SEPA ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

A. Background

1. Name of proposed project
   Black River Pump Station Improvements, High-Use Engines

2. Name of applicant
   King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks, Water and Land Resources Division

3. Address and phone number of applicant and contact person
   Tom Bean, P.E.
   King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks
   Water and Land Resources Division, River and Floodplain Management Section
   201 South Jackson Street, Suite 600
   Seattle, WA 98104
   206-477-4638

4. Date checklist prepared
   March 9, 2020

5. Agency requesting checklist
   King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks, Water and Land Resources Division

6. Proposed timing or schedule (including phasing, if applicable)
   Design is scheduled to be finalized in June 2020; projected construction will occur in 2020 and 2021.

7. Do you have any plans for future additions, expansion, or further activity related to or connected with this proposal?
   The high-use pump, engine, and motor replacements and repairs constitute the first phase of King County’s plans for Black River Pump Station improvements. Future activities are being planned and may include seismic retrofits to the abutments and the pump house foundation, replacement of the control building, improvements to mechanical systems and fish passage/fish exclusion facilities, and replacement of five large diesel engines. Future activities are yet to be designed and separate SEPA processes will be completed as required for future activities related to this project.
8. List any environmental information you know about that has been prepared, or will be prepared, directly related to this proposal.


9. Do you know whether applications are pending for governmental approvals of other proposals directly affecting the property covered by your proposal?

There are no other applications pending for governmental approvals of other proposals directly affecting the property covered by this proposal.

10. Government approvals or permits that will be needed for your proposal.

The following City of Renton permits are anticipated for the project:

- Shoreline Exemption
- Critical Area Exemption
- Mechanical Permit
- Electrical Permit
- Aboveground Commercial Tank Installation

Mechanical, electrical, and aboveground commercial tank installation permits trigger City inspections to confirm that City code is being followed and involve no appreciable risk of change order or delay. These permits will not be acquired by King County but will be the responsibility of the project contractor.

A Hydraulic Project Approval (HPA) from the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) is also anticipated for the portion of the work that will occur in-water and over-water to remove and reinstall the existing pumps.

11. Proposal description

The Black River Pump Station (BRPS), located on a concrete dam that spans the Black River channel, conveys all Springbrook Creek flow to the Green River and is a critical component of the Green River flood control system. This station has operated continually since it was constructed in 1972 and includes eight pumps: one electric motor-driven flood control pump (P1) and seven diesel engine-driven pumps (P2, P3, P4, P5, P6, P7, and P8). The primary function of the BRPS is to pump river water from the Black River to the Green River under normal conditions, as well as during flood conditions as defined by the Green River Management Agreement of 1985 (Green River Basin Program 1985). The King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks, Water and Land Resources Division, in coordination with the King County Flood Control District, is undertaking a comprehensive program to replace or refurbish major components of the BRPS. This work includes replacing the high-use engines (associated with pumps P1, P2, and P4) along with other critical systems. The work will preserve the existing pump station capacity by refurbishing or replacing the existing high-use pump engines and ancillary equipment. In addition, new emissions control equipment will be installed to meet current code requirements for the diesel engines that are being replaced. A bulk urea tank will be installed within the fenced area immediately north of the pump house. Urea will be injected into diesel exhaust to reduce
nitrogen oxide emissions, per US Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) standards. Exhaust pipes and silencers on the exterior of the pump house will be replaced for three of the diesel engines.

All construction work will be contained within the existing fenced areas north and south of the pump house, with most work taking place within the existing structures at the pump station. Pumps associated with the three high-use engines (P1, P2, and P4) will be refurbished; this involves lifting pumps and attached pipes (which hang down into the pump bay and extend into the water) and reinstalling them after reconditioning offsite. The hardware connecting the pumps and pipes is above normal forebay water level, and in-water work will be limited to raising and lowering the pumps and pipes.

Minor trenching will be needed to connect the urea tank to the pump house; this trench work will be on high ground near the north end of the existing pump house, within the existing pump station fence, and will not require clearing. Project construction is estimated to occur from fall 2020 through the end of 2021.

12. Location of the proposal

Give sufficient information for a person to understand the precise location of your proposed project, including a street address, if any, and section, township, and range, if known. If a proposal would occur over a range of area, provide the range or boundaries of the site(s). Provide a legal description, site plan, vicinity map, and topographic map, if reasonably available. While you should submit any plans required by the agency, you are not required to duplicate maps or detailed plans submitted with any permit applications related to this checklist.

