresses.

All email comments should be sent to: CENWS-Section408@usace.army.mil.

Conventional mail comments should be sent to: Planning, Environmental and Cultural Resources Branch, ATTN: Section 408 Coordinator, P.O. Box 3755, Seattle, WA 98124-3755

Enclosures: 4 Sheets



Content may not reflect National Geographic's current map policy. Sources: National Geographic, Esri, Garmin, HERE, UNEP-WCMC, USGS, NASA, ESA, METI, NRCAN, GEBCO,

REFERENCE #: NWS-2017-301

APPLICANT: Bellingham Cold Storage
ADDRESS: 2825 Roeder Ave.
Bellingham, WA 98227

ADJACENT PROPERTY OWNERS:
1. Port of Bellingham

Berth Maintenance Dredging SHEET 1: VICINITY MAP



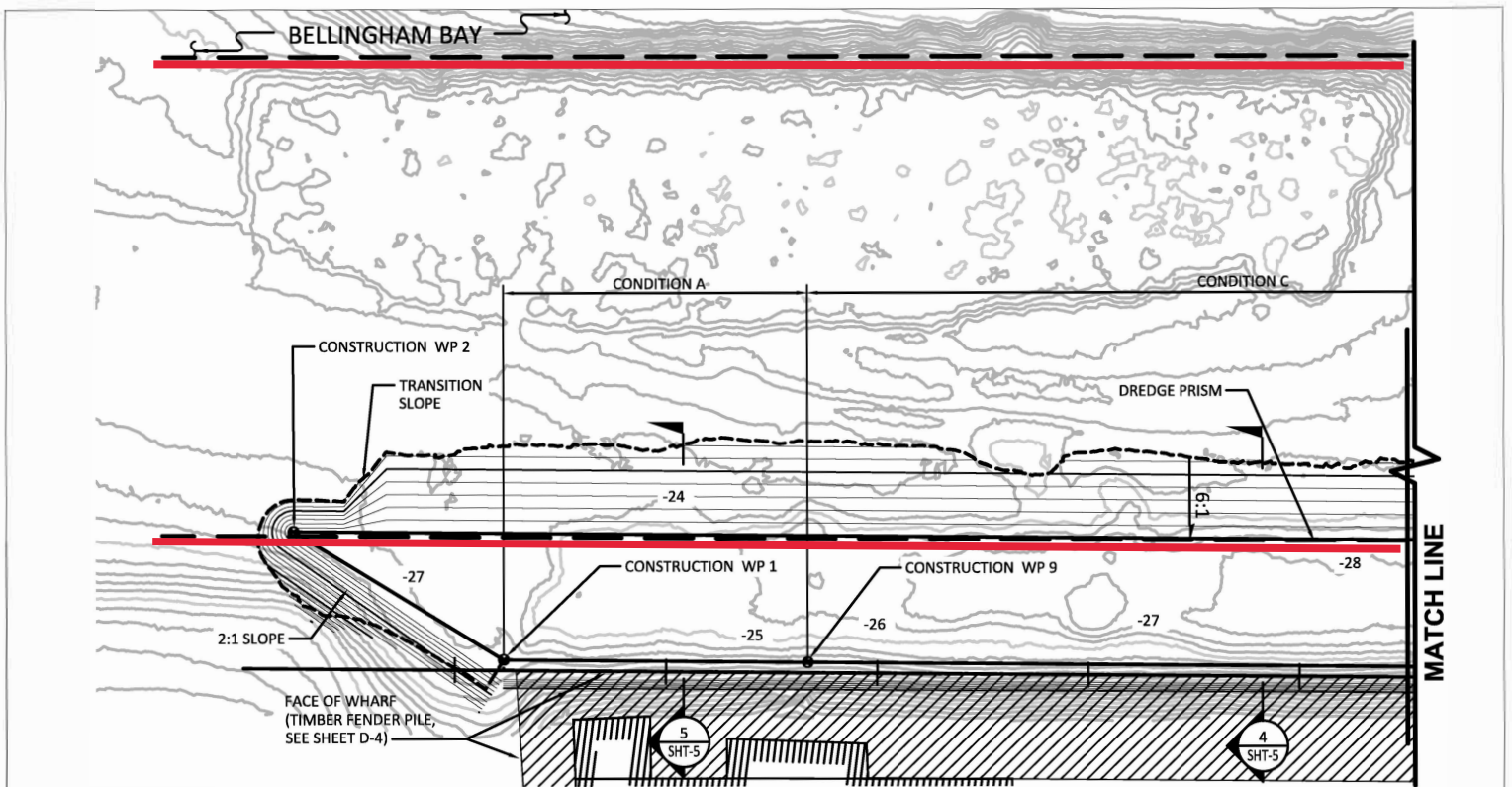
PROPOSED PROJECT: Berth Maintenance Dredging to Accommodate Commercial Vessels

