



HYDRAULIC PROJECT APPROVAL

Washington Department of
Fish and Wildlife
PO Box 43234
Olympia, WA 98504-3234
(360) 902-2200

Issue Date: 01/22/2026
Project End Date: 01/21/2031

Permit Type: HPA - Standard (Fish Habitat
Enhancement Project (FHEP))
Permit Number: 2025-6-128+02
Application ID: 0046014

PERMITTEE	AUTHORIZED AGENT
ATTENTION Mason Conservation District Colin Tierney 450 W Business Park Rd Shelton, Washington 98548	

Project Name: Upper South Fork Skokomish Large Wood Enhancement Project - Phase 6

Project Description: Twelve ELJs one bank roughness cluster, and 17 floodplain wood clusters will be installed at strategic locations by excavators to increase pool habitat and create ideal salmonid holding and rearing conditions while also deflecting water towards the mouths of side channels. Roughly one thousand and forty four pieces of augmented wood will be placed to deepen side channels and to move flood waters and juvenile fish into stilling areas, providing fish safe refuge during floods. Dredging of side channels will occur, limited to 3000 cubic yards or less, and will be restricted to the creation of pilot channels for side channel activation and for log installation. Dredging in the main channel will be limited to the minimum amount necessary for log jam installation, and will be filled back in before return of water. The project will take place during the summer when few fish are present. The channel will mostly be free of surface water at this location, but where water is present in a work area, it will be defished, isolated and pumped dry before any excavation or fill continues. All dredging work will take place in the dry. Up to 4 elevated temporary crossings may be installed in the river to access log jams, and may require up to 10 wet crossings per temporary crossing to construct. Mid channel mats for equipment staging may be used instead of a constructed temporary crossing where it is feasible and the least impactful option for access.

PROVISIONS

AUTHORIZED WORK TIMES

1. Work below the ordinary high water line, including the in-water installation and removal of worksite isolation structures, must only occur between August 1st and August 31st of each calendar year, with the following exceptions:
 - a. Work, including site isolation, may occur from July 15 to July 31 or September 1 to September 15 if redd surveys have shown that no eggs are on site. No work may occur within 300ft upstream of any pre-emergent fry redds.
 - b. Any work which, at the time of any ground breaking activity, is naturally or artificially isolated and entirely lacking a flowing water connection to the Skokomish River is authorized to occur year-round following the survey for, and removal of, any native fish using established and approved methods. If the site becomes inundated or flow reaches the work area, all hydraulic project activities must immediately cease, except those needed to control erosion and siltation.
 - c. Work which is done entirely in the dry may occur year round.

PROJECT APPROVALS



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2. You must accomplish the work per plans and specifications submitted with the application and approved by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, entitled "ProjectPlanDrawings_241220_SF-Skokomish_Phase-VI_Final-BODR.pdf", last modified on APPS on 2/5/2025, "Phase6 Planting Plan2.pdf" last modified in APPS on 12/10/2025, and email entitled "crossing justification emails.pdf" last modified in APPS on 12/10/2025, except as modified by this Hydraulic Project Approval. In water work windows extensions from September 1st -September 30th, as described in the email entitled "42784 Upper South Fork Skokomish Phase 6 timing extension email.pdf", last modified on APPS on 4/7/2025, may be conditionally approved through the HPA permit modification process. You must have a copy of these plans available on site during all phases of the project construction.
3. This HPA authorizes up to 3000 cubic yards of material to be excavated during the life of this HPA.
4. A WDFW Habitat Engineer, or their representative, must inspect and approve the new channel before the stream is diverted into the channel.
5. After a flow of water has returned to the channel, channel performance and fish passage conditions shall be evaluated by the project engineer in consultation with the WDFW Habitat Engineer and WDFW Fish Biologist, or their representatives. Final adjustments to the channel shall be done as needed to ensure the channel does not hinder fish passage.

NOTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

6. You or your agent must contact the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife by e-mail at HPAapplications@dfw.wa.gov; mail to Post Office Box 43234, Olympia, Washington 98504-3234; or fax to (360) 902-2946 at least three business days before starting work and again within seven days after completing the work. The notification must include the permittee's name, project location, starting date for work or date the work was completed, and the permit number. The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife may conduct inspections during and after construction; however, the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife will notify you or your agent before conducting the inspection.
7. **FISH KILL/WATER QUALITY PROBLEM NOTIFICATION:** If a fish kill occurs or fish are observed in distress at the job site, immediately stop all activities causing harm. Immediately notify the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife of the problem. If the likely cause of the fish kill or fish distress is related to water quality, also notify the Washington Military Department Emergency Management Division at 1-800-258-5990. Activities related to the fish kill or fish distress must not resume until the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife gives approval. The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife may require additional measures to mitigate impacts.