The Black River Pump Station is located at 550 Monster Road SW, Renton, WA 98057, in the southwest quarter of Section 13, Township 23 North, Range 4E W.M. (Figure 1 shows WLRD Property). The Black River Pump Station is located on the Black River near its confluence with the Green River. The combined rivers form the Duwamish River, which flows into Elliott Bay and the Puget Sound. The Black River is a historical channel feature that once connected the Cedar River to the Green River, but now only conveys Springbrook Creek to the Green River. The pump station protects against significant flood damage that could occur on developed lands in Renton, Kent, and Tukwila if the Green River flood flows back up in the Black River.
B. Environmental Elements

13. Earth

a. General description of the site:

(circle one): Flat, rolling, hilly, steep slopes, mountainous, other _____________

b. What is the steepest slope on the site (approximate percent slope)?

Generally, ground surface slopes around the Black River Pump Station are less than 5 percent. Some riverbank slopes exceed 40 percent for short distances.

c. What general types of soils are found on the site (for example, clay, sand, gravel, peat, muck)? If you know the classification of agricultural soils, specify them and note any agricultural land of long-term commercial significance and whether the proposal results in removing any of these soils.

Based on the US Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service Soil Survey, soils on the project site have been mapped as Woodinville silt loam (predominantly hydric) and Puyallup fine sandy loam (partially hydric). Both soils occur on floodplains. The
Woodinville soil is poorly drained, while the Puyallup soil is well drained. The site does not contain soils classified as agricultural soils.

Extensive gravel fill was placed during original construction of the pump station. Earthwork for project construction will be within this gravel fill.

d. Are there surface indications or history of unstable soils in the immediate vicinity? If so, describe.

There are no known indicators or history of unstable soils on the site or in the immediate vicinity. The soils on site are likely susceptible to liquefaction in large earthquakes.

e. Describe the purpose, type, total area, and approximate quantities and total affected area of any filling, excavation, and grading proposed. Indicate source of fill.

Minor excavation work will occur to install a small diameter pipe in a trench to connect the new urea tank and transfer pump system to the pump house within the existing fenced area north of the pump house. A small amount of grading of high ground (above the base flood elevation) may be necessary to create a stable fill pad for the urea tank. No clearing will occur as part of this project, and no grading in native soil is expected.

f. Could erosion occur as a result of clearing, construction, or use? If so, generally describe.

No erosion is anticipated due to the flat nature of the construction footprint and the minor amount of trenching work that will occur. All work will occur within the existing footprint of previously developed areas. No land will be cleared. The County’s construction contractor will implement all appropriate erosion and sediment control measures.

g. About what percent of the site will be covered with impervious surfaces after project construction (for example, asphalt or buildings)?

The site currently contains approximately 36,000 square feet of impervious area, including the pump station footprint, gravel parking area, and access road. There will be no increase in impervious surface following the completion of construction.

h. Proposed measures to reduce or control erosion, or other impacts to the earth, if any:

Basic erosion and sediment control best management practices will be implemented and maintained by the construction contractor as needed in accordance with project permits.

14. Air

a. What types of emissions to the air would result from the proposal during construction, operation, and maintenance when the project is completed? If any, generally describe and give approximate quantities if known.

Construction activities may generate airborne dust in the work area, and diesel- and gasoline-powered construction equipment and vehicles will emit exhaust gasses, including “greenhouse” gasses. Greenhouse gasses will include carbon dioxide (CO₂) and nitrogen oxide (NOₓ). The global warming potential (GWP) of these compounds is measured in “carbon dioxide equivalents,” or CO₂e, which convert the GWP of various gasses into their equivalent in CO₂.
CO₂e emissions generated during project construction were calculated by converting estimated fuel consumption into CO₂e emitted using formulas developed by the Energy Information Administration (EIA) of the U.S. Department of Energy. To deliver the necessary equipment (such as diesel engines and ancillary components) from the assumed manufacturing plant in Illinois to the site in Renton, approximately 10 truck trips will be needed. Each trip will involve truck travel for a distance of approximately 2,000 miles one-way using a medium size (15- to 19-foot) truck that consumes a gallon of diesel gas per each 6 to 8 miles of distance travelled. An additional three round trips to Salt Lake City (roughly 850 miles one way per trip) will likely be needed to transport pumps for overhaul. Using the EIA formulas and the estimates above, construction of the proposed project will result in a discharge of approximately 2,700 to 3,500 tons of CO₂e to the atmosphere.

