

March 31, 2023

Rachel Brown, Associate Planner City of Puyallup 333 S Meridian Puyallup, WA 98371

Re: Third-Party Review of "Update of the Biological Habitat Assessment of Deer Creek for Project Impacts from the Kilcha Sekyra Senior Housing Complex Regarding Federal and State Listed Endangered and Sensitive Species for Compliance with the Endangered Species Act (ESA)"

Dear Rachel:

Confluence Environmental Company (Confluence) has reviewed the biological evaluation and floodplain habitat assessment report submitted by John Comis Associates, LLC (JCA), for the Easton Senior Housing project (PLCUP20220150) located at 704 25th Street SE, Puyallup Washington (Parcels 0420267003, 0420267027, 0420267028, 0420267013, 0420267008, 0420267007, 0420267001) (JCA 2023).

The SalmonScape GIS dataset (Figure 6), has "modeled presence" for Chinook salmon and steelhead trout in Deer Creek. The site has mapped as Zone AE for Deer Creek (not the Puyallup River) (see attached LOMR maps). Therefore, the project must be designed and an assessment of floodplain functions under pre- and post-development conditions conducted assuming these species are present.

The last sentence of Section E(b) (page 10) of the report states, "Therefore, no compensatory storage is recommended or should be required." Because of the modeled presence of 2 ESA-listed species, compensatory flood storage will be required. However, on Figures 2 and 7 of the report, there is an area in the south labeled as compensatory flood storage pond, but this area was not labeled as compensatory floodplain storage on the standalone site plan submitted as part of the permit application. The drainage report states the project is within the AE floodplain and will be providing compensatory storage. A 1:1 fill to compensatory storage at equivalent elevations to that displaced from fill will be required to avoid "take" of any endangered species and avoid shifting the floodplain.

Please update the report to:

document the property is in floodplain Zone AE;



- assume Chinook salmon and steelhead trout are present in Deer Creek, based on SalmonScape data;
- include an assessment of floodplain functions under pre- and post-development conditions; and
- describe the proposed compensatory floodplain storage.

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If you have any comments or questions, please feel free to contact me.

Respectfully yours,

KERRIE McARTHUR, PWS, CERP, FP-C

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ATTACHMENTS

LOMR Map

REFERENCES

JCA (John Comis Associates, LLC). 2022. Update of the Biological Habitat Assessment of Deer Creek for Project Impacts from the Kilcha Sekyra Senior Housing Complex Regarding Federal and State Listed Endangered and Sensitive Species for Compliance with the Endangered Species Act (ESA). Prepared for Kilcha Sekyra, Puyallup, Washington, by John Comis Associates, LLC, Tacoma, Washington.

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