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Memorandum

RECEIVED

DEC 14 2017

KING COUNTY
D.P.E.R.

To: Mr. John Priebe, Raging River Quarry, LLC

Fm: Gary Schulz, Wetland/Forest Ecologist

Date: 12/12/17



Re: **Periodic Review Report and Decision for Raging River Quarry, 9/15/17 – File No. GRDE15-0004: Response to Critical Areas comments and conditions**

This memo is provided to respond to two condition items listed in the referenced report from King County. The first item involves describing a drainage feature determined to be an old excavated ditch that is located adjacent to Wetland A. The second item is regarding the condition to clearly flag wetlands and associated buffers within the limits of mining. Both items are found under the section **Conditions Requiring Follow-Up Actions by the Permittee** as listed below.

Conditions Requiring Follow-Up Actions by the Permittee:

3. d) (ii)

As stated in the Report and Decision this condition is to “analyze the relationship between the ditch and Wetland A hydrology”. From an ecologist’s perspective and numerous site observations the subject ditch has no effect on the hydrology of Wetland A. The bottom of the ditch is several feet below the elevation of the wetland boundary. The ditch was excavated near the wetland boundary but did not appear to modify or lower the elevation of the boundary. Wetland A does overflow into the ditch during periods of high rainfall but this hydrologic element has been on-going for a number of years.

A site visit on 12/8/17 observed a low level of water flowing into the ditch at Wetland flag #A-1. Rainfall data from SeaTac International Airport for 12/7/17 recorded 1.46 inches above normal since October 1, 2017. As requested by King County a recent land survey was conducted to collect ground elevations at Wetland A near the ditch and within the ditch. This data is shown on the Wetland Outlet Detail (Sheet #C3.31 Existing Permit Conditions – RRQ Core Design, December 2017). The fall or drop in elevation from the edge of Wetland A to the top of water in the ditch ranges from 2.0 to 3.0 feet. In addition to the bottom of the ditch being significantly lower than the wetland boundary there is likely infiltration of water in the ditch moving laterally into the exposed soil of the side slopes.

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**Conditions Requiring Follow-Up Actions by the Permittee:
16.**

During the site visit on 12/8/17 wetland flagging was inspected and buffer flags were installed around portions of Wetland A and Wetland B facing the quarry project permit area on Parcel #222407-9011. Re-investigations conducted in 2017 did not observe wetland areas on #Parcel 222407-9033 (Technical Response for the Raging River Quarry Expansion (Parcel #222407-9033: Clearing and Grading Permit Application #GRDE15-0166 King County, WA 12/1/17 Schulz).

Using hand-taped measurements from surveyed wetland boundary points a 65-foot wetland buffer was marked with wood stakes and pink & lime green plastic flagging. These flags are clearly visible and labeled. Wetland boundary flagging from the previous land survey is still intact and visible for Wetlands A and B. Per the memo from King County environmental scientist Laura Casey (Clearing and Grading Permit Application GRDE15-0004, Periodic Review of Existing Mine at Raging River Quarry, Parcel 222407-9011 Review of Ecological Critical Areas and Shorelines - 4/11/17 Memo) a wetland boundary location was re-flagged to correct the previous boundary flagging. A small wetland pocket was located outside of and adjacent to wetland flag #A-3. A new pink wetland flag for the A-3 point was labeled and used to relocate the boundary point on the outer edge of the wetland pocket.