The primary pump (P1) has a 200-horsepower (hp) electric motor; this pump is used for the majority of the pumped flow conveyance most of the year, with an average run time of 1,200 hours per year based on run-time data provided by King County (2007 - 2018 pump run-time SCADA Summary in Excel Workbook). The two small 500-hp diesel pumps (P2 and P4) each run approximately 145 hours each per year. The large 1,400-hp diesel pumps (P3, P5, P6, P7, and P8) are inactive most of the year and only used during major floods. These pumps operate fewer than 5 hours total per year (less than 1 hour per pump annually). Using the above durations, the facility discharges approximately 68 tons of CO₂e to the atmosphere per year as a result of pumping operations.

The project construction would result a discharge of CO₂e to the atmosphere that is approximately 39 to 51 times the annual discharge from pumping. The CO₂e emissions from project construction and operation are not significant compared to overall United States emissions.

The existing pump engines will be replaced with new engines that meet USEPA Tier 4 emissions standards, resulting in much cleaner combustion. Tier 4 engines are as much as 5 percent more energy efficient than older engines and are designed to reduce particulate and nitrogen oxide (NOx) emissions. Urea is injected into the emissions to control NOx, which is catalyzed into nitrogen gas and water.

b. Are there any offsite sources of emissions or odor that may affect your proposal? If so, generally describe.

There are no known offsite sources of emissions or odors that are likely to affect the proposed project.

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control emissions or other impacts to air, if any:

To minimize the potential for any adverse impacts from emissions during construction activities, best management practices (BMPs) will be implemented to minimize the amounts of dust and exhaust emissions that will leave the construction site. BMPs may include:

- Minimizing vehicle and equipment idling to reduce exhaust emissions at the site.
- Keeping diesel- and gasoline-powered equipment in good working order and fitted with appropriate muffler and exhaust systems.

In addition to the BMPs to minimize emissions during construction activities, the new, more energy-efficient Tier 4 engines will result in cleaner combustion for their entire useful life (decades), with reduced particulate matter, carbon monoxide (CO), and nitrogen oxides (NOx) compared to the existing engines due to modern exhaust emissions control systems. Each Tier 4 engine is fitted with a combination oxidation catalyst and diesel particulate filter
(DPF) which oxidizes CO and unburned hydrocarbons and reduces the particulate matter released at the site. Each Tier 4 engine is also fitted with a selective catalytic reducer (SCR) that reduces NOx through injection of a 32.5 percent urea solution (commonly referred to as diesel exhaust fluid or DEF) upstream of the SCR housing.

15. Water

a. Surface Water:

1) Is there any surface water body on or in the immediate vicinity of the site (including year-round and seasonal streams, saltwater, lakes, ponds, wetlands)? If yes, describe type and provide names. If appropriate, state what stream or river it flows into.

The Black River Pump Station is located on the Black River near its confluence with the Green River. The combined rivers form the Duwamish River, which flows into Elliott Bay and the Puget Sound. The City of Renton classifies the Black River as a Class 1 water.

2) Will the project require any work over, in, or adjacent to (within 200 feet) the described waters? If yes, please describe and attach available plans.

The Black River Pump Station includes an existing reinforced concrete dam that impounds all flow in the Black River. The proposed design plans are attached. Most of the construction work will occur within the existing pump station structures, which overhang the Black River channel. Engine replacement will involve lifting the pumps and associated pipes (which extend into the pump bay and are within the water) and replacing them with new or repaired pumps and pipes. The hardware connecting the pipes to the engines and pumps is above normal water level; in-water work will be limited to raising and lowering the pumps. Exhaust pipes on the exterior of the pump station will be replaced. Installation of the urea tank and a pipe connecting it to the pump building will occur within 200 feet of the Black River.

3) Estimate the amount of fill and dredge material that would be placed in or removed from surface water or wetlands and indicate the area of the site that would be affected. Indicate the source of fill material.

No fill or dredge material will be placed in or removed from surface water or wetlands.

4) Will the proposal require surface water withdrawals or diversions? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.

There will be no surface water withdrawals or diversions.

5) Does the proposal lie within a 100-year floodplain? If so, note location on the site plan.

Part of the project site is within the 100-year floodplain of the Black River. Project construction will not result in any fill placed within the floodplain.

6) Does the proposal involve any discharges of waste materials to surface waters? If so, describe the type of waste and anticipated volume of discharge.

There will be no discharge of waste material to surface waters as a result of the proposal. During work over water (that is, exhaust pipe replacement on the exterior of the pump house and removal and reinstallation of pumps and gearboxes), BMPs will be
implemented (such as installing tarps or other containment systems) to capture any debris that could fall into the water.

b. Ground Water:

1) Will groundwater be withdrawn from a well for drinking water or other purposes? If so, give a general description of the well, proposed uses and approximate quantities withdrawn from the well. Will water be discharged to groundwater? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.

