



City of Tacoma
Public Works Department

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ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

TO: All Departments and Agencies With Jurisdiction

FROM: Kathlyn C. Henderson, Environmental Officer
Building and Land Use Services Division
Public Works Department

SUBJECT: Environmental Checklist
Determination of Nonsignificance (DNS)

DATE: October 7, 1993

In accordance with WAC 197-11-340, transmitted herewith are copies of the Environmental Checklist and DNS for the following project:

APPLICANT: Simpson Tacoma Kraft Company
PO BOX 2133
Tacoma, WA 98401

PROPOSAL: A "restoration" project to construct substantial new riparian and wetland habitat and improve existing intertidal habitat on a 7.9 acre site. Primary actions will be to excavate and contour upland portion to restore a natural shoreline, vegetation plantings, debris removal or containment, and modification of approximately 3.3 acres of existing tidelands through excavation to intertidal elevations and filling to create a vegetative bench and create screening to support, complement and preserve existing tideflats. This action is not associated with any development project. Site is located on the southeastern shore of Middle Waterway adjacent to East 11th Street and Middle Waterway Road.

Please review this Checklist and make any comments on this proposal no later than October 22, 1993. The Puyallup Tribe is hereby notified that this information is being provided per the consultation process addressed by the 1988 Puyallup Tribal Agreement.

Submit comments to: Kathlyn C. Henderson
Environmental Officer
City of Tacoma
747 Market Street, Suite 345
Tacoma, WA 98402


KATHLYN C. HENDERSON
Environmental Officer
KCH:PK:chcENV93161

File: Environmental Commission
Building and Land Use Services Division

Environmental Checklist
Simpson Tacoma Kraft Company

cc: Randy Carman Department of Fisheries Habitat Management PO BOX 43155 Olympia,
98504
DNR Division of Aquatic Lands PO BOX 47027 Olympia, 98504-7027
DNR SEPA Center PO BOX 47015 Olympia, 98504-7015
Karen Keely Environmental Protection Agency 1200 Sixth Avenue Seattle, 98101
Jeff Krausmann US Fish & Wildlife Service 3704 Griffin Lane SE #102 Olympia,
98501-2192
Puyallup Indian Tribe Land Use Department Elizabeth Tail 2002 East 28th Street,
98404-1837
Tacoma Pierce County Health Department ATTN: Bob McElroy
US Army Corps of Engineers Permit Section PO BOX C-3755 Seattle, 98134

ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

A. BACKGROUND

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable:

Middle Waterway Shore Restoration Project

2. Name of applicant:

Simpson Tacoma Kraft Company, in cooperation with Champion International Corporation and the Natural Resource Trustees for Commencement Bay (Trustees). The Trustees include the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, the Washington Department of Ecology, the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe, and the Puyallup Tribe of Indians.

3. Address and phone number of applicant and contact person:

Simpson Tacoma Kraft Company
801 Portland Avenue
P.O. Box 2133
Tacoma, WA 98401

Telephone: (206) 596-0257

Contact person: Mr. Dave McEntee

4. Date checklist prepared:

September 15, 1993

5. Agency requesting checklist:

City of Tacoma (Lead Agency)/Washington Department of Ecology

6. Proposed timing or schedule (including phasing, if applicable):

Project construction would take two to four months. This time depends on when permits are issued and how the schedule coincides with fisheries restrictions which, among other things, would preclude or restrict work in the water from March 15 through June 15 each year. Assuming approvals are received, the project would start in February 1994 and be completed in May 1994, except for ongoing monitoring and adaptive management measures.

Project Overview, Middle Waterway Shore Restoration Project

- I Middle Waterway Shore Restoration Project; Technical Appendix I: Soil and Sediment Quality**
- II Middle Waterway Shore Restoration Project; Technical Appendix II: Biological Conditions**
- III Middle Waterway Shore Restoration Project; Technical Appendix III: Physical Elements of Proposed Action**
- IV Middle Waterway Shore Restoration Project; Technical Appendix IV: Project Schedule and Public and Agency Involvement**
- V Middle Waterway Shore Restoration Project; Technical Appendix V: Shoreline and Coastal Zone Consistency**

Additional background information is contained in the Sources of Information noted in the back of the Project Overview, which are also incorporated by reference into this checklist. Appendix IV describes the permit and public participation process, public meetings and hearings that are scheduled, public comment periods and availability of documents.

- 9. Do you know whether applications are pending for governmental approvals of other proposals directly affecting the property covered by your proposal? If yes, explain.**

No. To our knowledge, no other applications are pending for government approval of other proposals directly affecting the property covered under this approval.

- 10. List any government approvals or permits that will be needed for your proposal, if known.**

City of Tacoma: Shoreline permit, Excavation and Grading permit.

Washington Department of Ecology: Water quality certification, short-term water quality exemption (for excavation to intertidal elevations), and coastal zone management certification.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers: Section X and 404(b) permits.

Washington Department of Fisheries and Wildlife: Hydraulic approval permit.

Commencement Bay Natural Resource Trustees: Restoration project implementation approval.

- 11. Give brief, complete description of your proposal, including the proposed uses and the size of the project and site. There are several questions later in this checklist that ask you to describe certain aspects of you proposal. You do not need to repeat those answers on this page. (Lead agencies may modify this form to include additional specific information on project description.)

The purpose of the project is to improve water quality and habitat in Commencement Bay and to implement an additional restoration project under the St. Paul Waterway Natural Resource Damage settlement agreement entered into by Simpson Tacoma Kraft Company, Champion International Corporation, and the Natural Resource Trustees for Commencement Bay. The project has the twin goals of providing study value as well as long term environmental restoration.

The proposed project is an environmental improvement or "restoration" project; it is not being implemented as part of a development project. The proposed project will construct substantial new riparian and wetland habitat and improve and protect existing intertidal habitat for bird and marine life to enhance Commencement Bay aquatic resources. By its nature, the proposed project is water-dependent. It also is designed to compliment possible new upland stormwater pollution prevention and treatment facilities being considered for adjacent industrial property and water-dependent maritime and harbor uses.

The primary actions at the project site will be to excavate and contour the upland portion of the site to restore a natural shoreline, and to plant appropriate natural vegetation at the new elevations. Approximately 3.3 acres of the approximately 7.9 acre project site will be modified to support, complement, and preserve the integrity of the existing tideflats. Two separate sections of the upland portion of the site will be excavated to intertidal elevations to form tidal channels similar to those existing in a natural estuary. About one-fourth of an acre of the existing mudflat portion of the site will be filled to construct a vegetative bench similar to those commonly occurring in the marsh areas of Puget Sound estuaries. Material removed from the construction of the intertidal area will be used to increase elevation along the developed side of the project site to provide riparian habitat and a vegetative buffer to screen the wetland-estuarine habitat from adjacent human activity. Any excavated material not used on-site will be removed from the site for use for grading and leveling non-wetland areas on adjacent Simpson property.

Other environmental improvements will include the removal of debris from a portion of the existing intertidal area and the removal off-site or containment on-site of brass foundry metal debris found in the east bank of the head of the Waterway.

12. **Location of the proposal. Give sufficient information for a person to understand the precise location of your proposed project, including a street address, if any, and section, township, and range, if known. If a proposal would occur over a range of area, provide the range or boundaries of the site(s). Provide a legal description, site plan, vicinity map, and topographic map, if reasonably available. While you should submit any plans required by the agency, you are not required to duplicate maps or detailed plans submitted with any permit applications related to this checklist.**

The proposed restoration project site is an approximately 7.9 acre property located along the southeastern shore of the Middle Waterway in Commencement Bay. The property lies between the St. Paul Waterway, to the east, and the Thea Foss Waterway, to the west, within the city limits of Tacoma, Washington. The project boundary contains existing tideflats and uplands. See Project Overview and Appendices III and V.

