

SEATTLE PUBLIC UTILITIES  
SEPA ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST  
Haller Lake Outfall Maintenance and Replacement

This SEPA environmental review of Seattle Public Utilities’ Haller Lake Drainage Outfall Maintenance and Replacement project has been conducted in accordance with the Washington State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) (RCW 43.21C), State SEPA regulations (Washington Administrative Code [WAC] Chapter 197-11), and City of Seattle SEPA ordinance (Seattle Municipal Code [SMC] Chapter 25.05).

**A. BACKGROUND**

**1. Name of proposed project:**

Haller Lake Drainage Outfall Maintenance and Replacement

**2. Name of applicant:**

Seattle Public Utilities (SPU)

**3. Address and phone number of applicant and contact person:**

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**1. Date checklist prepared:**

April 9, 2026

**2. Agency requesting checklist:**

Seattle Public Utilities (SPU)

**3. Proposed timing or schedule (including phasing, if applicable):**

The project would be implemented in up to two phases. Phase 1 involves cleaning and inspecting the existing drainage mainline and outfall and possibly removing a fence encroaching into the street right-of-way (ROW). Following the inspection, a determination will be made whether Phase 2 is necessary, which would involve replacing up to 140 linear feet (LF) of the existing outfall pipe.

Phase 1 implementation is anticipated to occur during the July 1–August 31, 2027 agency-approved in-water construction window and would require up to 2 working days. If the inspection concludes that pipe replacement is necessary, Phase 2 would be implemented during the July 1–August 31, 2028 in-water work window to minimize impacts to fish and aquatic habitat and would require up to 20 working days.

**4. Do you have any plans for future additions, expansion, or further activity related to or connected with this proposal? If yes, explain.**

SPU has no other plans for future additions, expansion, or further activity related to or connected with this proposal.

**5. List any environmental information you know about that has been prepared, or will be prepared, directly related to this proposal.**

A wetland delineation within the ROW was conducted in March 2026 to identify the extents of Haller Lake (a Category 3 Wetland) and verify the exact location of its Ordinary High Water Mark (OHWM). The wetland report is in preparation at the time this Environmental Checklist was prepared.

**6. Do you know whether applications are pending for governmental approvals of other proposals directly affecting the property covered by your proposal? If yes, explain.**

SPU is not aware of other pending government approvals of other proposals directly affecting the property or rights-of-way covered by this proposal.

**1. List any government approvals or permits that will be needed for your proposal, if known.**

Implementation of the proposed work would require some or all these permits or approvals:

- Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT): Utility Major Permit, Street Use Permit
- SPU: Compliance with City of Seattle’s Environmentally Critical Area regulations (SMC 25.09)
- Seattle Department of Construction and Inspections (SDCI): Noise variance
- Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW): Hydraulic Project Approval (HPA)
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (ACE): Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 404 Permit (Nationwide Permit 3 authorization)
- Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology): CWA Section 401 Water Quality Certification (linked to CWA Section 404 Permit)

ACE: Endangered Species Act (ESA) compliance (linked to CWA Section 404 Permit)

**2. Give a brief, complete description of your proposal, including the proposed uses and the size of the project and site. There are several questions later in this checklist that ask you to describe certain aspects of your proposal. You do not need to repeat those answers on this page.**

SPU proposes to maintain and potentially replace an existing stormwater drainage outfall discharging to Haller Lake. The project area is in unimproved ROW for Meridian Ave N extending from a paved cul-de-sac to the shoreline of the Lake. The project would be implemented in up to two phases. Phase 1 includes removal of root intrusion and debris from approximately 140 LF of an existing 18-inch diameter stormwater drainage mainline using mechanical cutting and hydraulic jetting, relocation of a fallen tree near the outfall, and CCTV inspection of the pipe to assess structural condition. If the inspection determines the pipe is structurally compromised, Phase 2 would replace up to 140 LF of the existing reinforced concrete pipe with new 18-inch diameter ductile iron pipe along the existing alignment using open-cut trenching in an isolated work area.