IN: Squalicum Waterway
AT: Bellingham
COUNTY: Whatcom
LAT: 48°45'32.33"N
LONG: 122°30'38.24"W
DATUM: NAD 83

DATE: REV June 2019



0 250 500 Feet

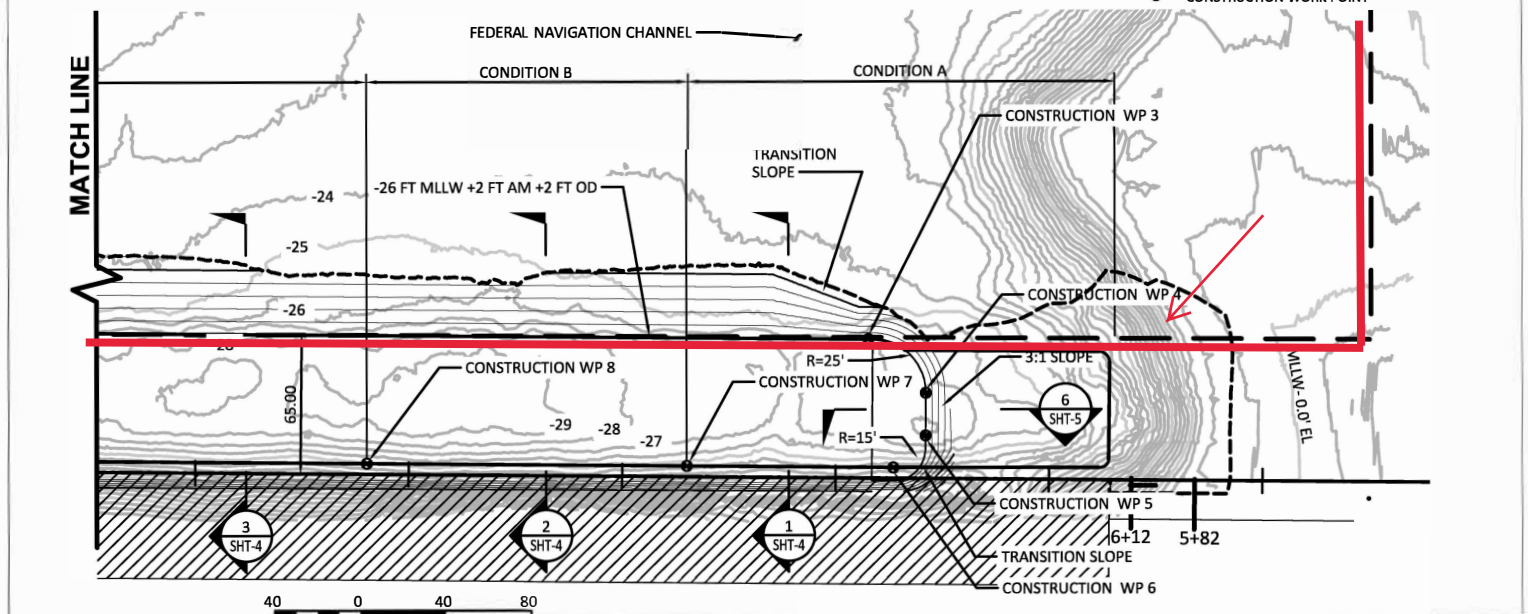


Notes:

1. Design Dredge Depth = -26 feet MLLW
2. Advanced Maintenance Dredging (AM) = 2 feet (-26 to -28 feet MLLW)
3. Overdredge Allowance (OD) = 2 feet Maximum (-28 to -30 feet MLLW)

LEGEND:

- FEDERAL NAVIGATIONAL CHANNEL BOUNDARY
- DREDGE PRISM
- DREDGE CONTOURS
- EXISTING CONTOURS
- CONSTRUCTION WORK POINT



REFERENCE #: NWS-2017-301

APPLICANT: Bellingham Cold Storage
 ADDRESS: Bellingham Cold Storage
 2825 Roeder Ave.
 Bellingham, WA 98227