The legal description for the project site is:

A parcel of land situated in the Northeast quarter of Section 4, Township 20 North, Range 3 East and the South half of Section 33, Township 21 North, Range 3 East of the W.M., City of Tacoma, County of Pierce, State of Washington, bounded and described as follows:

Commencing at the intersection of the centerline of East 11th Street (formerly South 11th Street) and St. Paul Avenue; thence North $48^{\circ}14'$ East, along the centerline of said East 11th Street, a distance of 599.09 feet; thence North $28^{\circ}59'$ West, a distance of 51.27 feet, more or less, to the true point of beginning, said point also being on the Northwesterly line of said East 11th Street; thence North $28^{\circ}59'$ West, a distance of 30.76 feet; thence South $48^{\circ}14'$ West, a distance of 215.37 feet, more or less, to a point on the Easterly line of an unnamed street; thence along the Easterly line of said unnamed street North $23^{\circ}52'12''$ West, a distance of 105.09 feet to a point on the Southeasterly line of Middle Waterway; thence along said Southeasterly line North $48^{\circ}14'$ East, a distance of 63.06 feet, more or less, to the most Easterly corner of Middle Waterway; thence along the Northeasterly line of Middle Waterway, North $23^{\circ}52'02''$ West, a distance of 1075.00 feet, thence North $81^{\circ}46'01''$ East, a distance of 264.21 feet, more or less, to the Northwesterly boundary of that certain parcel of land heretofore conveyed from Union Pacific Railroad Company to St. Regis Paper Company by Warranty Deed dated April 10, 1970, U.P.R.R. Co. Deed Audit No. L-712; thence along the Southwesterly line of said deeded parcel, South $23^{\circ}54'00''$ East, 1020.00 feet thence continuing along the Southwesterly boundary of said deeded parcel, South $45^{\circ}18'41''$ East, a distance of 38.35 feet to a point on the Northwesterly line of East 11th Street; thence along said Northwesterly line, South $48^{\circ}14''$ West, a distance of 128.16 feet, more or less, to the true point of beginning.

TO BE COMPLETED BY APPLICANT

B. ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS

1. Earth

- a. General description of the site (circle one): Flat, rolling, hilly, steep slopes, mountainous, other.**

Flat, filled tidelands and adjacent tidelands. Elevations within the project site range from +6 to +20 MLLW.

- b. What is the steepest slope on the site (approximate percent slope)?**

The steepest existing slope on the site is the bank of the Middle Waterway, which has an approximate slope ratio of 1:1. The proposed project will generally reduce this slope to approximately 1:1½.

- c. What general types of soils are found on the site (for example, clay, sand, gravel, peat, muck)? If you know the classification of agricultural soils, specify them and note any prime farmland.**

The soil in the upland portion of the site consists of sand and gravel fill with occasional wood chips, underlain by fluvial marine deposit (silt and sand). The uplands have apparently been constructed with sediments (primarily sand) dredged from the Puyallup River at sometime during the past 30 to 50 years. Soils in the tidal portion of the project consist of sandy silt.

- d. Are there surface indications or history of unstable soils in the immediate vicinity? If so, describe.**

No, there are no surface indications or history of unstable soils in the immediate vicinity.

- e. Describe the purpose, type, and approximate quantities of any filling or grading proposed. Indicate source of fill.**

Two separate sections of the upland portion of the site will be excavated down to about +8 to +9 MLLW in order to form tidal channels similar to those existing in a natural estuary. Material removed from the construction of the intertidal area (approximately 8480 cubic yards) will be used to: (1) fill about .23 acres of existing mudflat to construct a vegetative bench similar to those commonly occurring in the marsh areas of Puget Sound estuaries (approximately 534 cubic yards); and (2) increase elevation along the developed side of the project site to provide riparian habitat and a vegetative buffer to screen the wetland-estuarine habitat from adjacent human activity. Any excavated material not used

on-site will be removed from the site for use for grading and leveling non-wetland areas on adjacent Simpson property (approximately 7950 cubic yards).

- f. **Could erosion occur as a result of clearing, construction, or use? If so, generally describe.**

Minor erosion could occur during construction and before the vegetative plantings are permanently established.

- g. **About what percent of the site will be covered with impervious surfaces after project construction (for example, asphalt or buildings)?**

No percentage of the site will be covered with an impervious surface after project construction.

- h. **Proposed measures to reduce or control erosion, or other impacts to the earth if any:**

A grading and erosion control plan will accompany the application for an excavation and grading permit. Site contours on the restoration site will be constructed to provide stable slopes to prevent erosion. Openings to the two separate marsh areas will be broad to prevent erosion.

During construction, standard erosion control practices, including silt fences and/or hay bales will be used to minimize temporary, construction related erosion. These procedures will be identified on the final grading and erosion control plan for the site that will accompany the application for the excavation and grading permits, and will be subject to hydraulic project approval.

2. **Air**

- a. **What types of emissions to the air would result from the proposal (i.e., dust, automobile, odors, industrial wood smoke) during construction and when the project is completed? If any, generally describe and give approximate quantities if known.**

Emissions to the air during construction would include exhaust from construction machinery and possibly dust from excavating if performed in dry weather. No additional emissions over existing conditions will occur after project is completed.

- b. **Are there any off-site sources of emissions or odor that may affect your proposal? If so, generally describe.**

No.

c. Proposed measure to reduce or control emissions or other impacts to air, if any:

Not applicable.

3. Water

a. Surface

- 1) Is there any surface water body on or in the immediate vicinity of the site (including year-round and seasonal streams, saltwater, lakes, pond, wetlands)? If yes, describe type and provide names. If appropriate, state what stream or river it flows into.**

The project site is on the southeastern shore of the Middle Waterway, which extends south from Commencement Bay.

- 2) Will the project require any work over, in, or adjacent to (within 200 feet) the described waters? If yes, please describe and attach available plans.**

Yes. The primary actions at the project site will be to excavate and contour the upland portion of the site to restore a natural shoreline, and to plant appropriate natural vegetation at the new elevations. Virtually the entire proposal therefore includes work over, in, or adjacent to the described waters. The project is described at greater length in the Project Overview and in Appendix III, and the plans are reproduced in the figures to those sections.

- 3) Estimate the amount of fill and dredge material that would be placed in or removed from surface water or wetlands and indicate the area of the site that would be affected. Indicate the source of fill material.**

Approximately 580 cubic yards of dredged material will be excavated from the project site. Approximately 534 yards of fill material, excavated from the new intertidal areas on the project site, will be placed in about .23 acres of existing mudflat to raise the intertidal elevation one to two feet to the appropriate elevation for sedge or other wetland plants. The objective would be to construct a vegetative bench similar to those commonly occurring in the marsh areas of Puget Sound estuaries.

- 4) Will the proposal require surface water withdrawals or diversions: Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.**

As indicated above, the proposed project will allow surface tidal water to flow into the excavated areas of the project in order to form tidal channels similar to those existing in a natural estuary. Quantities of tidal water that will flow into these areas will depend upon the height of the tide.

- 5) **Does the proposal lie within a 100-year floodplain? If so, note location on the site plan.**

No.

- 6) **Does the proposal involve any discharges of waste materials to surface waters? If so, describe the type of waste and anticipated volume of discharge.**

Minor soil erosion could occur during construction and before the vegetative plantings are permanently established.

b. **Ground:**

- 1) **Will ground water be withdrawn, or will water be discharged to ground water? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.**

No.

- 2) **Describe waste material that will be discharged into the ground from septic tanks or other sources, if any (for example: domestic sewage; industrial, containing the following chemicals; agricultural; etc.). Describe the general size of the system, the number of such systems, the number of houses to be served (if applicable), or the number of animals or humans the systems are expected to serve.**

None. No waste material will be discharged into the ground from septic tanks or other sources.

c. **Water Runoff (including stormwater):**

- 1) **Describe the source of runoff (including storm water) and method of collection and disposal, if any (include quantities, if known). Where will this water flow? Will this water flow into other waters? If so, describe.**

The completed project will have no impervious surfaces, and will create no new runoff. New wetland habitat created by the project will contribute to storm and floodwater storage, groundwater recharge, and water purification.

The wetland habitat will be designed to complement possible new upland stormwater pollution prevention and treatment facilities being considered for Simpson property immediately north of the site. These facilities could include a component that is separate from but related to the proposed restoration project: the use of treated stormwater from adjacent Simpson upland property to support wetland-estuarine habitat on the project site. While the proposed restoration project and the Simpson stormwater pollution prevention and treatment project could be functionally related, neither project depends on the other for its justification. Even if a biological treatment facility for stormwater was not

constructed on adjacent Simpson upland property, and treated stormwater from the facility not used to support wetland-estuarine habitat on the project site, the proposed restoration project would provide important habitat benefits to the Commencement Bay ecosystem.

