July 15, 2013

Decision to Proceed

The River and Floodplain Management Section within the Water and Land Resources Division (WL RD) of King County’s Department of Natural Resources and Parks has made a “Decision to Proceed” with the Agency Action, as described below.

Proposal Name

Countyline Levee Setback Project

Proposal Description

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 bank 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. Relocation of the levee will address immediate flood risk reduction needs and reconnect approximately 115 acres of floodplain to the river. The project includes removal of an existing levee, construction of a setback levee and biorevetment, placement of large wood structures to deflect and diffuse erosive flows and encourage the formation of complex habitat, and revegetation. The project is located within the City of Pacific, City of Sumner, and unincorporated Pierce County.

Agency Action

The WL RD Division Director hereby approves the above-described Determination of Non-Significance Project Proposal for design and construction. The River and Floodplain Management Section fully complied with the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) Rules regarding notification, meetings, and SEPA documents for this proposal as required under WAC 197-11, RCW 43.21c, Ordinance 12196, and ESHB 1724.

Mark Isaacson, Division Director
Water and Land Resources Division

Date 7.15.13