



## **ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER# 000128 20170221**

### **SITE – SPECIFIC DETERMINATION USSS1**

**CODE SECTIONS: 20.80.270 and 20.80.272 Fish and wildlife habitat**

#### **I. ISSUE**

The water course that ran east of the railroad tracks on the west side of Richmond Beach Drive NW, between NW 195<sup>th</sup> Court (the bridge to 27<sup>th</sup> Avenue NW) and NW 194<sup>th</sup> Place, is identified as a stream, South Upper Puget Sound South Creek Reach 1 - USSS1 (Attachment A), in the *City of Shoreline Stream and Wetland Inventory and Assessment, May 2004, Tetra Tech/KCM, Inc.* As a stream it would be regulated under Shoreline Municipal Code Chapter 20.80 Critical Areas.

A 2008 stream evaluation study and a 2016 City staff site visit conclude that this watercourse is not a stream.

#### **II. FINDINGS:**

- SMC 20.20.046 define streams as:

*Those areas where surface waters produce a defined channel or bed, not including irrigation ditches, canals, storm or surface water runoff devices or other entirely artificial watercourses, unless they are used by fish or are used to convey streams naturally occurring prior to construction. A channel or bed need not contain water year-round; provided, that there is evidence of at least intermittent flow during years of normal rainfall.*

- The *City of Shoreline Stream and Wetland Inventory and Assessment (May 2004, Tetra Tech/KCM, Inc.)* describes South Upper Puget Sound South Creek Reach 1 - USSS1 as a channelized open water course. No information is provided on fish barriers, habitat conditions, or other site conditions.

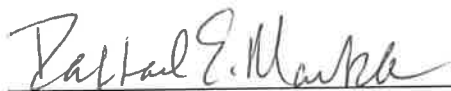
- The *Stream Evaluation Study for parcel #7278100690* (July 22, 2008) by The Watershed Company evaluates the portion of the watercourse located across the road from 19542 Richmond Beach Drive NW. The report indicates that:
  - It is an artificial feature created when the railroad tracks were built in the 1890s;
  - It is not used by salmonid fish;
  - It was not produced by the actions of surface waters; and
  - It does not convey flow which was previously carried by a naturally-occurring stream channel.
  
- A site visit conducted by City staff on June 17, 2016, visually determined the watercourse no longer exists as it has been filled with gravel, likely by the railroad company that owns the property.

**III. CONCLUSIONS**

The evaluation provided by a qualified professional demonstrates that South Upper Puget Sound South Creek Reach 1 (USSS1) does not meet the definition of a “stream” under the City of Shoreline Municipal Code Section 20.20.046 because of the reasons outlined in the “Findings” section of this Order. A site visit conducted by City staff observed that the watercourse no longer exists.

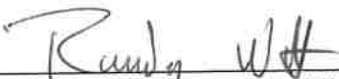
**IV. DECISION:**

The drainage known as South Upper Puget Sound South Creek Reach 1 (USSS1) is not classified as a stream under the Shoreline Municipal Code and is not subject to SMC 20.80. This drainage has been removed from the City’s GIS as a stream.




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Rachael Markle, Director of Planning and Community Development

  
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Date



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Randy Witt, Director of Public Works

  
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Date