2) **Could waste materials enter ground or surface waters? If so, generally describe.**

Minor soil erosion could occur during construction and before the vegetative plantings are permanently established.

d. **Proposed measures to reduce or control surface, ground, and runoff water impacts.**

See B.1.h above.

4. **Plants**

a. **Check or circle types of vegetation found on the site:**

- deciduous tree: alder, maple, aspen, other
- evergreen tree: fir, cedar, pine, other
- shrubs
- grass
- pasture
- crop or grain
- wet soil plants: cattail, buttercup, bulrush, skunk, cabbage, other
- water plants: water lily, eelgrass, milfoil, other
- other types of vegetation

Plants found on the site include: pickleweed, saltgrass, Pacific madrona, elm, big-leaf maple, and blackberry.

b. **What kind and amount of vegetation will be removed or altered?**

Some amount of the species of vegetation listed in 4.a. may be altered or removed to allow excavation of upland soils to create tidal channels. However, of the existing species, the project proposes to increase the net coverage of pickleweed and salt grass, and add additional species native to the estuarine environment (see 4.d.).

c. **List threatened or endangered species known to be on or near the site.**

No threatened or endangered plant species are known to be on or near the site.

d. **Proposed landscaping, use of native plants, or other measures to preserve or enhance vegetation on the site, if any:**

The proposed project is an environmental improvement or "restoration" project. To ensure establishment of new intertidal marsh and buffer vegetation on the site, much of the newly graded area will be planted with native saltmarsh and upland vegetation. The following table lists plant species to be retained on site, and species to be added, and species which are expected to rapidly colonize newly disturbed areas. Existing vegetation of habitat value includes pickleweed, saltgrass, Pacific madrona, elm, big leaf maple, and native blackberry. Proposed plant species listed below include native wetland plant species with high wildlife value, as well as upland species. Upland species, such as hemlock, red cedar and red alder, will be planted along the berm hummock and in other buffer areas to provide bird habitat and to screen the wetland area from adjacent human activity.

Existing and proposed plant species, and associated habitat function for the Middle Waterway Restoration Site.

Plant Species	Approximate Elevation	Habitat Function
Existing		
*Quilwort <i>Eleocharis parvula</i>	9.0-10.5	Food for invertebrates and Canada geese
*Pickleweed <i>Salicornia virginica</i>	9.5-12.0	Habitat for invertebrates; detrital production
*Saltgrass <i>Distichlis spicata</i>	11.5-12.0	Habitat for invertebrates; detrital production; seed production for waterbirds
Pacific Madrona <i>Arbutus menziesii</i>	upland	Cover, nesting sites, fruit and insect forage for songbirds
Elm <i>Ulmus, sp.</i>	upland	Cover, nesting sites and insect forage for songbirds
Big-leaf maple <i>Acer macrophyllum</i>	upland	Cover, nesting sites and insect forage for songbirds
Himalayan Blackberry <i>Rubus Discolor</i>	upland	Cover and fruit production for songbirds; screening from human disturbance
Pacific Blackberry <i>Rubus ursinus</i>	upland	Cover and fruit production for songbirds; screening from human disturbance

Proposed

*Quilwort <i>Eleocharis parvula</i>	9.0-10.5	Food for invertebrates and Canada geese
*Pickleweed <i>Salicornia virginica</i>	9.5-12.0	Habitat for invertebrates; detrital production
*Saltgrass <i>Distichlis spicata</i>	11.5-12.0	Habitat for invertebrates; detrital production; seed production for waterbirds
Lyngby's sedge <i>Carex Lyngbyei</i>	10.5-12.0	Habitat for invertebrates; detrital production, seed production for waterbirds
American Threesquare <i>Scirpus americanus</i>	12.0-13.0	Habitat for invertebrates; detrital production, seed production for waterbirds
Tufted hairgrass <i>Deschampsia caespitosa</i>	12.5-13.5	Habitat for invertebrates; detrital production, seed production for waterbirds
Seaside arrowgrass <i>Triglochin maritimum</i>	9.5-11.5	Habitat for invertebrates; detrital production; seed production for waterbirds
Western red cedar <i>Thuja plicata</i>	upland	Screening from human activities; nesting habitat; insect forage for songbirds
Shore Pine <i>Pinus contorta</i>	upland	Screening from human activities; nesting habitat; insect forage for songbirds
Douglas Fir <i>Pseudotsuga menziesii</i>	upland	Screening from human activities; nesting habitat; insect forage for songbirds
Vine maple <i>Acer circinatum</i>	upland	Screening; nesting/perching for song birds
Oregon crabapple <i>Pyrus fusca</i>	upland	Screening; nesting, perching habitat for songbirds; fruit forage
Red elderberry/blue elderberry <i>Sambucus racemosa/Sambucus cerulea</i>	upland	Fruit forage for songbirds
Serviceberry <i>Amalanchier alnifolia</i>	upland	Screening; nesting, perching habitat for songbirds; fruit forage
Nootka Rose <i>Rosa nutkana</i>	upland	Screening; nesting, perching habitat for songbirds; fruit forage
Snowberry <i>Symphoricarpus albus</i>	upland	Screening; nesting, perching habitat for songbirds; fruit forage
Oregon Grape <i>Mahonia nervosa</i>	upland	Screening; nesting, perching habitat for songbirds; fruit forage

*Increased cover by these species is proposed as colonization of newly-created habitat occurs.

The planting plan for the project site is described at greater length in the Project Overview and in Appendix III, and the plans are reproduced in figures to the sections. A final planting plan will be prepared that will specify detailed planting requirements (number of plants, size, spacing, soil amendments, etc.) as well as specific planting locations for each plant species.

5. Animals

a. Circle any birds and animals which have been observed on or near the site or are known to be on or near the site:

birds hawk, heron, eagle, songbirds, other;

mammals: deer, bear, elk, beaver, other;

fish: bass, salmon, trout, herring, shellfish, other

birds: Glacous-winged gull, western grebe, blue heron, double crested cormorant, rock dove, starling, Canada goose, mallard and pintail ducks, widgeon, green-winged teal, greater scaup

mammals: Norway and black rats, harbor seal, otter

fish: salmon, trout, herring, flatfish, pollack, cod, rockfish, pile, striped, and shiner perch

b. List any threatened or endangered species known to be on or near the site.

No threatened or endangered animal species are known to be on or near the site.

c. Is the site part of a migration route? If so, explain.

The nearby Puyallup River is a migratory route for juvenile and adult salmonids. Commencement Bay and the Puyallup River are "usual and accustomed" fishing areas for the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe and the Puyallup Tribe of Indians.

d. Proposed measures to preserve or enhance wildlife, if any:

The entire project is designed to restore and enhance wildlife habitat. New wetland habitat at the site will contribute to food chain production and fish habitat. New riparian habitat will provide nesting, roosting, feeding, and cover for mammals, reptiles, waterfowl and song birds. The tideflat's habitat value will increase because of the food source provided by the newly established riparian vegetation combined with the protection provided by this buffer strip. Thus, the habitat will become more valuable to both aquatic organisms such as young marine fish and salmonids, as well as to shorebirds and other

fauna. Intertidal flats contribute nesting, nursery, and feeding habitat for invertebrates and fish; feeding and resting habitat for birds and mammals; and nutrient cycling.

6. Energy and Natural Resources

- a. What kinds of energy (electric, natural gas, oil, wood stove, solar) will be used to meet the completed project's energy needs? Describe whether it will be used for heating, manufacturing, etc.**

The project would require minor electrical energy after project completion to power monitoring equipment.

- b. Would your project affect the potential use of solar energy by adjacent properties? If so, generally describe.**

No.

- c. What kinds of energy conservation features are included in the plans of this proposal? List other proposed measures to reduce or control energy impacts, if any:**

The proposed project will not materially affect energy use in any manner.

7. Environmental Health

- a. Are there any environmental health hazards, including exposure to toxic chemicals, risk of fire and explosion, spill, or hazardous waste, that could occur as a result of this proposal? If so, describe.**

No environmental health hazards are expected as a result of the proposed project. Soil and sediment quality are described at greater length in the Project Overview and in Appendix I.

