



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

May 27, 2009

Tina Miller, Volunteer Coordinator
Parks and Recreation Division
King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks
201 South Jackson Street, Suite 700
Seattle, WA 98104

RE: Backcountry Trails
Blanket Adjustment No. L09V0028

Dear Ms. Miller:

We have reviewed the proposal by the Parks and Recreation Division of the King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks to substitute BMPs from the United States Forest Service (USFS) Trails Management Handbook (FSH 2309.18) and Forest Service Standard Specifications for Construction of Trails (EM 7720-102) in place of the standards in the 2009 and the 2005 King County Surface Water Design Manual (SWDM) to manage stormwater impacts from the construction of backcountry trails. Our review indicates that the Forest Service standards provide management of stormwater that is equivalent to that provided by the SWDM for backcountry trail projects. In particular, when properly implemented, the Forest Service standards will achieve the goal of fully dispersing runoff (full dispersion) that is the first choice for managing stormwater flow and water quality impacts where it is feasible, and will adequately address runoff in areas where full dispersion is not feasible by using limited dispersion techniques.


Based on this understanding, this blanket adjustment to use the USFS Trails Management Handbook and Standard Specifications for the design of backcountry trails is approved with the following conditions:

1. This adjustment shall only be applied to projects that consist of trails within landscapes that are mostly forested.
2. This adjustment shall only be applied where most or all of the site consists of land that is in permanent forest use or in protected open space.
3. The trail surface must not exceed 1 percent of the total site area.
4. This adjustment applies to trails that are typically 2 feet wide, and have an average width of less than 3 feet over the length of the project.

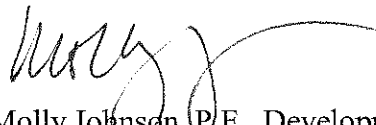
Tina Miller
May 27, 2009
Page 2

Please note that approval of this adjustment does not relieve the applicant from other King County, state, or federal requirements, including any requirements imposed through the SEPA process. This is a conceptual approval for using the Forest Service Trails Management Handbook to meet the intention of the standards in the 2009 Surface Water Design Manual, and individual designs will be reviewed and approved during plan review. If you have any questions about this adjustment, please call Steve Foley, Senior Engineer with the Stormwater Services Section, at 206-296-1973.

Sincerely,



Curt W. Crawford, P.E., Manager
Stormwater Services Section



Molly Johnson, P.E., Development Engineer
Department of Development and Environmental Services

CC:MJ:SF:bgD69

Enclosure

cc: Steve Townsend, P.E., Supervising Engineer, Land Use Inspection Services Section,
Land Use Services Division (LUSD), Department of Development and
Environmental Services (DDES)
Bruce Whittaker, Senior Engineer, Engineering Review Section, LUSD, DDES
Steve Foley, Senior Engineer, Stormwater Services Section, Water and Land Resources
Division, Department of Natural Resources and Parks



King County
Department of Development
and Environmental Services
 900 Oakesdale Avenue Southwest
 Renton, WA 98057-5212
206-296-6600 TTY 206-296-7217

RECEIVED
 MAY 12 2009
K.C. D.D.E.S.

Web Date: 09/22/2008

SURFACE WATER DESIGN MANUAL
REQUIREMENTS / STANDARDS
ADJUSTMENT* REQUEST

For alternate formats, call 206-296-6600.

LD9V0028

Project Name: Back Country Trail Programmatic Permit	DDES Project File No: A06P0025	DDES Engineer/Planner Name: Richelle Rose
Project Address: King County Natural Lands and Open Space	Design Engineer:	Phone:
Applicant/Agent**: King County DNRP, /Tina Miller	Phone: 206-296-2990	Signature of Design Engineer:
Signature of Applicant/Agent:	Date: 4/13/09	Date:
Address: 201 S. Jackson St., Suite 700	City, State, ZIP: Seattle, WA 98104	Engineering Firm Name:
	Address:	City, State, ZIP:

INSTRUCTIONS TO APPLICANT/DESIGN ENGINEER:

Please be sure to include all materials (Level One Downstream Analysis, Certification of Applicant Status form, sketches, photos, and maps) that may assist in complete review and consideration of this adjustment request. Failure to provide all pertinent information may result in delayed processing or denial of request. Please submit two complete copies of this request, application form, and applicable fee to the Department of Development and Environmental Services, 900 Oakesdale Ave. SW, Renton, WA 98057-5212. For more information, contact Curt Foster at 206-296-7106.

**Applicant/Agent is the individual financially responsible for all fees

REFER TO CHAPTER 1, SECTION 1.4 OF THE SURFACE WATER DESIGN MANUAL FOR ADJUSTMENTS

DESCRIPTION OF ADJUSTMENT REQUEST: Standard Complex Experimental Blanket Pre-application
 Request is to substitute BMPs from the USFS Trails Management Handbook (FSH 2309.18) and Forest Service Standard Specifications for Construction of Trails (EM 7720-102) in place of the standards in the 2009 and 2005 KC Surface Water Design Manual (SWDM) to manage stormwater impacts from the construction of backcountry trails.

APPLICABLE VERSION KCSWDM: 1990 (11/95)* 1998 (9/98) 2005 (1/05)
 *(Note: the term "variance" replaced by "adjustment")

APPLICABLE SECTION(S) OF STANDARDS:

Sections that apply to management of stormwater impacts from the construction of backcountry trails.

JUSTIFICATION PER KCSWDM SECTION 1.4.2: See attachments listed below.

This applies to backcountry trails in mostly forested areas. The USFS standards when properly implemented will provide management of stormwater that is equivalent to that provided by the SWDM. By using techniques that fully disperse runoff, the first choice of SWDM's goals for managing stormwater, will be met and if the site allows only using limited dispersion techniques this treatment will provide adequate treatment as required by the SWDM.

AUTHORIZATION SIGNATURES:

DETERMINATION: Approval Conditional Approval (see below) Denial
 DNRP/WLRD Approval Signed: *[Signature]* (Experimental & Blanket only)
 DDES Staff Recommendation Signed: _____ Date: _____

Conditions of Approval:

See attached memo dated: 5-27-09

DDES DIRECTOR / DESIGNEE:

DDES, LUSD, Engineering Review Supervisor: Signed: <i>[Signature]</i> Date: <u>5-28-09</u>	DDES, BSD, Site Engineering & Planning Supervisor Signed: <u>N/A</u> Date: _____
------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Check out the DDES Web site at www.kingcounty.gov/permits