J. S. Jones and Associates, Inc.

# -Addendum-To Critical Area Study and

#### Watercourse and Wetland Buffer Reduction

of the

Valentin Property 4350 E. Mercer Way Mercer Island, WA 98040

Tax Parcel Numbers: 004610-0150 and 004610-0151 Southeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter of Section 18, Township 24N, Range 5E

Prepared for: Johan Valentin & Helena Kjellander Valentin 4346 E. Mercer Way, Mercer Island, WA 98040 <u>Johan.valentin@gmail.com</u> (214) 228-0536

Dated: October 1, 2021

Prepared by: Jeffery S. Jones, Professional Wetland Scientist

# 1 Table of Contents

2	Ρ	ROJECT DESCRIPTION	1
3	N	/IETHODOLOGY	1
4	S	TREAM DETERMINATION, RATING, AND BUFFER	1
5	С	RITICAL AREA BUFFERS	1
6	A	NALYSIS OF IMPACT TO THE CRITICAL AREA.	4
	6.1	PERMANENT IMPACT	
	6.2	TEMPORARY IMPACT	4
	6.3	PROPOSED TEMPORARY MITIGATION MEASURES	5
	6.4	MITIGATION SEQUENCING	5
	6.5	PROJECT LOCATION	5
	6.6	Responsible Parties	5
	6.7	Standards	
	6.8	City of Mercer Island Contact	6
	6.9	CONTRACTOR INFORMATION	6
	6.10		
	6.11	SITE CONDITIONS	6
7	Р	ROXIMITY TO WILDLIFE HABITAT CONSERVATION AREAS AND PRIORITY SPECIES	6
8	С	ONCLUSION	6
9	L	IMITATIONS	6
10	) R	EFERENCES	8

# List of Tables and Figures

# List of Attachments

1. Site Survey Map prepared by WA State Licensed Land Surveyor

# 2 Project Description

The applicant proposes to amend the Critical Area Study dated September 26, 2018 with this Addendum. The purpose is to add a 6" storm drain to serve the existing residence. The storm drain will run within a Critical Area as identified within 25' of a piped watercourse. This study analyzes any permanent and temporary impacts to the Critical Area and proposes supplemental mitigation actions to minimize the impact and discusses sequencing, including avoidance.

The Addendum to the Critical Area Study has been prepared in accordance with 19.07.050 of the Mercer Island City Code (MICC) for wetlands and watercourses as in effect at the completion of the Critical Area Study on September 26, 2018.

# 3 Methodology

The site is well known by the biologist from the Critical Area Study completed in 2018. The site and the Critical Areas including the piped watercourse have been surveyed and are confirmed to be in accordance with the plans as submitted.

## 4 Stream Determination, Rating, and Buffer

The survey identifies the presence of a stream on the subject parcel. The stream consists of an underground 12" pipe in the subject area. The 12" pipeline constitutes a piped watercourse.

A piped watercourse requires a 25-foot standard buffer width according to Section 19.07.070.B.1.b of the MICC. A buffer for a restored or piped watercourse can be reduced from the standard 25 feet to an amount determined by the code official. The applicant is not requesting a buffer reduction.

The new storm drain will run within the 25' buffer during approximately 30 lineal feet. The remainder of this report analyzes the impact of the storm pipe on the 25' buffer and critical area.

# 5 Critical Area Buffers

The critical areas serving the watercourse are surrounded by lawn. There are no trees in the subject area (see photos below). The pipe is protected by being entirely below ground in the subject area.



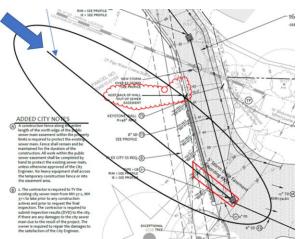


Figure 1: View from North-West to South-East



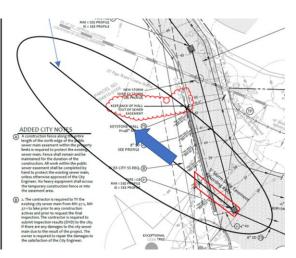


Figure 2: View from South-East to North-West



Figure 3: Close-up view of the grass

### 6 Analysis of impact to the Critical Area.

#### 6.1 Permanent Impact

The 6" pipe will be installed underground approximately at 12 feet depth in the subject area. The subject area is virtually flat at 0 percent. There is no steep slopes present in subject area. Erosion is not a factor. It is my conclusion that there will be no permanent impact on the Critical Area. It is assumed that the area impacted by installing the 6" storm drain be restored to the same condition or better (see further temporary impact and mitigation measures below).

#### 6.2 Temporary Impact

The work is anticipated to take 1-2 days. During this time the earth within the Critical Area adjacent to the watercourse will be disturbed. The impacted area consists entirely of lawn which will be removed in a 3' wide section. It is determined that since the area impacted consists entirely of lawn, there is very little to no riparian or vegetative impact. Provided that the mitigation measures in the following section are followed, the impact to the piped watercourse will be very limited, especially considering the minimal area impacted and the limited time of the proposed work.