Groundwater will not be withdrawn for any purpose, nor will water be discharged to ground water.

2) Describe waste material that will be discharged into the ground from septic tanks or other sources, if any (for example: Domestic sewage; industrial, containing the following chemicals …; agricultural; etc.). Describe the general size of the system, the number of such systems, the number of houses to be served (if applicable), or the number of animals or humans the system(s) are expected to serve.

There will be no discharge of waste material into the ground as a result of the proposed project.

c. Water runoff (including stormwater):

1) Describe the source of runoff (including storm water) and method of collection and disposal, if any (include quantities, if known). Where will this water flow? Will this water flow into other waters? If so, describe.

The proposed pump station improvements and associated construction activities will be mostly within or on the existing structure. Installation of the urea tank and a pipe connecting it to the pump station will occur within previously developed areas on the north side of the pump station. Runoff from impervious surfaces that drains to the Black River is limited to pump station building and rooftop runoff. The remainder of the site is generally sloped towards Monster Road. No new impervious surfaces are proposed as part of the project, and thus no additional stormwater runoff will be generated by project activities.

2) Could waste materials enter ground or surface waters? If so, generally describe.

The pump house is an enclosed steel structure that sits atop a reinforced concrete dam across the Black River channel. The removal and reinstallattion of pumps and gearboxes from within the pump house, as well as replacement of exhaust pipes on the exterior of the pump house, will occur over water and could result in waste material entering the water.

Engine work within the pump house could cause a spill of diesel fuel or oil on pervious portions of the floor, possibly leading to leakage of that liquid waste into neighboring pump bays and eventually the Black River. The pump house contains a concrete pipe service trench that runs the length of the western side of the building and provides secondary containment for any spills that occur within the pump station. The pipe service trench has a capacity of approximately 11,600 gallons, which is more than 40 times the volume of any one diesel day tank, and more than 6 times the capacity of all seven tanks combined. Thus, the likelihood of a spill inside the pump house causing contamination of the Black River or Green River is low.
BMPs such as tarps or other containment devices will be implemented during equipment replacement and overhaul to prevent construction materials and contaminants from entering the Black River. The construction contractor will be required to develop and implement a plan to demonstrate protection of both groundwater and surface water at the site.

The County has prepared a Stormwater Pollution Prevention and Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasures Plan for Black River Pump Station (Parametrix 2013), which will be provided to the construction contractor.

3) Does the proposal alter or otherwise affect drainage patterns in the vicinity of the site? If so, describe.

The proposed project involves replacing existing equipment in order to continue the established operating characteristics of the pump station and will not involve any exterior changes that affect drainage patterns.

d. Proposed measures to reduce or control surface, ground, and runoff water, and drainage pattern impacts, if any:

The proposal will comply with the 2016 King County Surface Water Design Manual standards. A project-specific Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) will be prepared to guide selection and implementation of BMPs during construction to protect surface water and groundwater.

The County has prepared a Stormwater Pollution Prevention and Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasures Plan for Black River Pump Station (Parametrix 2013), which will be provided to the construction contractor.

16. Plants

a. Check the types of vegetation found on the site:

   X Deciduous tree: alder, maple, aspen, other
   X Evergreen tree: fir, cedar, pine, other
   X Shrubs
   X Grass
   ___ Pasture
   ___ Crop or grain
   ___ Orchards, vineyards or other permanent crops.
   ___ Wet soil plants: cattail, buttercup, bulrush, skunk cabbage, other
   ___ Water plants: water lily, eelgrass, milfoil, other
   ___ Other types of vegetation

b. What kind and amount of vegetation will be removed or altered?

   No vegetation will be removed or altered for the proposed project.

c. List threatened and endangered species known to be on or near the site.

   No threatened or endangered plant species are known to be on or near the site.


17. Animals

a. List any birds and other animals which have been observed on or near the site or are known to be on or near the site.

More than 50 bird species have been observed on or near the site. The Black River Riparian Forest and Wetland, a natural area immediately east of the project site, provides habitat for most urban-adapted wildlife species. Species of note observed on or near the site include:

- River otter (*Lontra canadensis*)
- Great blue heron (*Ardea herodias*)
- Chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*)
- Resident coastal cutthroat trout (*O. clarkii*)
- Steelhead (*O. mykiss*)
- Chum salmon (*O. keta*)
- Coho salmon (*O. kisutch*)

Sockeye salmon (*O. nerka*), pink salmon (*O. gorbuscha*), and bull trout (*Salvelinus confluentus*) have been documented in the Green River, approximately 1,700 feet downstream of the site, but not in the Black River.

b. List any threatened and endangered species known to be on or near the site.

