

June 19, 2018

POLICY STATEMENT

PUBLIC USE OF SEATTLE CITY LIGHT FISH AND WILDLIFE CONSERVATION LANDS

POLICY

Seattle City Light owns and manages over 13,000 acres of fish and wildlife conservation lands in the Skagit River and Nooksack River watersheds. Public use shall be subject to the regulations set forth in this Policy Statement. The regulations are intended to protect habitat from degradation, reduce incidence of fish and wildlife poaching, protect visitors from harm, minimize unnecessary expenses related to law enforcement and site remediation. Seattle City Light reserves the right to prosecute under criminal or civil law for violations of this policy that are violations of local, state or federal law.

LANDS SUBJECT TO THIS POLICY

This Policy applies to all lands shown on map available at:
http://www.seattle.gov/light/skagit/docs/2017_0509-ESA_WildlifeLands_SkagitSnoCoWhatcom.pdf. This includes:

1. All lands within the Skagit, Sauk, and South Fork Nooksack watersheds that are managed as wildlife mitigation lands or fish habitat under the Skagit River Hydroelectric Project (FERC Project No. 553);
2. All lands within the Skagit and Sauk watersheds that are managed to benefit salmon habitat restoration under Seattle City Light's Endangered Species Act Early Acquisition Program.

AUTHORIZED PUBLIC ACTIVITIES

1. Hiking and cross-country skiing;
2. Horseback-riding on designated trails;
3. Picnicking;
4. Collection of berries, mushrooms or plant material for non-commercial uses; activity must not result in degradation of habitat conditions;
5. Hunting, per Washington state regulations or as provided by applicable federal laws or treaties, and in compliance with all applicable firearm safety and other laws and regulations; hunters must comply with all posted Safety Zones and;
6. Fishing, subject to all applicable laws and regulations;
7. Leashed pets; hunting dogs may be used off-leash while owner is actively hunting and must always remain under owner's control;
8. Use of licensed motorized vehicles on open improved roads when not gated;

ACTIVITIES STRICTLY PROHIBITED without express, prior written authorization of Seattle City Light

1. Over-night camping;
2. Littering or dumping;
3. Fires;
4. Unleashed pets, except as expressly allowed above;
5. Vandalism or defacement of any vehicle, road, facility, vegetation or other property;
6. Depositing human or domestic animal waste on the ground or in the waters;
7. Driving motorized vehicles beyond gates or signage indicated closed areas.
8. Off-trail travel by motorized vehicles, horses, pack animals, or livestock
9. Corralling or tying horses or livestock to trees;
10. Allowing horses or livestock to graze on Seattle City Light property;
11. Possessing, discharging or using any kind of firework or other pyrotechnic device;
12. Discharging a firearm or any other implement capable of taking human life, causing injury, or damaging property within posted safety zone or within 500 feet of a residence, building, campsite, developed recreation site or occupied area;
13. Firearm or archery target shooting
14. Piloting, takeoff, landing or flying of Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) (drones);
15. Consumption of intoxicants or illegal drugs;
16. Carrying, transporting, using, or disposal of hazardous or toxic substances;
17. Loud or disorderly conduct which disturbs others' peaceful use of the lands and waters;
18. Wood cutting or collection of any Christmas trees, native ornamental trees, or shrubs, or cutting or picking of evergreen foliage, wood products or salvage of bark (except if allowed by federal treaty);
19. Removal of minerals, native American artifacts, or historical artifacts.
20. Harassing, or injuring wildlife except as allowed by federal, state, and tribal hunting and fishing laws and regulations;
21. Introduction of any non-native, invasive plant or animal species.

WARNING AND DISCLAIMER

Seattle City Light shall not be liable for any injury, loss or damage to any person or the property of any person who is using its lands and waters. Entry upon Seattle City Light lands, waters and roads shall be solely at the user's own risk.

INQUIRIES

Please direct inquiries or report problems or violations to:

SCL_Environmental@seattle.gov or (206) 684-3312