- 1) Describe special emergency services that might be required.**

None.

- 2) Proposed measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any:**

The project is designed to reduce environmental hazards. Debris will be removed from a portion of the existing intertidal area and the surface of the tidelflat owned by Simpson Tacoma Kraft Company. Brass foundry metal debris found in the east bank of the head of the Waterway will be removed or contained on-site in a manner that will isolate possible contaminants in the metal debris from the environment. These wastes presently exceed SCOs (sediment cleanup objectives) for arsenic, copper, lead, nickel and zinc, with elevated levels of chromium.

Two upper intertidal sediment sites inside the project site boundaries contain exceedences of sediment quality standards. The tidal flow into the newly constructed habitat will sweep across these locations, thereby raising the possibility of contamination of the new habitat with materials from the adjacent undisturbed, but contaminated, habitat. The project will include monitoring to determine whether the newly constructed intertidal habitat becomes contaminated by materials from contaminated sediments in the vicinity of the site and if any adaptive management measures are warranted.

b. Noise

- 1) **What types of noise exist in the area which may affect your project (for example: traffic equipment, operation, other)?**

None.

- 2) **What types and levels of noise would be created by or associated with the project on a short-term or a long-term basis (for example: traffic, construction, operation, other)? Indicate what hours noise would come from the site.**

Short-term noise will be created during the construction phase of the project. Noise levels will be increased by machinery excavating and contouring the upland portion of the project site. No long-term noise impacts will be created by the project, and noise from adjacent land uses will be somewhat reduced because of the lower elevations and upland vegetated berms.

- 3) **Proposed measures to reduce or control noise impacts, if any:**

None.

8. Land and Shoreline Use

- a. **What is the current use of the site and adjacent properties?**

The project site is currently leased by Paxport Mills for lumber and log storage. Surrounding areas are currently used for wood processing.

- b. **Has the site been used for agriculture? If so, describe.**

No.

- c. **Describe any structures on the site.**

No structures exist on the site.

d. **Will any existing structures be demolished?**

Not applicable.

e. **What is the current zoning classification of the site?**

M-3, Heavy industrial district
S-10, Port industrial shoreline district

f. **What is the current comprehensive plan designation of the site?**

High intensity; Port industrial area.

g. **If applicable, what is the current shoreline master program designation of the site?**

Urban environment
M-3, Heavy industrial district
S-10, Port industrial shoreline district

h. **Has any part of the site been classified as an "environmentally sensitive" area? If so, specify.**

No. The project does not include impacts to, or creation of, wetlands regulated under the City of Tacoma Critical Areas Preservation Ordinance, TMC ch. 13.11. The project site only contains existing wetlands waterward of the ordinary high water mark. See TMC § 13.11.130. The wetlands being created by the project do not include those artificial wetlands intentionally created to mitigate conversion of wetlands. See TMC § 13.11.050(52). At the same time, the project is designed to comply with the spirit of this ordinance, and will include a vegetative buffer to screen the wetland-estuarine habitat on-site from adjacent human activity. This buffer zone will extend to the boundary of the project site and the existing Union Pacific Railroad and 11th Avenue right-of-ways.

i. **Approximately how many people would reside or work in the completed project?**

None.

j. **Approximately how many people would the completed project displace?**

None.

k. **Proposed measures to avoid or reduce displacement impacts, if any:**

Not applicable.

1. Proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with existing and projected land uses and plans, if any:

The proposal is compatible with surrounding uses and is consistent with existing zoning and shoreline and land use plans and policies. By removing or containing on-site sources of pollution and restoring habitat and natural areas, the proposal would actively further the goals and policies of the Shoreline Management Act, the Tacoma shoreline master program and State of Washington Coastal Zone Management Program, which are also the applicable land use policies for the site (see Appendix V).

9. Housing

a. Approximately how many units would be provided, if any? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.

Not applicable.

b. Approximately how many units, if any, would be eliminated? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.

None.

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control housing impacts, if any:

Not applicable.

10. Aesthetics

a. What is the tallest height of any proposed structure(s), not including antennas; what is the principal exterior building material(s) proposed?

No structure will extend more than six feet from existing ground level.

b. What views in the immediate vicinity would be altered or obstructed?

Views in the immediate vicinity will be improved by the proposal. The project will restore the natural shoreline and create a natural transition from the original mudflat to upland industrial uses. The project will also remove debris from the surface of the site, restore riparian and wetland habitat on-site, and establish a vegetative buffer to screen the wetland-estuarine habitat from adjacent human activity.

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control aesthetic impacts, if any:

None.

11. Light and Glare

- a. **What type of light or glare will the proposal produce? What time of day would it mainly occur?**

The project will produce no light or glare.

- b. **Could light or glare from the finished project be a safety hazard or interfere with views?**

No.

- c. **What existing off-site sources of light or glare may affect your proposal?**

None.

- d. **Proposed measures to reduce or control light and glare impacts, if any:**

Not applicable.

12. Recreation

- a. **What designated and informal recreational opportunities are in the immediate vicinity?**

Sport fishing for Chinook salmon and steelhead occurs in Commencement Bay.

- b. **Would the proposed project displace any existing recreational uses? If so, describe.**

No.

- c. **Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts, if any:**

None. The proposal will enhance the Commencement Bay fishery resource by restoring intertidal habitat, which provides valuable rearing habitat for juvenile salmon and other fish.

13. Historic and Cultural Preservation

- a. **Are there any places or objects listed on, or proposed for, national, state, or local preservation registers known to be on or next to the site? If so, describe.**

No.

- b. **Generally describe any landmarks or evidence of historic, archaeological, scientific, or cultural importance known to be on or next to the site.**

There are no known landmarks or evidence of historic, archaeological, scientific, or cultural importance on or next to the site.

- c. **Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts, if any:**

Not applicable.

14. Transportation

- a. **Identify public streets and highways serving the site, and describe proposed access to the existing street system. Show on site plans, if any.**

Access to the site is provided by Middle Waterway Avenue which runs parallel to the site and meets East 11th Street at the south end of the site. Access to Interstate-5, which runs to the east of the site, is available within 10 blocks of the site.

- b. **Is site currently served by public transit? If not, what is the approximate distance to the nearest transit stop?**

The site is not currently served by public transit.

- c. **How many parking spaces would the completed project have? How many would the project eliminate?**

None. The proposal will not create a need for additional parking spaces.

- d. **Will the proposal require any new roads or streets, or improvements to existing roads or streets, not including driveways? If so, generally describe (indicate whether public or private).**

No. The proposal will not require any new roads or streets, or improvements to existing roads or streets.

- e. **Will the project use (or occur in immediate vicinity of) water, rail, or air transportation? If so, generally describe.**

The project will not use water, rail, or air transportation. A rail spur to the Paxport Mills property runs parallel to the site and will continue to be used for industrial purposes.

f. **How many vehicular trips per day would be generated by the completed project? If known, indicate when peak volumes would occur.**

None.

g. **Proposed measures to reduce or control transportation impacts, if any:**

Not applicable.

15. Public Services

a. **Would the project result in an increased need for public services (for example; fire protection, police protection, health care, schools, other)? If so, generally describe.**

No.

b. **Proposed measures to reduce or control direct impacts on public services, if any.**

Not applicable.

16. Utilities

a. **Circle utilities currently available at the site; electricity, natural gas, water, refuse service, telephone, sanitary sewer, septic system, other.**

None.

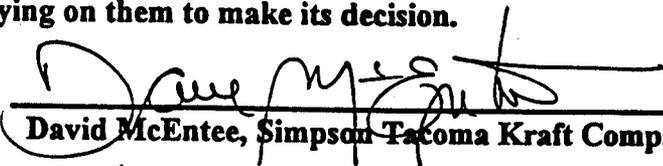
b. **Describe the utilities that are proposed for the project, the utility providing the service, and the general construction activities on the site or in the immediate vicinity which might be needed.**

The completed project will not require any utility use.

C. Signature

The above answers are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that the lead agency is relying on them to make its decision.

