



KITITITAS COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

411 N. Ruby St., Suite 2, Ellensburg, WA 98926

CDS@CO.KITITITAS.WA.US

Office (509) 962-7506

Fax (509) 962-7682

"Building Partnerships – Building Communities"

February 17, 2023

Kelee Hodges
Environmental/Transportation Planner
Kittitas County Public Works
411 N. Ruby St., Suite #1
Ellensburg, WA 98926
(via email)

RE: Request for SEPA, Critical Areas Ordinance, and Shoreline Permit Exemptions for Manastash Road Creek Bank Stabilization Project

Dear Ms. Hodges:

Thank you for the opportunity to assist you in this matter.

I am in receipt of your letter dated February 1, 2023 requesting SEPA, Critical Areas Ordinance, and Shoreline Permit exemptions for the Kittitas County Public Works Manastash Road Creek Bank Stabilization project. I have reviewed the documentation submitted with your letter, and have made the following determinations:

SEPA

WAC 197-11-800(3) provides that the repair, remodeling, maintenance, or minor alteration of existing public structures, facilities, and equipment – including transportation facilities involving no material expansions or changes in use beyond that previously existing – shall be categorically exempt from SEPA requirements. This proposed project would meet this exemption because the roadway embankment and roadway would be reconstructed to an as-built condition that existed prior to erosion, with no changes in use to the previously existing condition. In addition, habitat enhancement and energy dissipation elements would improve aquatic riparian habitat by providing channel roughness, incorporating large wood structure, increasing channel complexity, and restoring riparian vegetation. Therefore, the Manastash Road Creek Bank Stabilization Project is exempt from SEPA review.

Critical Areas Ordinance

According to Kittitas County Code (KCC) 17A.01.030(4), any activities, alterations or development located within any Shoreline of the State within the unincorporated portion of Kittitas County are subject to the provisions of the Shoreline Master Program (KCC Title 17B) and are not subject to the Critical Areas Ordinance (KCC Title 17A). The proposed project is located within a Shoreline of the State (South Fork Manastash Creek). Therefore, the project is exempt from Kittitas County Critical Areas Ordinance review.

Shoreline Development Permit

While it appears that this project would be exempt from shoreline permitting requirements, KCC 17B.07.030(4)(b) requires that any person claiming an exemption from a shoreline substantial development permit shall submit an application in a manner prescribed by the Shoreline Administrator. Therefore, a Shoreline Exemption application would be required. Kittitas County Public Works submitted a Shoreline Exemption application for this project on February 10, 2023 (SX-23-00003). This Shoreline Exemption application is currently under review.

Please let me know if you have questions or require any additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Dan Carlson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Dan" and last name "Carlson" clearly distinguishable.

Dan Carlson, AICP
Community Development Services Director

CC: Josh Frederickson, P.E., Kittitas County Engineer (via email)
Mark Cook, P.E., Kittitas County Public Works Director (via email)
Jeremiah Cromie, Planner II, Community Development Services (via email)