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

8. **PHOTOGRAPHS:** You, your agent, or contractor must take photographs of the job site before the work begins and after the work is completed. You must upload the photographs to the post-permit requirement page in the Aquatic Protection Permitting System (APPS) or mail them to Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife at Post Office Box 43234, Olympia, Washington 98504-3234 within 30-days after the work is completed.

INVASIVE SPECIES CONTROL

9. Follow Method 1 for low risk locations (i.e. clean/drain/dry). Thoroughly remove visible dirt and debris from all equipment and gear (including drive mechanisms, wheels, tires, tracks, buckets, and undercarriage) before arriving and leaving the job site to prevent the transport and introduction of invasive species. For contaminated or high risk sites please refer to the Method 2 Decontamination protocol. Properly dispose of any water and chemicals used to clean gear and equipment. You can find this and additional information in the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife's "Invasive Species Management Protocols", available online at <https://wdfw.wa.gov/species-habitats/invasive/prevention>.

STAGING, JOB SITE ACCESS, AND EQUIPMENT

10. Check equipment daily for leaks and complete any required repairs in an upland location before using the equipment in or near the water.
11. Equipment used for this project may operate waterward of the ordinary high water line only in the locations and manner described in the approved plan set "Phase6 Planting Plan2.pdf" last modified in APPS on 12/10/2025, and described in the approved email "crossing justification emails.pdf" last modified in APPS on 12/10/2025. This HPA authorizes no more than 10 wet crossings per temporary crossing constructed.



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12. This HPA authorizes no more than four temporary bridge crossings to be constructed in the river at the locations described in the approved plan set "Phase6 Planting Plan2.pdf". Mid channel mats, as described in the approved plans, may be placed in the river as a substitute for a temporary crossing when it is feasible and the least impactful method at any crossing location.
13. Temporary crossing site locations for ELJ installation equipment must be marked in the field.
14. Equipment must cross the river in the most direct route and in a manner that does the least damage to the bed, streambank and streambank vegetation. If needed, you must place planks, matting or other suitable clean temporary material on the bank when driving equipment into and out of the channel to prevent damage.
15. When placing, repositioning, or removing large woody material, station equipment on the bank or on a mid-channel mat, as described in the approved plan sets.
16. Equipment used near water must use environmentally acceptable lubricants composed of biodegradable base oils. These are vegetable oils, synthetic esters, and polyalkylene glycols.
17. If wet or muddy conditions exist, in or near a riparian zone or wetland area, use equipment that reduces ground pressure.
18. Equipment must cross the creek in the most direct route and in a manner that does the least damage to the bed, streambank and streambank vegetation. If needed, you must place planks, matting or other suitable clean temporary material on the bank when driving equipment into and out of the channel to prevent damage.

SEDIMENT, EROSION, AND POLLUTION CONTAINMENT

19. If flow conditions arise that will result in erosion or siltation of waters of the state, stop all hydraulic project activities except those needed to control erosion and siltation.
20. Protect all disturbed areas from erosion. Maintain erosion and sediment control until all work and cleanup of the job site is complete.
21. Straw used for erosion and sediment control, must be certified free of noxious weeds and their seeds.
22. Route the construction water (wastewater) from the project to an upland area above the limits of anticipated floodwater. Remove fine sediment and other contaminants before discharging the construction water to waters of the state.
23. This permit does not authorize the use of treated wood, angular rock, rip rap, or quarry spall.
24. Return water flow slowly to the in-water work area to prevent the downstream release of sediment laden water. If necessary, install silt fencing above the bypass outlet to capture sediment during re-watering of the channel.

HABITAT FEATURES

25. Limit the removal of native vegetation to the minimum amount necessary to access the site.
26. Retain all natural habitat features on the bed or banks including large woody material and boulders. You may move these natural habitat features during construction but you must place them near the pre-project location before leaving the job site.