#### 6.3 Proposed Temporary Mitigation Measures

In order to minimize the temporary impact to the Critical Area it is important to adhere to the following mitigation measures;

- Protect the piped watercourse
- Place steel plates on the grass to support the soil adjacent to the area with the piped watercourse
- Cover any open soil with minimum 6 mil plastic sheeting
- Backfill according to pipe manufacturer installation guidelines.
- o Establish minimum 8" of top-soil over the disturbed area
- Re-plant the area with the same species grass to restore the area to the same condition or better.

#### 6.4 Mitigation Sequencing

The following sequential measures have been considered:

A. Avoidance

The 6" storm will serve an existing residence in replacement of an approximately 100 year old storm drain consisting partially of clay pipe. The subject storm drain has documented history of root intrusion and blockage. It has been repaired at least twice in the past. As such, it is determined that the installation of a new storm drain is the best available option to limit future repairs and additional disturbance of the Critical Area. In addition, the measure is necessary to protect the existing 100 year old residence from potential flooding due to deficiency of existing storm drain. B. Minimizing

The applicant will minimize the impact by utilizing modern technology such as a 12" wide bucket excavator and 36" trench box to limit the amount of earth being disturbed

C. The applicant will rectify the impact, by repairing and restoring the adjacent grassy area to the same or better condition.

D. The installation of the 6" storm pipe is in itself a maintenance activity that will reduce the impact to the Critical Area in the future by limiting the need for repairs.

E. No compensating actions are being proposed as the Critical Area will not be altered.

F. A clean-out will be replaced/installed to allow for inspection of the storm pipe on an annual basis.

#### 6.5 Project Location

4346 East Mercer Way, Mercer Island, WA.

#### 6.6 Responsible Parties

#### Applicant

Johan Valentin and Helena Kjellander Valentin 4346 East Mercer Way, Mercer Island, WA 98040 (214) 228-0536

#### **Environmental Consultant**

J. S. Jones and Associates, Inc. Attn: Jeffery S. Jones, PWS P.O. Box 1908, Issaquah WA 98027 (253) 905-5736

#### 6.7 Standards

All work and materials shall conform to City of Mercer Island standards and specifications, and to the specifications and details shown on these plans.

#### 6.8 City of Mercer Island Contact

Certain actions within this proposal require inspection or approval by City of Mercer Island staff. Requests for inspection/approval shall be coordinated through City of Mercer Island Community Development, (206) 275-7605

#### 6.9 Contractor Information

When it is available, contact information shall be provided to the City of Mercer Island that includes names, addresses and phone numbers of persons/firms that will be responsible for the installation.

#### 6.10 Contractor's Qualifications

The Permittee shall provide that there is one person on the site at all times during work and installation who is thoroughly familiar with the type of materials being installed and the best methods for their installation, and who shall direct all work being performed under these specifications.

#### 6.11 Site Conditions

Changes should be documented and as-built drawings submitted to the City of Mercer Island upon request for formal construction approval.

# 7 Proximity to Wildlife Habitat Conservation Areas and Priority Species

According to MICC, Section 19.07.090, bald eagles are the only protected non-aquatic wildlife species to inhabit Mercer Island. The city defines "wildlife habitat conservation areas" as "those areas used by these species for nesting, breeding, feeding, and survival". "The provisions of this section do not apply to any habitat areas which come under the jurisdiction of the city's shoreline master program." The city's wetlands, watercourses and shorelines are protected under other sections of the code.

Bald eagles have been delisted federally, but their nests are still provided protection by the state. No bald eagle stick nests were observed within 660 feet of the site, per the city's on-line Eagle nest buffers. Therefore, state requirements for nest buffers and seasonal construction restrictions do not apply.

# 8 Conclusion

The proposed work and temporary mitigation measures will have a net-zero impact on the functions of the watercourse and associated buffers.

# 9 Limitations

Stream determinations and delineations are not final until approved by regulatory agencies and/or local jurisdictions. J. S. Jones and Associates, Inc. does not guarantee acceptance or approval by

regulatory agencies, or that any intended use will be achieved.

## **10 References**

City of Mercer Island, Mercer Island City Code. http://www.codepublishing.com/wa/mercerisland/

Federal Register. 1980. 40 CFR Part 230: Section 404(b)(1) Guidelines for Specification of Disposal Sites for Dredged or Fill Material. Vol. 45, No. 249, 85352-85353. U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington D.C.

Federal Register. 1982. Title 33: Navigation and Navigable Waters; Chapter II, Regulatory Programs of the Corps of Engineers. Vol. 47, No. 138, p 31810. U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington D.C.

Attachments