Threatened and endangered species on or near the site include:

- Chinook salmon
- Steelhead
- Bull trout
c. **Is the site part of a migration route? If so, explain.**

The Black River serves as a migratory corridor for the following species:

- Chinook salmon
- Coho salmon
- Steelhead
- Chum

The project site is located along the Pacific Flyway and may be visited by migrating birds.

d. **Proposed measures to preserve or enhance wildlife, if any:**

Critical areas, such as wetlands and the Black River, provide habitat for some of the species listed above. Consistent with King County’s Critical Habitat Ordinance and the City of Renton’s Sensitive Areas Ordinance, these critical areas will not be altered by the proposed project actions. There will not be any impacts on wetland or stream buffers.

e. **List any invasive animal species known to be on or near the site.**

No invasive animal species are known to be on or near the site.

18. **Energy and Natural Resources**

a. **What kinds of energy (electric, natural gas, oil, wood stove, solar) will be used to meet the completed project’s energy needs? Describe whether it will be used for heating, manufacturing, etc.**

The project is not expected to significantly change the use of energy at the pump station. The project will continue to use electric power from the regional power grid for the pump with the electric motor and diesel fuel for the two pumps that are having the diesel engines replaced.

b. **Would your project affect the potential use of solar energy by adjacent properties? If so, generally describe.**

The proposed pump, motor, and engine repairs and replacements will occur within the footprint of the existing structure and will not affect the potential use of solar energy by adjacent properties.

c. **What kinds of energy conservation features are included in the plans of this proposal? List other proposed measures to reduce or control energy impacts, if any:**

The pumps will run only when necessary as part of the flood protection system on the lower Green River and to keep high tides and Green River floods from inundating areas in Renton, Kent, and Tukwila.
19. Environmental Health

a. Are there any environmental health hazards, including exposure to toxic chemicals, risk of fire and explosion, spill, or hazardous waste, that could occur as a result of this proposal? If so, describe.

Construction activities and operation of the pumps during temporary emergency pumping will require the use of potentially hazardous substances on the project site, including gasoline, diesel, motor oil, transmission fluid, hydraulic oil, radiator coolant, brake fluid, and metals used in tires.

1) Describe any known or possible contamination at the site from present or past uses.

There is no known contamination on the site from present or past uses, and there are no sites in the project area that are listed on the Toxics Release Inventory or the Superfund National Priorities List (USNLM 2019).

2) Describe existing hazardous chemicals/conditions that might affect project development and design. This includes underground hazardous liquid and gas transmission pipelines located within the project area and in the vicinity.

There are two 20,000-gallon diesel tanks in front of the pump station approximately 100 feet from the Black River water surface. Municipal water, sewer, and natural gas lines are present in the road frontage and serve the project site. None are being changed by the project.

3) Describe any toxic or hazardous chemicals that might be stored, used, or produced during the project’s development or construction, or at any time during the operating life of the project.

In addition to existing diesel storage tanks, the project will add an estimated 1,000-gallon urea storage tank within the existing fenced yard on the north side of the pump station entrance approximately 60 feet from the Black River water surface.

Although it is unlikely that environmental health hazards would be encountered under normal working conditions, construction activities will require the use of potentially hazardous substances on the project site, including gasoline, diesel, motor oil, transmission fluid, hydraulic oil, radiator coolant, and brake fluid. Operation of the pumps will require the use of diesel, urea, radiator coolant, and motor oil onsite. Accidental leaks and spills of these materials could occur within the facility where leaks would be contained and prevented from entering the Black River, as described in section 15.c.2 of this checklist. The County’s Stormwater Pollution Prevention and Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasures Plan for Black River Pump Station (Parametrix 2013), which includes spill response procedures and spill control measures, is kept on site and used by pump station operations personnel in case of spills or release of pollutants during the operation of pumps, engines, and motors. All project-related construction will meet applicable local, county, state, and federal regulations.

4) Describe special emergency services that might be required.

As with any construction activity or commercial operation, emergency services may be needed to respond to a project site accident or injury or an inadvertent spill or release of hazardous materials. All work will be conducted in accordance with site-specific health
and safety plans required by King County and/or its construction contractor. No special emergency services are likely to be required.

5) Proposed measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any:

Local and state regulations regarding safety and the handling of hazardous materials will be enforced during pump/motor/engine repair and replacement. Equipment refueling areas will be limited to areas where a spill could be quickly contained and where the risk of the hazardous material entering surface water is minimized.