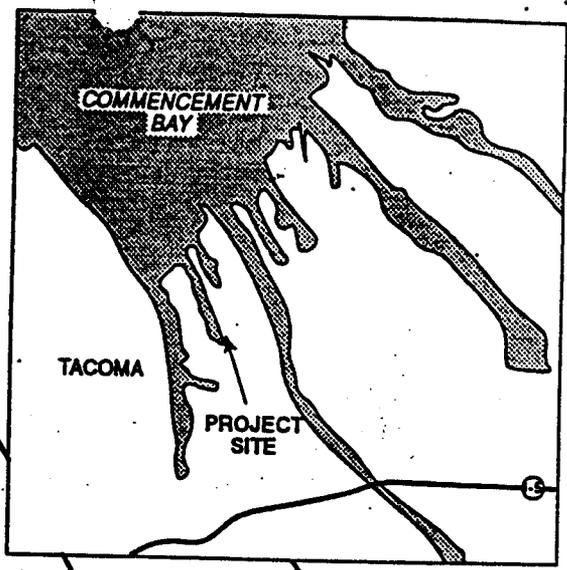
Signature:



David McEntee, Simpson Tacoma Kraft Company

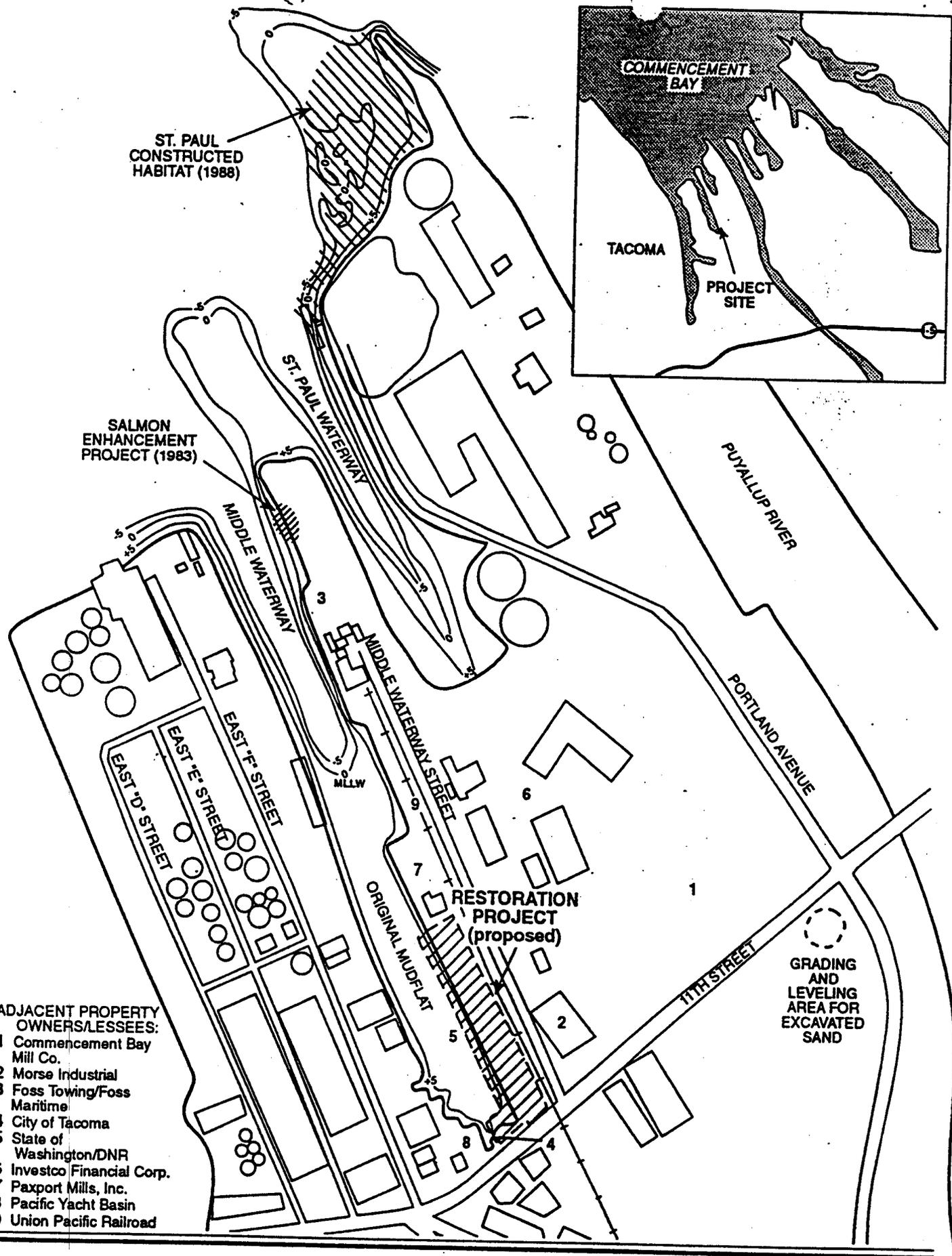
Date Submitted:

9/21/93



ST. PAUL
CONSTRUCTED
HABITAT (1988)

SALMON
ENHANCEMENT
PROJECT (1983)



- ADJACENT PROPERTY OWNERS/LESSEES:
- 1 Commencement Bay Mill Co.
 - 2 Morse Industrial
 - 3 Foss Towing/Foss Maritime
 - 4 City of Tacoma
 - 5 State of Washington/DNR
 - 6 Investco Financial Corp.
 - 7 Paxport Mills, Inc.
 - 8 Pacific Yacht Basin
 - 9 Union Pacific Railroad

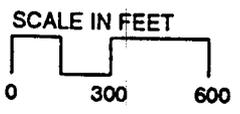
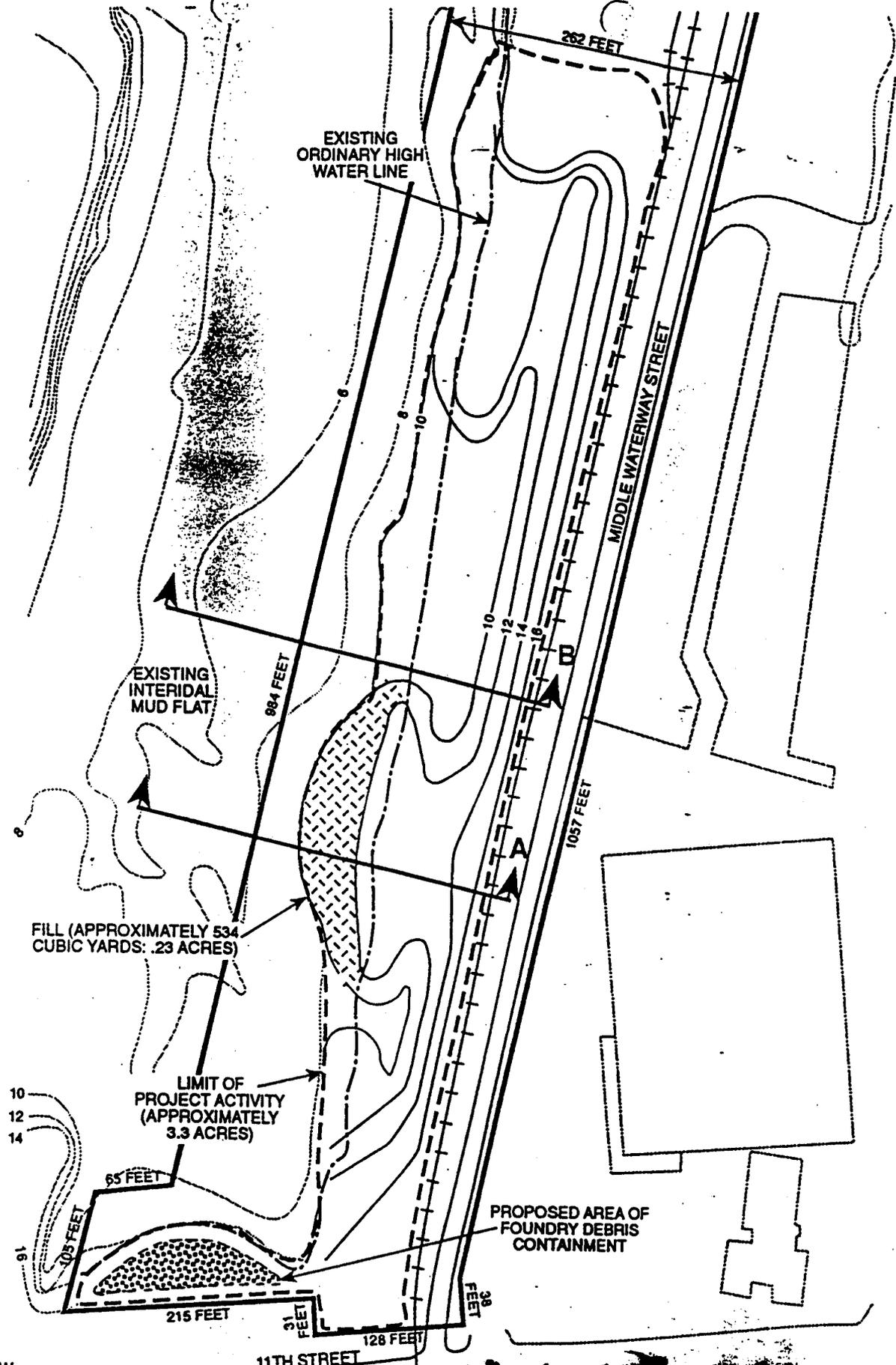
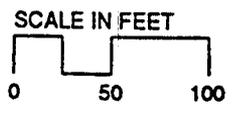


