



King County

Water and Land Resources Division

Department of Natural Resources and Parks

King Street Center

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Seattle, WA 98104-3855

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TTY Relay: 711

State Environmental Policy Act Determination of Non-Significance

Date: November 21, 2022

Name of Proposal: Belmondo Levee Repair

Agency Contact: Alex Lincoln

Description of Proposal:

King County will repair the damaged portion of the Belmondo levee while also enhancing aquatic habitat. During a flood event in February 2020, an existing engineered log jam (built in 2011) and approximately 100 linear feet of levee was damaged. The damage includes embankment erosion and loss of toe and face rock, which has resulted in an over-steepened unprotected levee core. The facility protects critical infrastructure including the Maple Valley Highway (SR 169), the Cedar River Trail, and a buried regional fiber optic trunk line. If unaddressed, the damage will likely expand, resulting in potential impacts to infrastructure and loss of public property.

The project will repair the damaged portion of levee while also enhancing aquatic habitat. The section of damaged levee will be repaired with rock placement and construction of a new engineered log jam (ELJ). The latter is intended to provide bank protection, deflect flow, and enhance stability of the existing damaged ELJ by interlacing the two structures. Repair to the damaged ELJ will also include adding slash and large wood pieces but will not involve a full re-build of the structure such that the deep pool in front of and below the structure can be preserved. Large wood pieces placed parallel to the bank will also be added to the rock repair for bank roughening. These project elements will involve work below and above the ordinary high water mark.

The project will also include habitat enhancement in the floodplain adjacent to the damaged section of levee. Floodplain grading will increase connectivity of a groundwater channel and floodplain wetland with the Cedar River, creating backwater habitat for juvenile salmonids and removing existing reed canarygrass. Large wood placement in the floodplain and within graded channels will increase floodplain roughness and aquatic habitat quality. An existing rock barb on the floodplain will be enhanced with placement of large wood elements to create a more habitat-friendly structure that will deform as the mainstem Cedar River migrates leftwards over time. Plantings in the floodplain and on the bank adjacent to the levee and ELJ repair are intended to provide channel shading and riparian habitat.

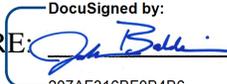
Location of Proposal:

The Belmondo Levee Repair Project is located on the left bank of the Cedar River, near

River Mile 10.4 within the SE quarter of Section 29, Township 23 North, Range 6 East. The site is located on two King County parcels 292306-9021 and 292306-9035, east of the Cedar River Trail and just north of the Belmondo Reach Natural Area.

Responsible Official: Josh Baldi
Position/Title: Division Director, Water and Land Resources Division
Address: 201 South Jackson Street, Suite 600
Seattle, WA 98104-3855

DATE: 11/23/2022

SIGNATURE:  DocuSigned by:
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Proponent and Lead Agency: King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks
Water and Land Resources Division

Contact Person(s): Alex Lincoln, Project Ecologist, 206-263-0989

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) or by visiting <https://kingcounty.gov/depts/dnrp/wlr/sections-programs/river-floodplain-section/capital-projects/sepa.aspx>.

This determination is based on the following findings and conclusions:

The proposal is not likely to have a significant adverse environmental impact. OR All potential impacts will be mitigated to a level of insignificance and the overall effect on the environment will be beneficial. *[Revise this rationale for non-significance –such as mitigation measures that adequately address potential impacts, summary of permit conditions, etc. as appropriate and delete this verbiage]*

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 **December 22, 2022**. (NOTE: Date must be at least 14 days from date of issuance) Comments must be submitted or postmarked by that date.

For additional information, please contact:

Alex Lincoln, Project Ecologist
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There is no agency appeal of this determination.