To reduce the risk of environmental health hazards, the County’s selected construction contractor will submit a Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasures (SPCC) plan prior to construction. The SPCC plan will include procedures for the handling of petroleum products and an emergency response procedure for any spill. The plan will prescribe the use of fueling pads or berms placed in areas where a spill could be quickly contained and where the risk of hazardous materials entering surface water is minimized, include procedures to follow in case of spills and a maintenance plan to minimize leaky equipment, specify a staging area for vehicle maintenance, and include BMPs for any chemicals to be used or stored on site. Local and state regulations regarding safety and the handling of hazardous materials will be followed during the proposed project construction and thereafter for long-term operations.

b. Noise

1) What types of noise exist in the area which may affect your project (for example: traffic, equipment, operation, other)?

Land use surrounding the Black River Pump Station is commercial and industrial. North of the site is the Renton Concrete Recyclers that operates equipment such as trucks, cranes, excavators, and backhoes to process concrete and asphalt into a crushed gravel product. South and west of the site are commercial properties, with noise associated with typical commercial uses. Monster Road to the south produces traffic noise from car and truck use, and there is occasional rail traffic just north of the site. The Black River Riparian Forest and Wetland is located to the east with no commercial, industrial, or residential uses.

Background noise levels at the pump station were measured at 56 dBA when the pump station pumps were off, and at more than 79 dBA when pumps P1 and P2 were operational. Ambient noise levels 640 feet upstream (east) from the project were between 48 to 50 dBA whether pumps were operating or not, indicating ambient noise did not appear to be affected by pump operation (Hart Crowser 2016). Noise levels were not measured while the larger pumps were operating but are expected to be higher than when those pumps are not operating; however, the larger pumps only run for a few hours per year during high water events.

2) What types and levels of noise would be created by or associated with the project on a short-term or a long-term basis (for example: traffic, construction, operation, other)? Indicate what hours noise would come from the site.

The project will result in elevated noise levels during construction, which will occur during normal working hours (7 a.m. to 10 p.m.) per Renton Municipal Code (RMC 4-4-110(D)(8)) and will likely be limited to daylight hours (7 a.m. to 6 p.m.). Noise levels of approximately 80 dBA could occur within 50 feet of construction equipment.
Trucks transporting equipment will contribute to overall traffic noise generated along transport routes.

Construction is estimated to occur from fall 2020 through end of 2021. Pump P1 will operate on a daily basis for the foreseeable future (1,200 hours per year). High-use pumps P2 and P4 will operate less frequently (145 hours per year), and the big diesel pumps (P3, P5, P6, P7, and P8) will be used intermittently (approximately 5 hours total per year). These figures all represent continuation of established operations. Noise from the proposed project will not increase above existing conditions.

3) Proposed measures to reduce or control noise impacts, if any:

Proposed pump, motor, and engine repair and replacement work will be limited to hours as indicated above to reduce the potential impact of the proposed work.

No other measures to reduce or control noise impacts are proposed.

20. Land and Shoreline Use

a. What is the current use of the site and adjacent properties? Will the proposal affect current land uses on nearby or adjacent properties? If so, describe.

The site is used as a pump station, with the remainder of the property being undeveloped. The northern and western portion of the property is being used for construction of the Lake to Sound Trail Segment A by King County Parks. Land use on the adjacent properties are commercial and industrial. The proposed project will not affect current land uses on nearby or adjacent properties.

b. Has the project site been used as working farmlands or working forest lands? If so, describe. How much agricultural or forest land of long-term commercial significance will be converted to other uses as a result of the proposal, if any? If resource lands have not been designated, how many acres in farmland or forest land tax status will be converted to nonfarm or nonforest use?

The site is not currently used or designated as an agriculture or forest land production district (King County 2019). No land will be converted from farmland or forest land tax status.

1) Will the proposal affect or be affected by surrounding working farm or forest land normal business operations, such as oversize equipment access, the application of pesticides, tilling, and harvesting? If so, how:

The project will not affect or be affected by working farm or forest normal business operations.

c. Describe any structures on the site.

