Joint Public Notice
Application for a Department of the Army Permit
And a Washington Department of Ecology
Water Quality Certification and Coastal Zone
Management Act Determination

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 United States as described below and shown on the enclosed drawings.

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. The Corps Section 10 and 404 permit, if issued will be valid for a 5-year period.

APPLICANT: Washington State Dept. of Transportation
310 Maple Park Avenue SE
Olympia, Washington  98504-7331
ATTN:  Mr. Ken Schlatter
Telephone: (360) 909-6327

LOCATION:  In the Hood Canal along approximately 11 miles of State Route (SR) 106 near the town of Union and Twanoh State Park, in Mason County, Washington.

WORK: Under natural conditions, bluff erosion from upland feeder bluffs along the Hood Canal would return sediment to the surrounding beaches contributing to sediment transport within the system. State highways have been located along much of the Hood Canal, blocking the material from naturally entering the beach or waters. Landslide and flood material now accumulate on SR 106 during storm events causing road closures until the material is removed off site, eliminating the feeder bluff material from entering into the Hood Canal.

The Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) proposes to place landslide and flood deposit materials at designated reaches of shoreline along SR 106 where landowner permission has been obtained. Five placement sites have been identified within the project area. The material will be placed at low tides and to the extent practicable, above the mean higher high water (MHHW) line against the road bed embankment. Material will not be placed directly into the water. A maximum of 10 cubic yards of material would be placed per 50 lineal feet of shoreline, at any given time. As material is washed away by high tides, additional material may be placed, not to exceed the 10 cubic yard maximum. A total fill limit for each of the five sites has also been set and is based on the size of each site. No wetlands, streams or native terrestrial vegetation will be impacted. The sediment movement will be monitored to track the distribution patterns along the shoreline. Replenishing the beach
sediments will slowly restore beach spawning habitat for forage fish, which will enhance prey availability for listed fish and wildlife species including salmon and the marbled murrelet.

**PURPOSE:** Improve mobility and safety on SR 106 by providing efficient locations for depositing slide material. The placement of the material will also provide habitat improvements to Hood Canal by returning feeder bluff sediments to the shoreline and improving spawning habitat for forage fish.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:** 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 Seattle District’s web page at [http://www.nws.usace.army.mil](http://www.nws.usace.army.mil/) and scroll down the alphabetical listing of District elements, and click on “Regulatory” and then “Regulatory – Permits” for the Seattle District’s Regulatory homepage. Select the prominently displayed “Public Notices” heading and a list of recently-issued public notices will appear, in chronological order of the date of issuance. Select and view the listing for this 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 Corps 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).

If the 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 Corps will review the latest published version of the National Register of Historic Places, lists of properties determined eligible and other sources of information. The Corps invites responses to this public notice from Native American Tribes or tribal governments; Federal, State, and local agencies; historical and archeological societies; and other parties likely to have knowledge of or concerns regarding historic properties and sites of religious and cultural significance at or near the project area. After receipt of comments from this public notice, the Corps will evaluate potential impacts and consult with the State Historic Preservation Officer and Native American Tribes in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, as appropriate.

**CULTURAL RESOURCES:** The Corps has reviewed the latest published version of the National Register of Historic Places, lists of properties determined eligible and other sources of information. No known historic properties occur in the vicinity of the proposed project. However, the property is relatively undisturbed. Because of its location on the landscape there is a high likelihood that unknown historic properties occur in the project area. A historic properties investigation may be required during the permit application review.
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 guidelines require an alternative analysis for any proposed discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States.

SOURCE OF FILL MATERIAL: The applicant has identified the source of the fill material to be natural sediment eroding from the banks and feeder bluffs.

EVALUATION – ECOLOGY: Ecology 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. 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 it would be in the public interest to authorize this proposal. 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.

Corps comments: All e-mail comments should be sent to Sandra.L.Manning@usace.army.mil. Conventional mail comments should be sent to U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Regulatory Branch, Attn: Sandra Manning, Post Office Box 3755, Seattle, Washington 98124-3755.

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: Department of Ecology, Attn: SEA program – Federal
NWS-2012-894-DOT

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: Washington State Dept. of Transportation, NWS-2012-894-DOT

Encl: Figures
Project Limits
MP 4.35 to MP 16.19
Latitude: -123.107 to -122.900
Longitude: 47.349 to 47.396

Data Source: Project Locations, Mile Post, and State Routes from wSDOT; Image from ESRI Map Service

PROJECT NAME: SR 106 Beach Nourishment
PURPOSE: Replicate Feeder Bluff
PROPOSED: Place Sediment Material on Beach
LOCATION: SR 106 MP 4.35 – MP 16.90
DATUM: ADJACENT PROPERTY OWNERS: See Attachment C

REFERENCE: WSDOT
COUNTY: Mason
NEAR: Union
WATERBODY: Hood Canal
DATE:

Washington State Department of Transportation

SHEET: 1 OF: 4
Plan View With Property Boundaries

Typical Cross Section

Site E
Mile Post 16.05 - 16.19
Longitude: -122.902 to -122.900
Latitude: 47.395 - 47.396

PROJECT NAME: SR 106 Beach Nourishment
PURPOSE: Replicate Feeder Bluff
PROPOSED: Place Slide Material on Beach
LOCATION: SR 106 MP 4.35 - MP 16.19
DATUM: NAD1983 StatePlane HARN
ADJACENT PROPERTY OWNERS: See Attachment A

REFERENCE: WSDOT
COUNTY: Mason
NEAR: Union
WATERBODY: Hood Canal
DATE: July 2012

Washington State
Department of Transportation
SHEET: 4 OF: 4