Figure 1.
Vicinity Map,
Middle Waterway Shore Restoration,
Commencement Bay



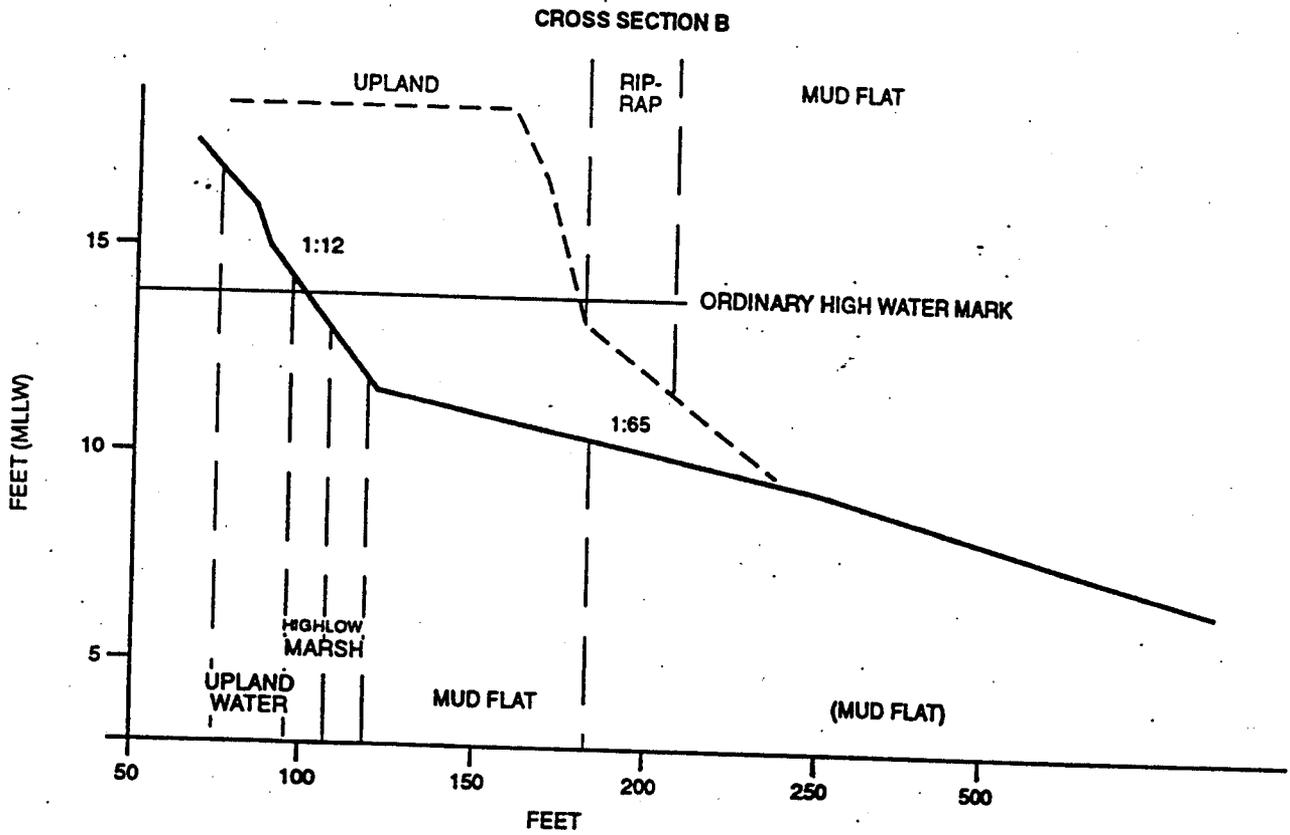
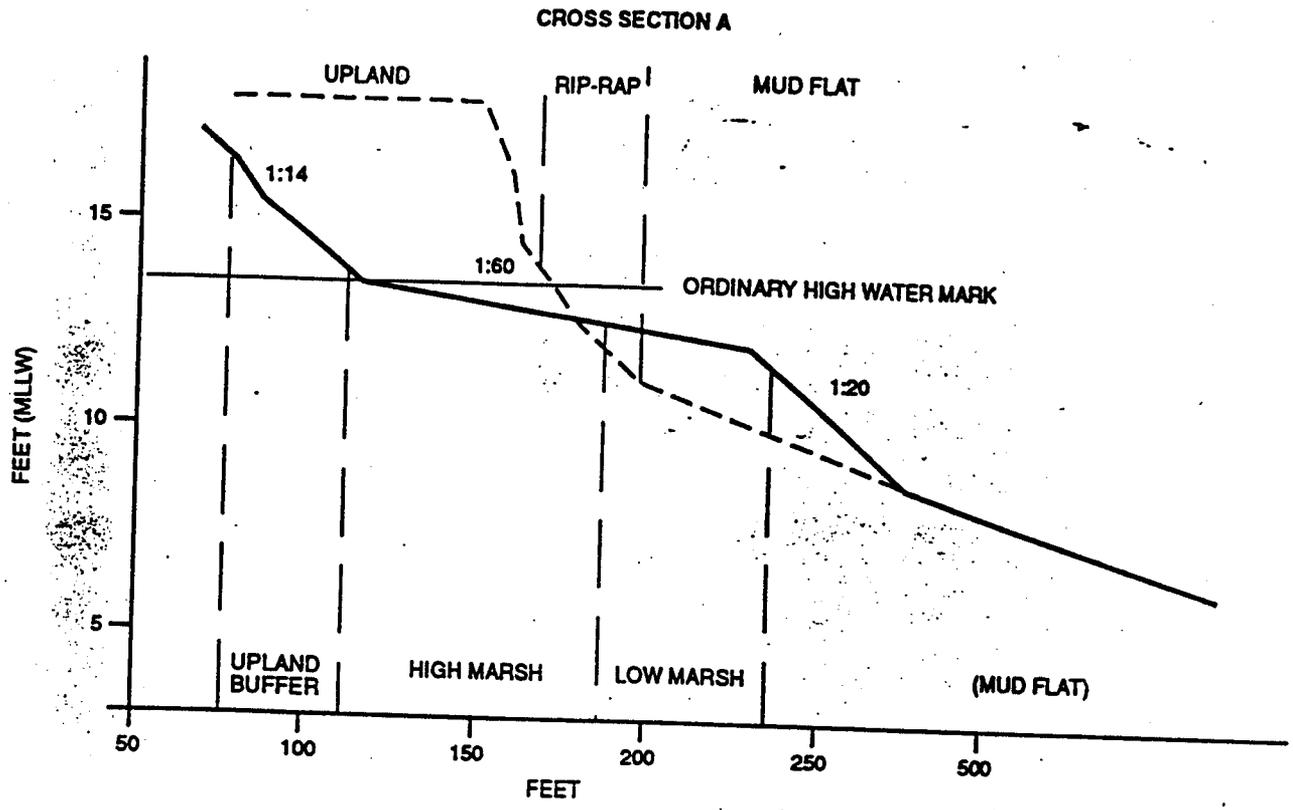
Datum: MLLW

Shoreline Designations: S-10 Shoreline District: Port Industrial - Industrial and Terminal



