

Wetland Mitigation Summary

The proposed Project would permanently impact (clear, grub, and fill) 4.42 ac of Category III (palustrine forested [PFO], depression) wetland. The Project proposes to mitigate the impacts using mitigation credits from the Port's Lower Wapato Creek Advance Mitigation Site which was constructed in 2021. The mitigation site increases ecological functions, values, and areal extent of Cowardin Classes of Wetland and Deepwater Habitats including; Riverine tidal streambed cobble-gravel/mud (Wapato Creek), estuarine intertidal unconsolidated mud (intertidal mudflats), estuarine intertidal emergent persistent wetlands (estuarine emergent wetlands) and Palustrine forested evergreen/deciduous wetlands (forested wetlands) in the lower Wapato Creek watershed. The mitigation site includes two primary habitat elements: (1) fish passage improvement through replacement of two Wapato Creek culverts at the 12th Street East crossing; and (2) re-establishment of wetland and fish habitat through relocation of Wapato Creek and constructing a diverse complex of associated floodplain and wetland habitats historically present in the Commencement Bay intertidal mudflats. See www.portoftacoma.com/wapato for additional details regarding the mitigation site.