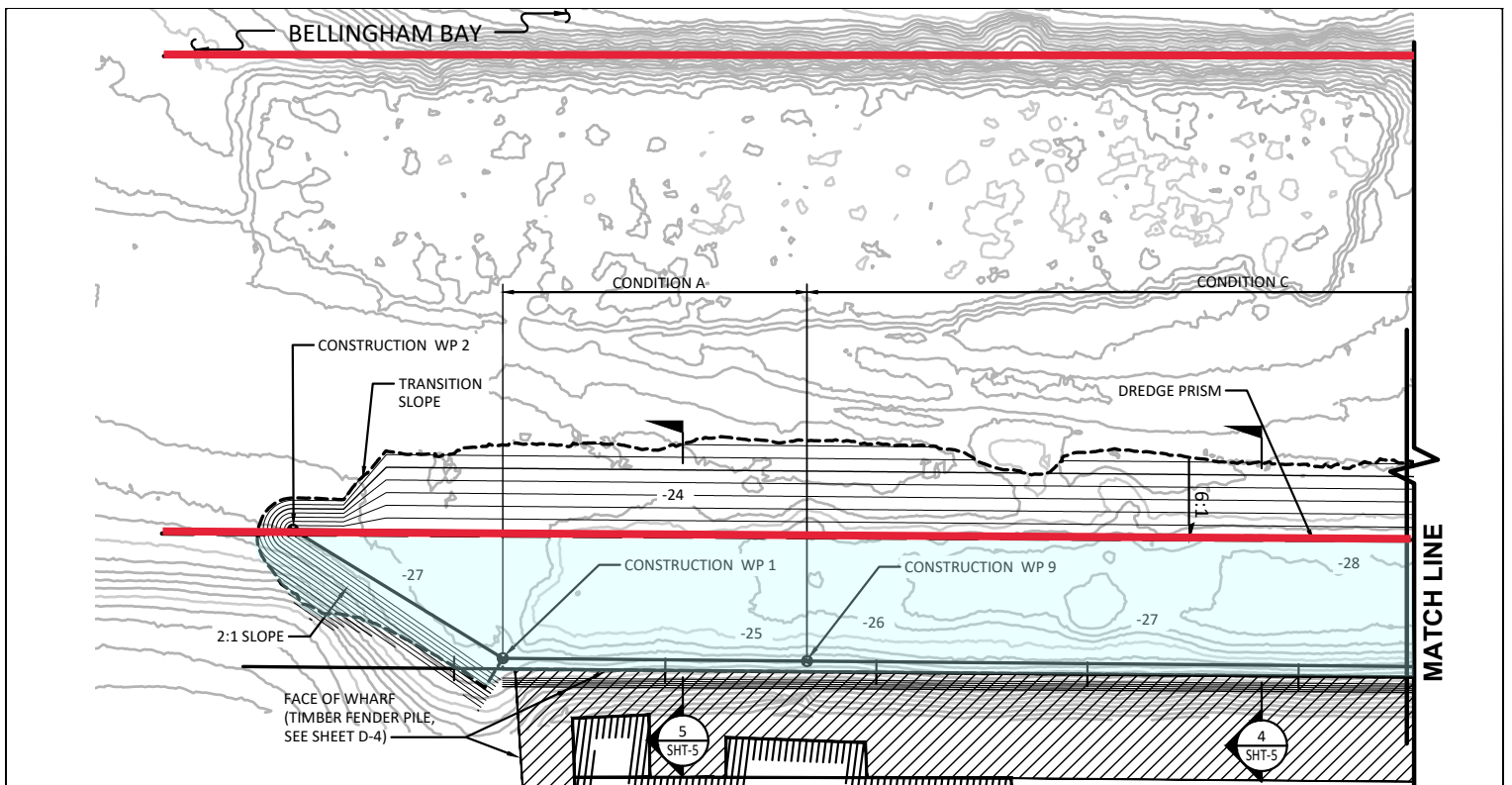
ADJACENT PROPERTY OWNERS:
 1. Port of Bellingham

Berth Maintenance Dredging
SHEET 2: PROJECT SITE



PROPOSED PROJECT: Berth Maintenance Dredging to
 Accommodated Commercial Vessels

IN: Squalicum Waterway
 AT: Bellingham
 COUNTY: Whatcom
 LAT: 48°45'32.33"N
 LONG: 122°30'38.24"W
 DATUM: NAD 83
 DATE: REV June 2019

