



State of Washington  
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

South Central Region • Ellensburg District Office • 1130 W. University Way, Ellensburg, WA  
98926

June 16, 2022

Kelly Bacon  
Kittitas County  
Community Development Services  
501 North Anderson Street  
Ellensburg, WA 98926

**SUBJECT: SE-22-00055 Rawlings Fill Removal**

Dear Ms. Bacon,

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) is familiar with this area and habitat in and around nearby Mercer Creek. WDFW supports this project as it will remove fill from the floodplain and wetlands adjacent to Mercer Creek.

The northwest portion of the project is very close to Mercer Creek and a point of diversion. We recommend extreme care be used when installing and removing the silt fencing to avoid disturbance of riparian vegetation and to ensure that the bank integrity is not disturbed. Upon project completion, we welcome the opportunity to collaborate with the landowner on native riparian plantings and helping address the currently unscreened irrigation diversion on this property. Our hope is that this work will not only benefit fish and wildlife habitat, but also help reduce flood risks to the property.

Please feel free to contact me at (509) 961-6639 or [Jennifer.nelson@dfw.wa.gov](mailto:Jennifer.nelson@dfw.wa.gov) if you have any questions about these comments. We'd be happy to provide technical assistance throughout the project.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Nelson  
Area Habitat Biologist