

Defending Water

In the Skagit River Basin

Skagit County Public Hearing **Wear Blue to Express Concern**

Tues., April 9, 6 p.m., Skagit County Offices, 1800 Continental Place, Mount Vernon

The Skagit Board of County Commissioners (BCC) will hold a public hearing to take testimony on whether to docket Anacortes' petition of annexing 11.15 acres of County land to Anacortes' urban growth area (UGA). The acreage is needed for Tethys' proposed bottling plant operation. Each person will be allowed three minutes to testify. The BCC is treating the petition as non-project; thus your testimony should be generic when addressing if light manufacturing or what size of such should be located on this acreage. The BCC has chosen not to address Tethys' bottling plant impacts on the environment nor the community.

Please submit written testimony at the public hearing or until 4:30 p.m., Monday, April 15, 2013. Mail hard copies to Skagit County Board of Commissioners, 1800 Continental Place, No. 100, Mount Vernon, WA 98273. *Submitting correspondence before April 9, 6 p.m., or after April 15, 4:30 p.m., may prevent your correspondence from becoming part of the public record.* Please send emails as follows:

Commissioner Ken Dahlstedt <mailto:kend@co.skagit.wa.us>

Commissioner Sharon Dillon <mailto:sdillon@co.skagit.wa.us>

Commissioner Ron Wesen ronw@co.skagit.wa.us

Please send a copy to Linda Hammon <mailto:lindah@co.skagit.wa.us>



TURNER BAY POCKET SALMON ESTUARY WETLAND AND STREAM BUFFERS

According to Betsy D. Stevenson, Skagit County Planning & Development Services,

A map review indicates that a majority of the site [estuary] is either wetland or hydric soils. A wetland delineation and assessment would need to be completed in order to determine wetland buffers. The buffers would be based on the category of the wetland and the intensity of the proposed use.






In addition, there is a fish stream that runs through the site. The stream buffer would be 100 feet if the stream were less than 5 feet wide or 150 feet if the stream were greater than 5 feet wide.

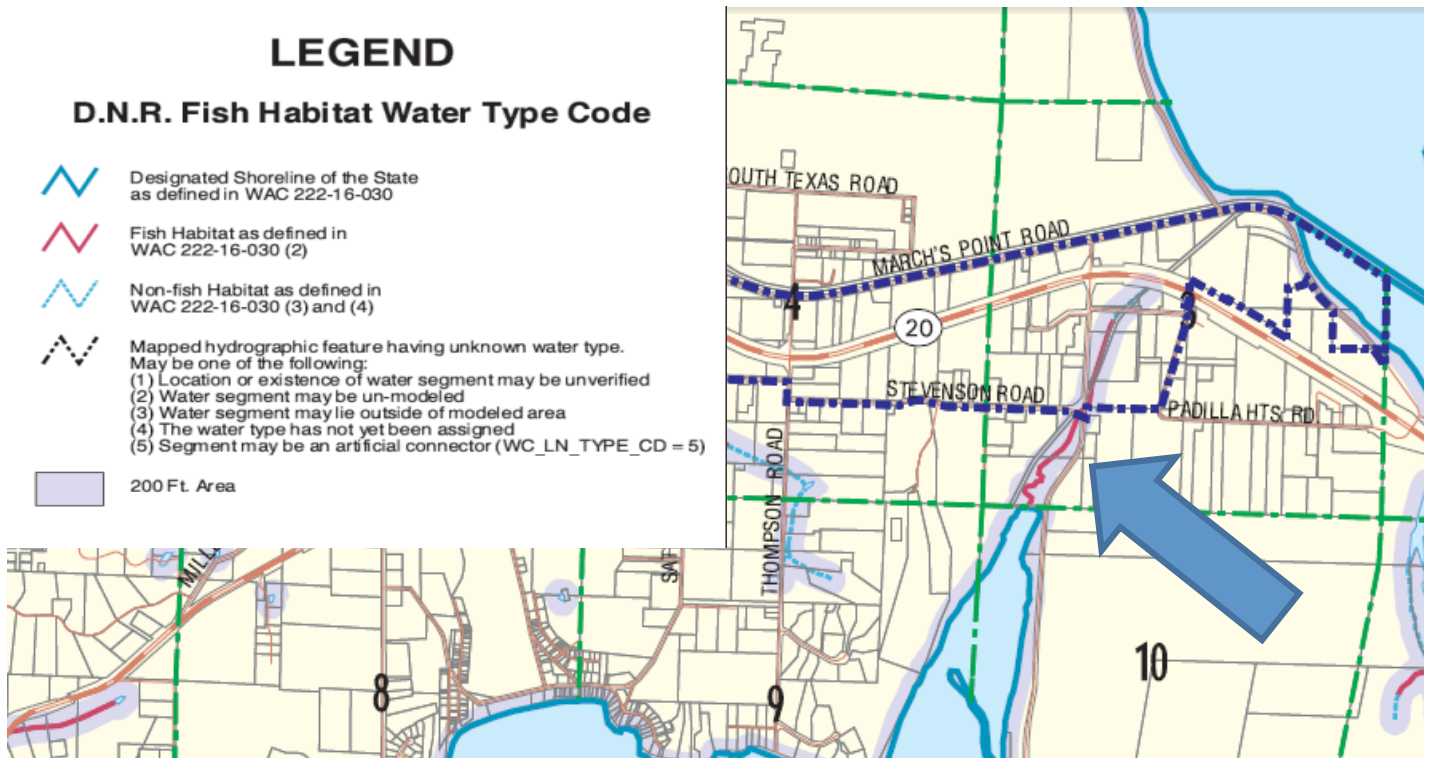
The shoreline area is designated as Rural. There has been some recent restoration work (see SRSC Turners Bay map at <http://www.skagitcoop.org/index.php/turners-bay-pocket-estuary-restoration/>), which removed a portion of the road to restore tidal influence and provide enhanced fish access. Additional site work (extent of salinity) would need to be done in order to determine the extent of shoreline jurisdiction, along with the determination of possible associated wetlands from the wetlands delineation and assessment.

As far as which buffer would apply, County requirements apply to the unincorporated portion of the UGA. If an annexation were approved, then the City of Anacortes' regulations would apply [to the estuary]. SEE MAPS ON THE NEXT PAGE.

LEGEND

D.N.R. Fish Habitat Water Type Code

-  Designated Shoreline of the State as defined in WAC 222-16-030
-  Fish Habitat as defined in WAC 222-16-030 (2)
-  Non-fish Habitat as defined in WAC 222-16-030 (3) and (4)
-  Mapped hydrographic feature having unknown water type. May be one of the following:
 - (1) Location or existence of water segment may be unverified
 - (2) Water segment may be un-modeled
 - (3) Water segment may lie outside of modeled area
 - (4) The water type has not yet been assigned
 - (5) Segment may be an artificial connector (WC_LN_TYPE_CD = 5)
-  200 Ft. Area



Should a bottling plant operation be built next to fish habitat and national wetlands inventory?

