



King County

Water and Land Resources Division

Department of Natural Resources and Parks

King Street Center

201 South Jackson Street, Suite 600

Seattle, WA 98104-3855

206-296-6519 Fax 206-296-0192

TTY Relay: 711

Determination of Non-Significance

Name of Proposal: Countyline Levee Setback Project

Description of Proposal:

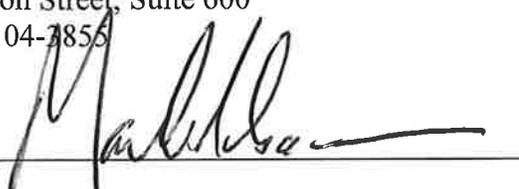
The Countyline Levee Setback Project is designed to reduce flood risk, restore natural river processes, reconnect the river to its adjacent floodplain, and improve fish habitat along 1.3 miles of the Lower White River (between River Mile 5.0 and 6.3). This will be accomplished by removing an existing levee and revetment constructed in the 1910s along the east side (left bank looking downstream) of the White River between the A Street SE/BNSF Railway (City of Auburn) Bridges and 8th Street E (City of Sumner) Bridge and constructing a new setback levee east of the wetland. The presence of top-of-bank levees and revetments in this Countyline River Reach have constricted the channel for nearly one hundred years, thereby dramatically altering the physical and biological character of the river, degrading fish habitat, and reducing salmon productivity in this reach. In addition, channel aggradation over the past several years has reduced channel capacity and increased flood risks in the Cities of Pacific and Sumner. Relocation of the levee will address immediate flood risk reduction needs and reconnect approximately 100 acres of wetland and floodplain, allowing new and complex habitats to form and existing habitats to have a more direct connection to the river. The project is located within the City of Pacific, City of Sumner, and unincorporated Pierce County. The project includes:

- removal of approximately 4,000 LF (45,000 cubic yards) of existing levee and revetment along the left bank of the Lower White River,
- construction of a setback levee and biorevetment,
- placement of large wood structures to deflect and diffuse erosive flows and encourage the formation of desired habitat features, and
- wetland buffer planting (approximately 11 acres of currently unvegetated upland).

Location of Proposal:

The project is located between River Mile (RM) 5.0 (8th Street E Bridge) and 6.3 (A Street SE/BNSF Railway Bridges), on the east side (left bank looking downstream) of the White River. The project area is located within the Cities of Pacific (King County) and Sumner (Pierce County), as well as unincorporated Pierce County.

The project is located in Section 36, Township 21 North, Range 4 East of the Willamette Meridian; and Section 1, Township 20 North, Range 4 East of the Willamette Meridian.

Responsible Official: Mark Isaacson
Position/Title: Division Director, Water and Land Resources Division
Address: 201 South Jackson Street, Suite 600
Seattle, WA 98104-3855
DATE: 10/11/12 **SIGNATURE:** 
Proponent and Lead Agency: King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks
Water and Land Resources Division
Contact Person(s): Sarah McCarthy, Project Ecologist, 206-263-0492

The lead agency for this proposal has determined that it does not have a probable significant adverse impact on the environment. An Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is not required under Revised Code of Washington (RCW) 43.21C.030(2)(c). This decision was made after review of a completed environmental checklist and other information on file with the lead agency. THIS INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC ON REQUEST (for a nominal photocopying fee).

THIS DETERMINATION OF NON-SIGNIFICANCE (DNS) is issued under Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 197-11-340(2); the lead agency will not act on this proposal until after **October 23, 2012**. Comments must be submitted or postmarked by that date.

For additional information, please contact:

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Or visit: <http://www.kingcounty.gov/rivers>.