- Proposed Contours
- Existing Contours
- Property Lines
- - - Project Boundary
- [Hatched Box] Fill
- [Stippled Box] Brass Foundry Metal Debris Disposal

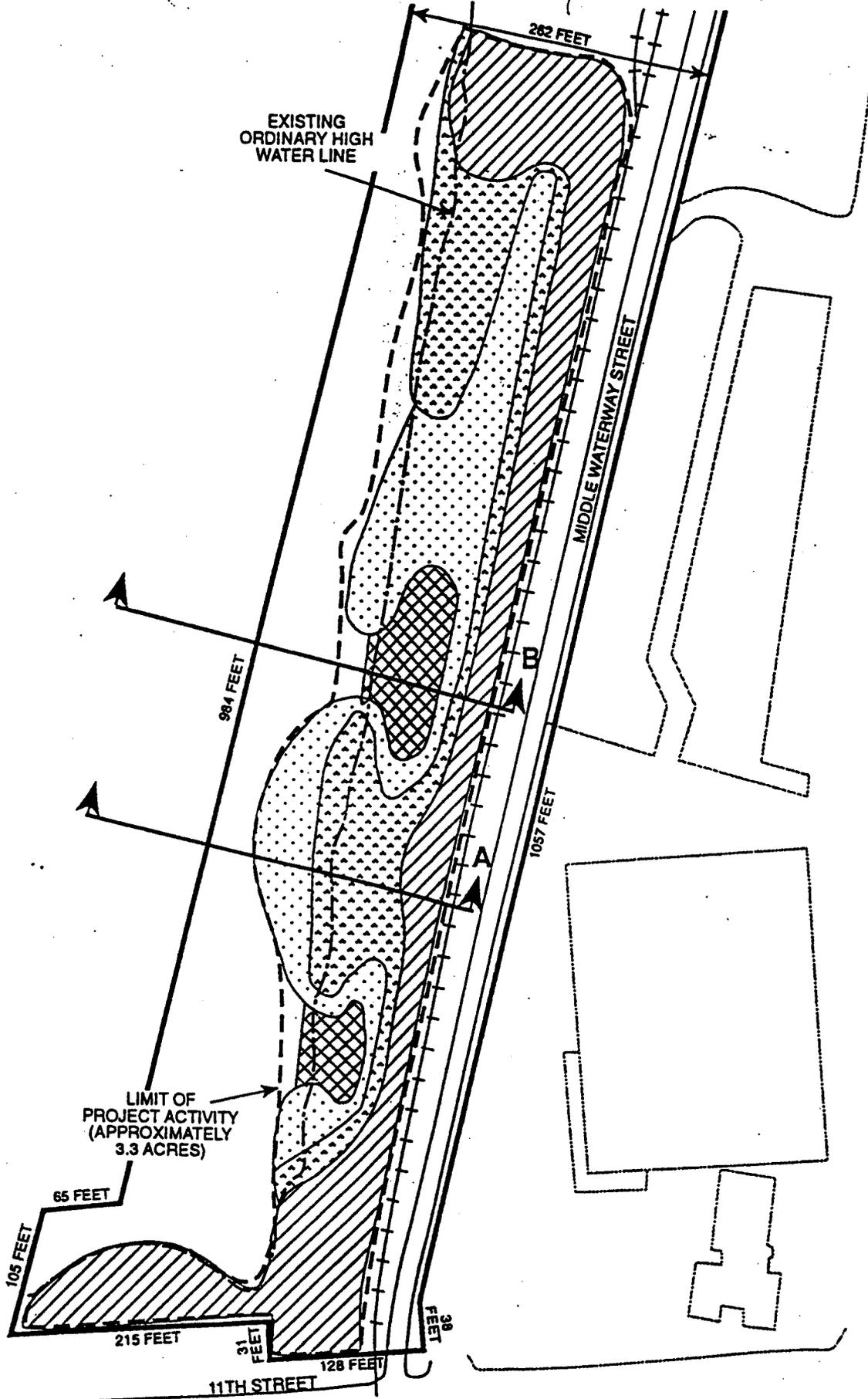
Figure 4.
Plan View
Proposed Final Grade
for the Middle Waterway
Restoration Project



VERTICAL:HORIZONTAL
1:10

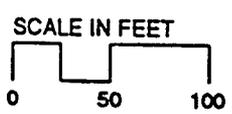
--- Existing Surface
— Proposed Surface

Figure 5.
Cross Sections of Proposed
Habitat Restoration



Datum: MLLW

Shoreline Designations: S-10 Shoreline District: Port Industrial - Industrial and Terminal



- Upland Buffer
- Low Marsh
- Mud Flat
- High Marsh
- Property Lines

Figure 6.
Plan View
Middle Waterway
Shoreline Restoration
Vegetation Planting Plan



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Office of the Under Secretary for
Oceans and Atmosphere
Washington, D.C. 20230

MAR 21 1995

To All Interested Government Agencies and Public Groups:

Under the National Environmental Policy Act, an Environmental Assessment (EA) has been performed on the following action:

TITLE: The Middle Waterway Restoration Project

LOCATION: Middle Waterway, Commencement Bay, Tacoma, Washington

SUMMARY: The Commencement Bay Natural Resource Trustees [the Puyallup Tribe of Indians; the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe; the Washington Department of Ecology (as lead state Trustee); the Washington Department of Fisheries and Wildlife; the Washington Department of Natural Resources; the U.S. Department of the Interior, including the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Bureau of Indian Affairs; and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) of the U.S. Department of Commerce] are currently engaged in conducting a natural resource damage assessment and restoration planning for Commencement Bay (the Bay-wide NRDA).

In December 1991, Simpson Tacoma Kraft Co. (Simpson), Champion International Corp. (Champion) and the Washington Department of Natural Resources entered into a natural resource damages settlement with the Trustees regarding the St. Paul Waterway Problem Area. Under the agreement, Simpson and Champion (the companies) paid \$500,000 in damages and agreed to work with the Trustees in planning a restoration project to be constructed using the damages. After a site evaluation process, the Trustees and the companies selected a parcel on the Middle Waterway owned by Simpson as the restoration project site (the Middle Waterway Habitat Restoration Project). Simpson has agreed that the property will be permanently committed to use for habitat restoration.

The Middle Waterway Habitat Restoration Project is designed to serve as a pilot project to develop information needed to plan and implement further



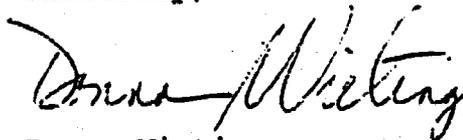
restoration in the Commencement Bay environment. In particular, the project will illuminate the procedures and time requirements needed to plan and obtain permits for such a project. In addition, the performance of the project will provide important insight into the viability of siting habitat restoration projects in close proximity to industrial activities on the Tacoma tideflats. The success of further Commencement Bay restoration planning depends to a considerable degree upon information to be gained from the Middle Waterway Restoration Project.

RESPONSIBLE
OFFICIALS:

Rolland A. Schmitten
Assistant Administrator for Fisheries
National Marine Fisheries Service
1315 East-West Highway
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910

The environmental review process led us to conclude that this action will not have a significant effect on the human environment. Therefore, an environmental impact statement will not be prepared. A copy of the finding of no significant impact including the supporting EA is enclosed for your information. Please submit any written comments to the responsible official named above and to Bill Archambault; Office of Policy and Strategic Planning, Room 6117; U.S. Department of Commerce; Herbert Hoover Building; 14th and Constitution Avenue, N.W.; Washington D.C. 20230, at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,



Donna Wieting
Acting Director
Ecology and Conservation Office

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

Based on a review of this environmental permit and the available information relative to the proposed action, I concur with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Seattle District that there will be no significant environmental impacts from this action. Furthermore, I agree that preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement on this action is not required by the National Environmental Policy Act or its implementing regulations.