The Black River Pump Station consists of a dam, pump house, control building, storage shed, fuel tanks, retaining walls, and utility vaults. The station houses eight flood control pumps and numerous support systems, including provisions for both upstream and downstream fish passage. King County Parks has built a new pedestrian bridge downstream of the pump station on the same parcel.
d. **Will any structures be demolished? If so, what?**

The existing approximately 15-foot by 25-foot storage shed located immediately north of the pump house within the fenced yard will be demolished to make room for the urea tank. The storage shed is used to store materials and equipment.

e. **What is the current zoning classification of the site?**

The site is within the King County urban growth area, zoned as Incorporated City within the Renton city limits. Within Renton, the site is designated as Resource Conservation.

f. **What is the current comprehensive plan designation of the site?**

The site is within the City of Renton’s Employment Area Valley comprehensive plan designation.

g. **If applicable, what is the current shoreline master program designation of the site?**

The Black River is designated as a Shoreline of the State (RMC 4-3-090). The shoreline designation of the Black River at the site is Natural.

h. **Has any part of the site been classified as a critical area by the city or county? If so, specify.**

The Black River and adjacent wetlands have been classified as critical areas by the City of Renton, and the project area lies within a designated flood hazard area. The Black River is a City of Renton regulated shoreline.

i. **Approximately how many people would reside or work in the completed project?**

No people will reside at the project site. The pump station is automated and is not staffed full time. Operations staff come to the pump station as needed on an intermittent basis, without set daily working hours.

j. **Approximately how many people would the completed project displace?**

The project will not displace any people.

k. **Proposed measures to avoid or reduce displacement impacts, if any:**

No displacement impacts will occur; therefore, no mitigation measures are necessary or proposed.

l. **Proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with existing and projected land uses and plans, if any:**

The proposed project is a repair or replacement-in-kind of existing pumps, engines, and motors, and will not change the existing land use.

m. **Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts to agricultural and forest lands of long-term commercial significance, if any:**

Not applicable.
21. Housing

a. Approximately how many units would be provided, if any? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.

No new housing is being created by the project.

b. Approximately how many units, if any, would be eliminated? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.

No housing is being eliminated by the project.

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control housing impacts, if any:

Not applicable. No impacts on housing are expected due to the project.

22. Aesthetics

a. What is the tallest height of any proposed structure(s), not including antennas; what is the principal exterior building material(s) proposed?

The only proposed external structure is the urea tank shelter, which will be approximately 8 to 10 feet high. This new structure will be smaller than the existing storage shed currently at this location that will be removed as part of this work.

b. What views in the immediate vicinity would be altered or obstructed?

The views in the immediate vicinity will not be altered or obstructed.

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control aesthetic impacts, if any:

No other external changes to the pump station will occur, other than installation of new exhaust pipes protruding from the existing building wall; therefore, no aesthetic impacts are expected.

23. Light and Glare

a. What type of light or glare will the proposal produce? What time of day would it mainly occur?

Construction activity will occur between 7 a.m. and 6 p.m., primarily within the pump house structure. Therefore, construction is unlikely to require supplemental lighting. Some short-term glare may be generated from construction equipment and trucks transporting equipment to and from the site.

b. Could light or glare from the finished project be a safety hazard or interfere with views?

No.

c. What existing offsite sources of light or glare may affect your proposal?

None.
d. Proposed measures to reduce or control light and glare impacts, if any:

No lighting is proposed, and minimal glare will be created during or following project construction; therefore, no measures to reduce or control light and glare impacts are proposed.

24. Recreation

a. What designated and informal recreational opportunities are in the immediate vicinity?

The Lake to Sound Trail Segment A, a non-motorized multi-use recreational trail currently under construction, runs just west and north of the proposed project area. The proposed project is also within the vicinity of the Black River Riparian Forest and Wetland, which is used for bird watching, wildlife viewing, hiking, and off-road bicycling.

b. Would the proposed project displace any existing recreational uses? If so, describe.

No existing recreational uses will be displaced.

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts on recreation, including recreation opportunities to be provided by the project or applicant, if any:

The proposed repairs and replacement of pumps, engines, and motors within the Black River Pump Station will occur within the existing structure and fenced yard. There will be no changes or impacts to the recreational areas adjacent to the site.

25. Historic and cultural preservation

a. Are there any buildings, structures, or sites, located on or near the site that are over 45 years old listed in or eligible for listing in national, state, or local preservation registers? If so, specifically describe.

The Black River Pump Station property was analyzed by examining the National Register of Historic Places on the national register database and the Washington Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation information system for architectural and archaeological records data. No register-listed or eligible buildings, structures, or sites are known to be on or near the project site.

b. Are there any landmarks, features, or other evidence of Indian or historic use or occupation? This may include human burials or old cemeteries. Are there any material evidence, artifacts, or areas of cultural importance on or near the site? Please list any professional studies conducted at the site to identify such resources.

There is one historic site and two prehistoric sites near the project site, but none within the site (LeTourneau and Sundberg 2014).
c. Describe the methods used to assess the potential impacts to cultural and historic resources on or near the project site. Examples include consultation with tribes and the department of archeology and historic preservation, archaeological surveys, historic maps, GIS data, etc.