IN-WATER WORK AREA ISOLATION

27. Sequence the work to minimize the duration of dewatering.
28. Design the temporary bypass to minimize the length of the dewatered stream channel.
29. During all phases of bypass installation and decommissioning, maintain flows downstream of the project site to ensure survival of all downstream fish.
30. If the bypass is a pumped diversion, once started it must run continuously until it is no longer necessary to bypass flows. This requires back-up pumps on-site and twenty-four-hour monitoring for overnight operation.
31. If the diversion inlet is a gravity diversion that provides fish passage, place the diversion outlet where it facilitates gradual and safe reentry of fish into the stream channel.



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32. If any bypass, diversion, and/or isolation methods include the use of a pump, the pump intake structure must have a fish screen installed, operated, and maintained in accordance with RCW 77.57.010 and 77.57.070. Screen the pump intake with one of the following:
 - a. Perforated plate: 0.094-inch (maximum opening diameter).
 - b. Profile bar: 0.069-inch (maximum width opening); or
 - c. Woven wire: 0.094-inch (maximum opening in the narrow direction).The minimum open area for all types of fish screens is twenty-seven percent. The screened intake facility must have enough surface area to ensure that the velocity through the screen is less than 0.33 feet per second. Maintain fish screens to prevent injury or entrapment of fish. Remove fish screens on dewatering pumps in the isolated work area only after all fish are safe and excluded from the work area.
33. The fish screen must remain in place whenever water is withdrawn from the stream through the pump intake.
34. Return diverted water to the channel immediately downstream of the work area. Dissipate flow energy from the diversion to prevent scour or erosion of the channel and bank.
35. Install a cofferdam or similar device at the upstream and downstream end of the bypass to prevent backwater from entering the work area.

FISH LIFE REMOVAL

36. All persons participating in capture and removal must have training, knowledge, and skills in the safe handling of fish life.
37. Capture and safely move fish life from the work area to the nearest suitable free-flowing water.
38. If electrofishing is conducted, a person with electrofishing training must be on-site to conduct or direct all electrofishing activities.
39. If personnel are available, the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife and affected tribes may help capture and move fish life from the job site.
40. After the first block net is secured at the upstream end, use a second block net to herd fish downstream and out of the project area. Install a downstream block net if fish may reenter the work area from downstream.
41. Install block nets at sites with reduced flow volume or velocity, uniform depth, and good accessibility. Do not install block nets at sites with heavy vegetation, large cobble or boulders, undercut banks, or deep pools unless you can secure and maintain them.
42. Install block nets at an angle to the direction of flow (not perpendicular to the flow) to avoid entrapping fish in the nets.
43. Secure block nets along both banks and the channel bottom to prevent failure from debris accumulation, high flows, and/or flanking. To anchor block nets, place bags filled with clean round gravel along the bottom of the nets.
44. Check block nets at least three times a day for entangled fish and accumulated debris.
45. Block nets must be knotless stretched nylon, and net openings must not exceed 3/32" stretch mesh in size.

ENGINEERED LOG JAM

46. Ensure that the ends of any wire rope/wire cable used has been cut flush with the clamp and that all metal elements within the final project are free of sharp, jagged, or abraded surfaces.
47. When repositioning or removing large woody material, minimize releasing bedload, logs, or debris downstream.
48. Do not drag large woody material. Suspend large woody material during placement, repositioning, or removal so it does not damage the bed or banks. A yarding corridor or full suspension is required to protect riparian zone vegetation. Full suspension can be achieved with hand-operated or heavy equipment or aerial log yarding towers.
49. When you cannot suspend large woody material above the bed and banks, use skid logs or similar methods to avoid bank damage. Avoid damage to stream banks and vegetation when removing skid logs after completing the yarding operation and restore the bank to pre project condition.
50. Construct the Twelve ELJs one bank roughness cluster, and seventeen floodplain wood clusters in the locations and to the specifications detailed in the approved plan set.

SIDE CHANNEL ACTIVATION

51. Work in the side channels may only occur when the water course is dry or when flow is diverted.
52. Limit dredging to deepening the streambed. Do not disturb the banks.
53. Accomplish dredging by starting at the upstream end of the job site boundary and working downstream.