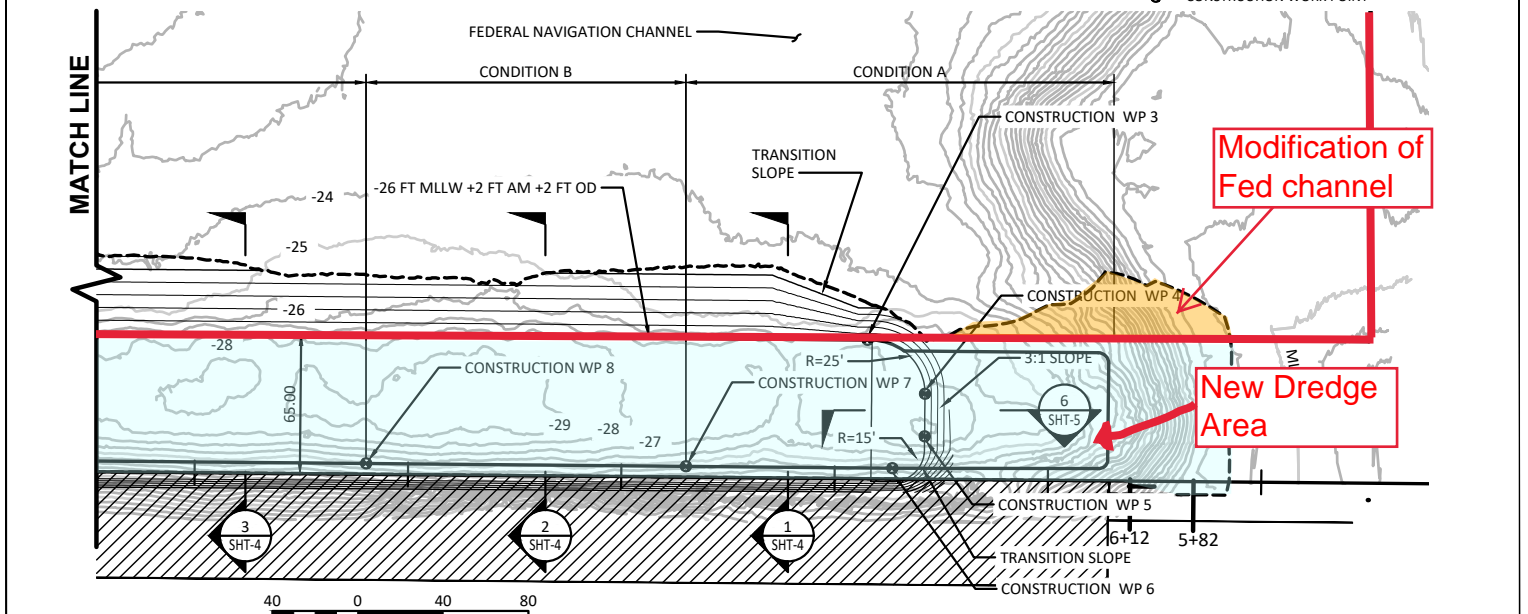
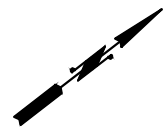


Notes:

1. Design Dredge Depth = -26 feet MLLW
2. Advanced Maintenance Dredging (AM) = 2 feet (-26 to -28 feet MLLW)
3. Overdredge Allowance (OD) = 2 feet Maximum (-28 to -30 feet MLLW)
4. Cross Sectional drawings on Sheets SHT-3 and SHT-4
5. Conditions A, B and C detail shown on sheets SHT-5, SHT-6, and SHT-7

LEGEND:

- FEDERAL NAVIGATIONAL CHANNEL BOUNDARY
- DREDGE PRISM
- DREDGE CONTOURS
- EXISTING CONTOURS
- CONSTRUCTION WORK POINT



REFERENCE #: NWS-2017-301

APPLICANT: Bellingham Cold Storage
 ADDRESS: Bellingham Cold Storage
 2825 Roeder Ave.
 Bellingham, WA 98227