The King County Historic Preservation Program Cultural Resources Review, conducted in 2014 for the Black River Pump Station, reviewed historic maps, aerial photographs, and results of cultural resources surveys within or adjacent to the project area (LeTourneau and Sundberg 2014).

d. Proposed measures to avoid, minimize, or compensate for loss, changes to, and disturbance to resources. Please include plans for the above and any permits that may be required.

The project will comply with all applicable local, state, and federal laws. The proposed project does not involve any major ground-disturbing activities and will take place within the existing (non-historic) structure and previously disturbed areas. The proposed project will have no impact to cultural or historic resources on or near the project site.

26. Transportation

a. Identify public streets and highways serving the site or affected geographic area and describe proposed access to the existing street system. Show on site plans, if any.

The Black River Pump Station is accessed via Monster Road Southwest, which becomes Oakesdale Avenue Southwest. The site of the proposed project has access to Martin Luther King Jr. Way South (State Route [SR] 900), Interurban Avenue South, West Valley Highway (SR 181), Interstate 405 (I-405), and I-5. No new vehicular access is proposed as part of the proposal.

b. Is the site or affected geographic area currently served by public transit? If so, generally describe. If not, what is the approximate distance to the nearest transit stop?

The nearest Metro Transit Route is 101, which runs along SR 900 with several stops from Seattle King Street Station to the Renton Transit Center. The route is located approximately 0.90 mile north-northwest from the project site.

c. How many additional parking spaces would the completed project or non-project proposal have? How many would the project or proposal eliminate?

The proposed project will not create any parking spaces, and no parking spaces will be eliminated. The proposed project will not generate a need for additional parking.

d. Will the proposal require any new or improvements to existing roads, streets, pedestrian, bicycle or state transportation facilities, not including driveways? If so, generally describe (indicate whether public or private).

No new roads, streets, or other transportation facilities are proposed; and none are needed for the proposed project. No improvements to existing transportation facilities are proposed or needed. Existing and temporary access roads will provide access to the work site.
e. Will the project or proposal use (or occur in the immediate vicinity of) water, rail, or air transportation? If so, generally describe.

No water, rail, or air transportation will be used by the proposed project. A BNSF Railway right-of-way (Woodinville Subdivision) borders the north side of the project site.

f. How many vehicular trips per day would be generated by the completed project or proposal? If known, indicate when peak volumes would occur and what percentage of the volume would be trucks (such as commercial and nonpassenger vehicles). What data or transportation models were used to make these estimates?

The completed project will not generate any additional daily traffic. The only trips associated with the project would be those taken by personnel for the operation and maintenance of existing pumps. In total, those trips are projected to be up to 1,460 per year, which is the same as under current conditions.

g. Will the proposal interfere with, affect, or be affected by the movement of agricultural and forest products on roads or streets in the area? If so, generally describe.

The proposal will not interfere with, affect, or be affected by the movement of agricultural or forest products on roads or streets in the project area.

h. Proposed measures to reduce or control transportation impacts, if any:

No transportation impacts are expected within the site or the vicinity of the proposed project. Therefore, no measures are proposed to reduce or control potential transportation impacts.

27. Public Services

a. Would the project result in an increased need for public services (for example: fire protection, police protection, public transit, health care, schools, other)? If so, generally describe.

Replacing pumps, engines, and motors at the Black River Pump Station will not result in an increased need for public services.

b. Proposed measures to reduce or control direct impacts on public services, if any.

No impacts to public services are expected; therefore, no measures are proposed to reduce potential impacts on public services. Replacing pumps, motors, and engines at the pump station will reduce the likelihood of flooding of access roads in the city of Renton and parts of Kent and Tukwila during extremely large storm events, which will improve access for public service providers in those areas protected from flooding by the Black River Pump Station.

28. Utilities

a. Circle utilities currently available at the site:

- electricity
- natural gas
- water
- refuse service
- telephone
- sanitary sewer
- septic system
- other

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b. Describe the utilities that are proposed for the project, the utility providing the service, and the general construction activities on the site or in the immediate vicinity which might be needed.

No new utilities are proposed.
C. Signature

The above answers are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that the lead agency is relying on them to make its decision.

Signature: ____________________________

Name of signee: Tom Bean, P.E.

Position and Agency/Organization: Engineering Special Projects Lead, King County RFMS

Date Submitted: March 18, 2020

References


Attachments

Proposed 60 Percent Design Plans – Black River Pump Station Improvements, High-Use Engines