MAR 16 1995

Gary Matlock

for Rolland A. Schmitten
Assistant Administrator for Fisheries
National Marine Fisheries Service
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

Date

**MIDDLE WATERWAY RESTORATION PROJECT
COMMENCEMENT BAY
TACOMA, WASHINGTON**

MIDDLE WATERWAY RESTORATION PROJECT PERMITS:

- 1) **City of Tacoma Determination of Non-Significance (DNS)**
 - Washington State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) Project Identification Code (PIC) File # D3322-93. Department File # 141.559.
 - Issued on October 22, 1993.
 - Issued pursuant to Washington Administrative Code (WAC) 197-11-340

- 2) **Shoreline Substantial Development Permit**
 - Number 141.559
 - Issued by the City of Tacoma on January 4, 1994.
 - Issued pursuant to The Shorelines Management Act [Chapter 90.58, Revised Code of Washington (RCW)]
 - September 21, 1993 the application received by the City of Tacoma.
 - November 23, 1993 a public hearing held.
 - December 20, 1993 - City of Tacoma Hearing Examiner recommended approval of the application submitted by the Simpson Tacoma Kraft Company pursuant to Tacoma Municipal Code Section 1.23.070.1 and Chapter 13.10 of the Official Code of the City of Tacoma.
 - January 4, 1994 Permit granted by unanimous vote of the City Council.

Permit Conditions

- Prior to excavation, the applicant shall contact and coordinate any excavation and on-site containment or off-site removal and disposal of brass foundry debris found on the project site with the Ecology Commencement Bay Nearshore Tidelands Urban Bay Action Team to ensure consistency with Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Ecology Source Control Activities.
 - The applicant shall record a deed restriction to ensure that the project provides habitat in perpetuity.
 - The applicant shall secure an agreement with the Union Pacific Railroad to protect plantings during routine maintenance of the adjacent rail property.
 - Construction shall conform to the proposal as described in the applicant's permit applications. As-constructed drawings shall be filed with the City upon completion.
- 3) **Shoreline Substantial Development Permit**
 - Filed with the Washington Department of Ecology Shorelands and Coastal Zone Management Program as Permit Number 1994-15295
 - Filed on January 6, 1994.
 - The restoration project is located within the S-10 Port Industrial Shoreline District, and is designated as Urban in the Tacoma Shoreline Master Program (TSMP). The area upland of the shoreline district is zoned M-3 Heavy Industrial Zoning District.

 - 4) **Hydraulic Project Approval**
 - Issued by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) as Control No. 93-S1466-02.
 - Issued on June 10, 1994.
 - Issued pursuant to RCW 75.20.100 and 75.20.103

Permit Conditions

- Permit is valid beginning June 15, 1994. Work must be completed by March 15, 1996.
- Work below the ordinary high waterline shall not occur from March 15 through June 14 of any year for the protection of migrating juvenile salmonids.
- The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) Region Habitat Manager must be notified at least seven working days prior to the start of construction.
- Project activities shall not occur when the project area is inundated by tidal waters.
- Trenches, depressions, or holes created in the intertidal area that could potentially entrap fish during high tides shall be connected to lower tidal areas by channels (to create escape routes) or backfilled prior to inundation by tidal waters.

5) Water Quality Certification.

- Issued by the Washington Department of Ecology as Public Notice No. 93-2-01466
- Issued on June 21, 1994.
- Issued pursuant to applicable provisions of sections 301, 302, 303, 306, and 307 of the Federal Clean Water Act as amended, and other appropriate requirements of State Law.

Permit Conditions

- Certification is subject to compliance with the provisions of the enclosed Hydraulic Project Approval from the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW).
- If an oil sheen or distressed or dying fish are observed in the project vicinity, the operator shall cease immediately and notify the Department of Ecology of such conditions.
- Work in or the waterway shall be done during low tides in order to minimize turbidity, erosion and other water quality impacts.

6) Department of Defense, Army Corps of Engineers, Seattle District.

- Issued as File: 93-2-01466.
- Issued on September 19, 1994.
- Authorized pursuant to: Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbor Act of 1899 (33 U.S. C. 403) and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344).

The Department of the Army Permit Evaluation and Decision Document constituting the Finding of No Significant Impact, the Environmental Assessment, and the Section 404 (b) (1) Evaluation is included in the permit issuance.

Permit Conditions

- Valid until September 19, 1997 unless an extension is received.
- Monitor the project as specified in the Middle Waterway Shore Restoration Project Monitoring and Adaptive Management Plan, dated April 1994.
- Comply with the Water Quality Certification and Hydraulic Project Approval.
- Immediately notify the Army Corps of Engineers if previously unknown historical or archeological resources are discovered during construction.
- Notify the Army Corps of Engineers if the property and permit are transferred to a new party.
- Allow representatives from the Corps of Engineers to inspect the site to ensure compliance with the terms and conditions of the permit.
- Provide a copy of the permit to all contractors performing the authorized work.
- Record permit with the Registrar of Deeds or other appropriate official charged with the responsibility for maintaining records of title to or interest in real property.

MIDDLE WATERWAY RESTORATION PROJECT PERMITS:

<u>Reference Number</u>	<u>Permit Agency</u>	<u>Date Issued</u>	<u>Name of Permit</u>	<u>Permit Number</u>
1	City of Tacoma	10/22/93	Determination of Nonsignificance	141.559 SEPA-D3322-93
2	City of Tacoma	1/4/94	Shoreline Substantial Development Permit	141.559
3	Ecology	1/6/94	Shoreline Substantial Development Permit-FILED	1994-15295
4	Department of Fish and Wildlife	6/10/94	Hydraulic Project Approval	93-S1466-02
5	Ecology	6/21/94	Water Quality Certification	93-2-01466
6	Army Corps of Engineers	9/19/94	Section 404 of Clean Water Act and Section 10 Rivers and Harbor Act	93-2-01466

Reference Number Permit Conditions

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 | NA |
| 2 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prior to excavation, the applicant shall contact and coordinate any excavation and on-site containment or off-site removal and disposal of brass foundry debris found on the project site with the Ecology Commencement Bay Nearshore Tidelands Urban Bay Action Team to ensure consistency with Environmental Protection Agency and Ecology Source Control Activities. • The applicant shall record a deed restriction to ensure that the project provides habitat in perpetuity. • The applicant shall secure an agreement with the Union Pacific Railroad to protect plantings during routine maintenance of the adjacent rail property. • Construction shall conform to the proposal as described in the applicant's permit applications. As-constructed drawings shall be filed with the City upon completion. |
| 3 | See above. |
| 4 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permit is valid beginning June 15, 1994. Work must be completed by March 15, 1996. • Work below the ordinary high waterline shall not occur from March 15 through June 14 of any year for the protection of migrating juvenile salmonids. • The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Region Habitat Manager must be notified at least seven working days prior to the start of construction. • Project activities shall not occur when the project area is inundated by tidal waters. • Trenches, depressions, or holes created in the intertidal area that could potentially entrap fish during high tides shall be connected to lower tidal areas by channels (to create escape routes) or backfilled prior to inundation by tidal waters. |

5

- Certification is subject to compliance with the provisions of the Hydraulic Project Approval issued by the Department of Fish and Wildlife.
- If an oil sheen or distressed or dying fish are observed in the project vicinity, the operator shall cease immediately and notify the Department of Ecology of such conditions.
- Work in or the waterway shall be done during low tides in order to minimize turbidity, erosion and other water quality impacts.

6

- Valid until September 19, 1997 unless an extension is received.
- Monitor the project as specified in the Middle Waterway Shore Restoration Project Monitoring and Adaptive Management Plan, dated April 1994.
- Comply with the Water Quality Certification and Hydraulic Project Approval.
- Immediately notify the Army Corps of Engineers if previously unknown historical or archeological resources are discovered during construction.
- Notify the Army Corps of Engineers if the property and permit are transferred to a new party.
- Allow representatives from the Corps of Engineers to inspect the site to ensure compliance with the terms and conditions of the permit.
- Provide a copy of the permit to all contractors performing the authorized work.
- Record permit with the Registrar of Deeds or other appropriate official charged with the responsibility for maintaining records of title to or interest in real property.

EXHIBIT D

RESTORATION PROJECT SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION SUMMARY -

MIDDLE WATERWAY SHORE RESTORATION PROJECT

(Parametrix, April 1994)



Project Analysis
Middle Waterway Shore Restoration Project
Project Supplemental Information Summary

Project Proposed by
Simpson Tacoma Kraft Company
Champion International Corporation
Natural Resource Trustees for Commencement Bay

Project Supplemental Information Summary prepared by Parametrix, Inc.