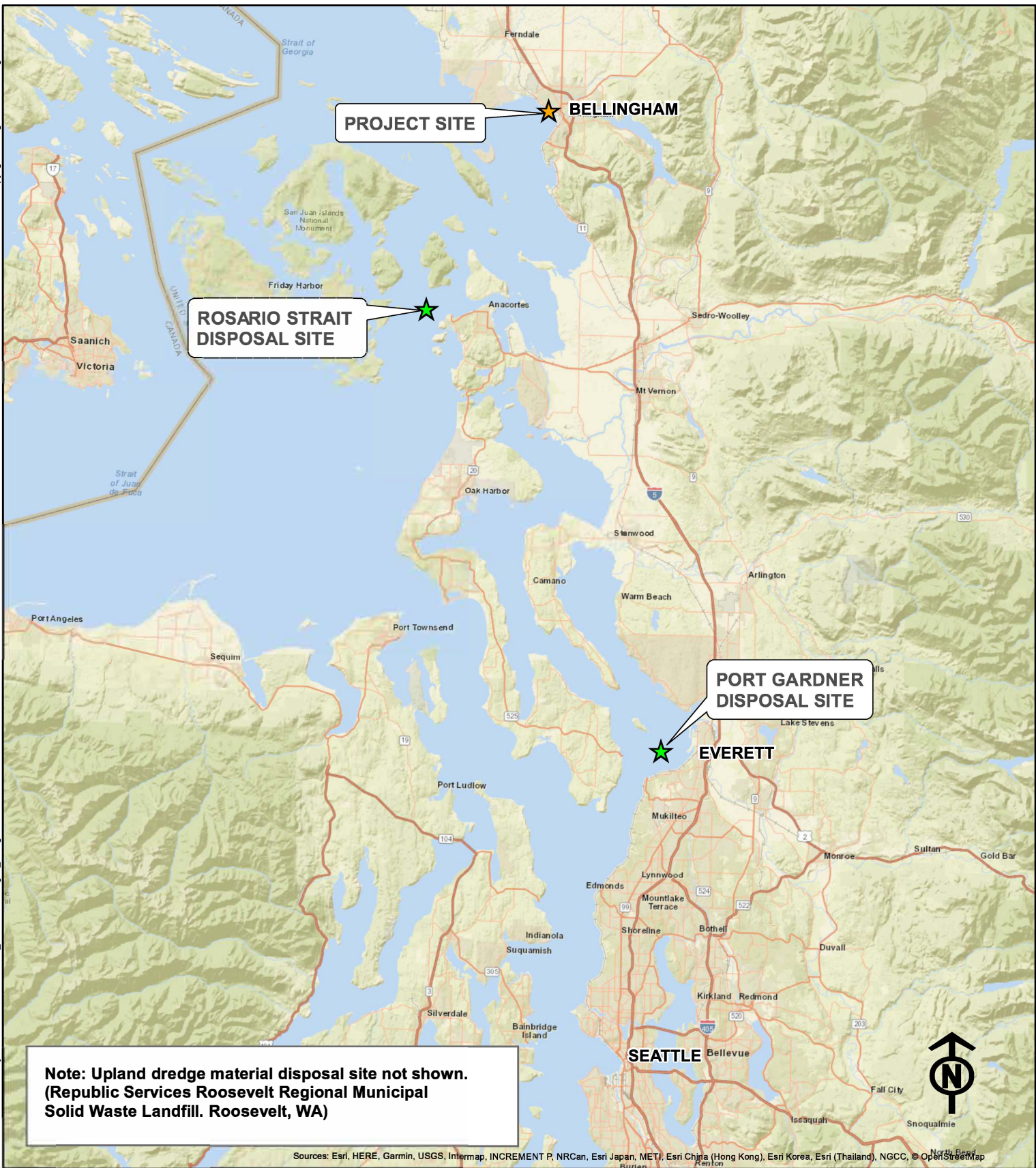
ADJACENT PROPERTY OWNERS:
 1. Port of Bellingham
 Sheet 2 of 13

**Berth Maintenance Dredging
 SHEET 2: PROJECT SITE**



PROPOSED PROJECT: Berth Maintenance Dredging to
 Accommodated Commercial Vessels

IN: Squalicum Waterway
 AT: Bellingham
 COUNTY: Whatcom
 LAT: 48°45'32.33"N
 LONG: 122°30'38.24"W
 DATUM: NAD 83
 DATE: September 2017
 Revised May 2019



**Note: Upland dredge material disposal site not shown.
 (Republic Services Roosevelt Regional Municipal
 Solid Waste Landfill, Roosevelt, WA)**

Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, USGS, Intermap, INCREMENT P, NRCan, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Esri Korea, Esri (Thailand), NGCC, © OpenStreetMap

REFERENCE #: _____

APPLICANT: Bellingham Cold Storage
 ADDRESS: 2825 Roeder Ave.
 Bellingham, WA 98227

ADJACENT PROPERTY OWNERS:
 1. Port of Bellingham

Berth Maintenance Dredging

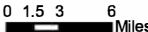
**SHEET 4: DREDGE MATERIAL
 LOCATIONS**


BCS
 BELLINGHAM GOLD STORAGE

PROPOSED PROJECT: Berth Maintenance Dredging to Accommodate Commercial Vessels

IN: Squalicum Waterway
 AT: Bellingham
 COUNTY: Whatcom
 LAT: 48°45'32.33"N
 LONG: 122°30'38.24"W
 DATUM: NAD 83

DATE: REV June 2019


 0 1.5 3 6 Miles