

DETERMINATION OF NONSIGNIFICANCE WAC 197-11-970

Project Name: Port of Tacoma Pierce County Terminal (PCT) Maintenance Dredging Project

Description of proposal: The Port of Tacoma needs to perform maintenance dredging at the Pierce County Terminal (PCT) facility located along the Blair Waterway in order to remove shoaling areas that are preventing vessels from being fully loaded with cargo. "Light loading" vessels is causing economic impacts and safety concerns. The proposed maintenance dredging will remove shoaling caused by propwash along the berthing areas at Pierce County Terminal allowing the terminal operator to resume normal operations.

The purpose of the proposed project is to restore the berthing areas at PCT to the permitted depth of -51 feet MLLW, with an incidental 2-foot over-dredge allowance. Maintenance dredging is needed to allow normal operation at the terminals to resume. The current conditions do not allow for full vessel loading (economic impact) and could lead to grounding out of vessels (safety issue). To achieve this purpose, the Port must dredge up to 28,000 CY of sediments, of which up to roughly 13,000 CY is over dredge. The proposed maintenance dredging is the minimum work needed to return the terminal to normal operations

Proponent: Port of Tacoma

Location of proposal, including street address, if any: The project location is the berth area of the Port's PCT Terminal: 4015 SR-509 N. Frontage Rd Tacoma, WA 98421

Lead agency: Port of Tacoma

The lead agency for this proposal has determined that the project does not have a probable significant adverse impact on the environment. An environmental impact statement (EIS) is not required under Revised Code of Washington (RCW) 43.21C.030(2)(c). This decision was made after review of a completed environmental checklist and other information on file with the lead agency. Additional project and/or State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) information is available upon request at the Port of Tacoma's Administrative building, located at One Sitcum Plaza, Tacoma, WA 98421 or at the Port's website at <http://www.portoftacoma.com/sepa>.

Comments and Request for Reconsideration: This Determination of Non-Significance (DNS) is issued under Chapter 197-11-340(2) Washington Administrative Code (WAC). Pursuant to Port policy, all interested parties shall have fourteen calendar days to comment on the proposed SEPA threshold determination. Only those who commented within the fourteen-day comment period shall have standing to file a Request for Reconsideration. Any challenge to a SEPA threshold determination shall be initiated by filing a Request for Reconsideration with the Responsible Official or designee no later than seven calendar days following the end of the fourteen-day comment period for the SEPA determination. The lead agency will not act on this proposal for fourteen days from the start date of the comment period described below. Comments shall be submitted to the Port of Tacoma, Environmental Programs, C/O Environmental Specialist at One Sitcum Plaza, Tacoma, WA 98421 or at the Port's website at <http://www.portoftacoma.com/sepa>.

Responsible official: Jason Jordan

Position/title: Director of Environmental and Planning

Signature 
Jason Jordan (Sep 2, 2022 17:38 PDT)

Comment Start Date: September 8, 2022

Comment End Date: September 22, 2022

Request for Reconsideration End Date: September 29, 2022