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54. Dredged material pulled from the side channel is authorized to be used as ballast for the engineered log jams and wood clusters. Dredged material must remain in the project reach.
55. Upon completion, disturbed areas of the project that receive discontinuous flow must not contain pits, potholes, or isolated depressions that may trap fish. All constructed pool and channel features must have positive return to actively flowing stream channels to prevent stranding of fish during varying flow conditions. Do not demobilize from the site, or return flow to the work area, until you have confirmed positive return gradients by survey.
56. Diverting the flow into the new channel:
 - a. First remove the downstream plug.
 - b. Face the stream side of the plug with a sandbag or similar device.
 - c. Partially remove the upstream plug to allow 1/3 to 1/2 of the flow into the new channel for a minimum of 10 hours. The angle of the structure used to divert the water into the new channel(s) must allow a smooth transition of water flow. Do not allow the old channel to dewater.
 - d. Remove the remainder of the upstream plug if the new channel has flow throughout the entire length.
 - e. Close the upstream end of the old channel to prevent unintended re-entry of flow.
 - f. Fill the old channel beginning from the upstream closure. Compact the fill material if necessary to prevent loss of surface flow. Water discharging from the fill must not adversely affect fish life.

DEMOBILIZATION AND CLEANUP

57. Remove temporary erosion and sediment control methods after job site is stabilized or within three months of project completion, whichever is sooner.
58. Upon completion of the project, remove all materials or equipment from the site and dispose of all excess spoils and waste materials in an upland area above the limits of anticipated floodwater.
59. To prevent fish from stranding, backfill trenches, depressions, and holes in the bed that may entrain fish during high water or wave action.
60. Remove all trash and unauthorized fill in the project area, including concrete blocks or pieces, bricks, asphalt, metal, treated wood, glass, floating debris, and paper, that is waterward of the ordinary high water line and deposit upland.
61. Seed riparian areas disturbed by construction activities with a native seed mix suitable for the site that has at least one quick-establishing plant species.

PROJECT LOCATION(S)

Location		
Upper South Fork Skokomish River Large Wood Enhancement Project - Phase 6		
Latitude	Longitude	County
47.449284800000000	-123.439779500000000	Mason
WRIA	Waterbody	Tributary to
WRIA	Skokomish South Fork	Skokomish South Fork

APPLIES TO ALL HYDRAULIC PROJECT APPROVALS



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This Hydraulic Project Approval (HPA) pertains only to those requirements of the Washington State Hydraulic Code, specifically Chapter 77.55 RCW. Additional authorization from other public agencies may be necessary for this project. The person(s) to whom this HPA is issued is responsible for applying for and obtaining any additional authorization from other public agencies (local, state, and/or federal) that may be necessary for this project.

This Hydraulic Project Approval (HPA) shall be available on the job site at all times and all its provisions followed by the person(s) to whom this HPA is issued and operator(s) performing the work.

This Hydraulic Project Approval does not authorize trespass.

The person(s) to whom this Hydraulic Project Approval (HPA) is issued and operator(s) performing the work may be held liable for any loss or damage to fish life or fish habitat that results from failure to comply with the provisions of this HPA.

Failure to comply with the provisions of this Hydraulic Project Approval could result in a civil action against you, including, but not limited to, a stop work order or notice to comply, and/or a gross misdemeanor criminal charge, possibly punishable by a fine and/or imprisonment.

All Hydraulic Project Approvals (HPA) issued under RCW 77.55.021 are subject to additional restrictions, conditions, or revocation if the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife determines that changed conditions require such action. The person(s) to whom this HPA is issued has the right to appeal those decisions. Procedures for filing appeals are listed below.

MINOR MODIFICATIONS TO THIS HYDRAULIC PROJECT APPROVAL (HPA): You may request approval of minor modifications to the required work timing or the plans and specifications approved in this HPA unless this is a General HPA. If this is a General HPA you must use the Major Modification process described below. Any approved minor modification will require the issuance of a letter documenting the approval. A minor modification to the required work timing means any change to the work start or end dates of the current work season to enable project or work phase completion. Minor modifications will be approved only if spawning or incubating fish are not present within the vicinity of the project. You may request subsequent minor modifications to the required work timing. A minor modification of the plans and specifications means any changes in the materials, characteristics, or construction of your project that do not alter the project's impact to fish life or habitat and do not require a change in the provisions of the HPA to mitigate the impacts of the modification. If you originally applied for your HPA through the online Aquatic Protection Permitting System (APPS), you may request a minor modification through APPS. A link to APPS is at <https://hpa.wdfw.wa.gov/s>. If you did not use APPS you must submit a written request for a minor modification to an existing HPA. Written requests must include the name of the permittee, the name of the authorized agent if applicable, the APP ID or HPA number, the date issued, the permitting biologist, the requested changes to the HPA, the reason for the requested change, the date of the request, and the requestor's signature. Send your written request by email to HPAapplications@dfw.wa.gov, or by mail to Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, PO Box 43234, Olympia, Washington 98504-3234. You should allow up to 45 days for the Department to process your request.

MAJOR MODIFICATIONS TO THIS HYDRUALIC PROJECT APPROVAL (HPA): You may request approval of major modifications to any aspect of your HPA. Any approved change other than a minor modification to your HPA will require the issuance of a new HPA. If you originally applied for your HPA through the online Aquatic Protection Permitting System (APPS), you may request a major modification through APPS. A link to APPS is at <https://hpa.wdfw.wa.gov/s>. If you did not use APPS you must submit a written request for a major modification to an existing HPA. Written requests must include the name of the permittee, the name of the authorized agent if applicable, the APP ID or HPA number, the date issued, the permitting biologist, the requested changes to the HPA, the reason for the requested change, the date of the request, and the requestor's signature. Send your



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APPEALS INFORMATION

If you wish to appeal the issuance, denial, conditioning, or modification of a Hydraulic Project Approval (HPA), the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) recommends that you first contact the WDFW employee who issued, denied, or conditioned the HPA to discuss your concerns. Such a discussion may resolve your concerns without the need for further appeal action. If you proceed with an appeal, you may request an informal or formal appeal. WDFW encourages you to take advantage of the informal appeal process before initiating a formal appeal. The informal appeal process includes a review by WDFW management of the HPA or denial and often resolves issues faster and with less legal complexity than the formal appeal process. If the informal appeal process does not resolve your concerns, you may advance your appeal to the formal process.

- A. **INFORMAL APPEALS:** WAC 220-660-460 is the rule describing how to request an informal appeal of WDFW actions taken under Chapter 77.55 RCW. Please refer to that rule for complete informal appeal procedures. The following information summarizes that rule:

A person who is aggrieved by the issuance, denial, conditioning, or modification of an HPA may request an informal appeal of that action. You must send your request to WDFW by mail to the HPA Appeals Coordinator, Department of Fish and Wildlife, Habitat Program, PO Box 43234, Olympia, Washington 98504-3234; e-mail to HPAapplications@dfw.wa.gov; fax to (360) 902-2946; or hand-delivery to the WDFW Habitat Program, Natural Resources Building, 1111 Washington St SE, Olympia, Washington 98501. WDFW must receive your request within 30 days from the date you receive notice of the decision. If you agree, and you applied for the HPA, resolution of the appeal may be facilitated through an informal conference with the WDFW employee responsible for the decision and a supervisor. If a resolution is not reached through the informal conference, or you are not the person who applied for the HPA, the HPA Appeals Coordinator or designee may conduct an informal hearing or review and recommend a decision to the Habitat Program Director or designee. If you are not satisfied with the results of the informal appeal, you may file a request for a formal appeal.

- B. **FORMAL APPEALS:** WAC 220-660-470 is the rule describing how to request a formal appeal of WDFW actions taken under Chapter 77.55 RCW. Please refer to that rule for complete formal appeal procedures. The following information summarizes that rule:

A person who is aggrieved by the issuance, denial, conditioning, or modification of an HPA may request a formal appeal of that action. You must send your request for a formal appeal to the clerk of the Pollution Control Hearings Boards and serve a copy on WDFW within 30 days from the date you receive notice of the decision. You may serve WDFW by mail to the HPA Appeals Coordinator, Department of Fish and Wildlife, Habitat Program, PO Box 43234, Olympia, Washington 98504-3234; e-mail to HPAapplications@dfw.wa.gov; fax to (360) 902-2946; or hand-delivery to the Habitat Program, Natural Resources Building, 1111 Washington St SE, Olympia, Washington 98501. The time period for requesting a formal appeal is suspended during consideration of a timely informal appeal. If there has been an informal appeal, you may request a formal appeal within 30 days from the date you receive the Habitat Program Director's or designee's written decision in response to the informal appeal.

- C. **FAILURE TO APPEAL WITHIN THE REQUIRED TIME PERIODS:** If there is no timely request for an appeal, the WDFW action shall be final and unappealable.



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William Robinson
Regional Habitat Biologist
(360) 890-5912
william.robinson@dfw.wa.gov

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "William Robinson".

For Director
DFW