Construction activities would include temporary installation of turbidity curtains and a cofferdam, fish exclusion and relocation, temporary equipment access using swamp mats or geotextile and quarry spalls, and removal of a chain-link fence encroaching in the ROW and below the OHWM of Haller Lake. Following construction, disturbed areas in the ROW would be stabilized and replanted with native vegetation.

The project would restore unobstructed stormwater conveyance from the approximately 194-acre upstream drainage basin into Haller Lake and reduce localized flooding associated with blockage of the existing outfall.

- 3. Location of the proposal. Give sufficient information for a person to understand the precise location of your proposed project, including a street address, if any, and section, township, and range, if known. If a proposal would occur over a range of area, provide the range or boundaries of the site(s). Provide a legal description, site plan, vicinity map, and topographic map, if reasonably available. While you should submit any plans required by the agency, you are not required to duplicate maps or detailed plans submitted with any permit applications related to this checklist.**

The Haller Lake Outfall is in unimproved ROW between 12555 and 12556 Meridian Ave N, Seattle, WA 98133. The exact location of the outfall is: [47°43'15.4"N 122°20'03.1"W](#). See Attachments A and B for Vicinity and Location Maps, respectively.

**B. ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS**

**1. Earth**

**a. General description of the site:**

Flat: yes    Rolling: no    Hilly: no    Steep Slopes: no    Mountainous: no     
Other: no

**b. What is the steepest slope on the site (approximate percent slope)?**

The ROW is relatively flat, sloping gradually from the paved cul-de-sac to the shoreline at approximately 5% grade.

**c. What general types of soils are found on the site (for example, clay, sand, gravel, peat, muck)? If you know the classification of agricultural soils, specify them and note any agricultural land of long-term commercial significance and whether the proposal results in removing these soils.**

Geologic conditions of the Puget Sound region are a result of glacial and non-glacial activity occurring over the course of millions of years and are described in the Washington Department of Natural Resources' [Washington Geologic Information Portal](#). However, urban development over the last 100 years has resulted in predominance of disturbed native soils/sediments, cut slopes, and placements of fill material. The project site is mapped as glacial till, and visual inspection revealed the presence of a substantial surface layer of organic material likely built up from years of decomposing organic matter. There are no agricultural lands of long-term commercial significance designated in the project area.

**d. Are there surface indications or history of unstable soils in the immediate vicinity? If so, describe:**

There are no surface indications or known history of unstable soils in the immediate vicinity. The City of Seattle designates geologically hazardous areas as Environmentally Critical Areas (ECA) based on historic and current geologic conditions, including topography and underlying soils. According the [City of Seattle ECA maps](#), the project site is in a Liquefaction-prone ECA.

**e. Describe the purpose, type, total area, and approximate quantities and total affected area of any filling, excavation, and grading proposed. Indicate the source of fill.**

Excavation associated with Phase 1 would be minimal and limited to removal of accumulated sediment and debris near the outfall following hydraulic jetting of the pipe. Up to approximately 1 cubic yard (CY) of sediment and root material may be removed by hand within an isolated in-water work area in Haller Lake.

If Phase 2 is implemented, excavation would occur to remove and replace up to 140 LF of existing 18-inch diameter reinforced concrete pipe along the existing alignment. This work would disturb up to approximately 85 CY of soil, pipe bedding, and backfill material during trench excavation and pipe replacement. Excavation would occur in an isolated and dewatered work area below the OHWM and in adjacent upland area in the ROW. The trench would be bedded, backfilled, and compacted following pipe installation.

Temporary fill associated with construction access may include quarry spalls placed over geotextile fabric or swamp mats to support equipment access in the ROW and shoreline area. Temporary fill placed in the lake for access purposes is estimated to be approximately 20–40 CY and would be removed following completion of construction.

All disturbed areas would be regraded to pre-project contours where feasible, stabilized with mulch, and planted with native vegetation following construction.

**f. Could erosion occur as a result of clearing, construction, or use? If so, generally describe:**

Limited erosion could occur during vegetation clearing and construction activities, particularly where soils are temporarily exposed during excavation and trenching for pipe inspection or replacement. Ground disturbance near the shoreline of Haller Lake could create short-term potential for sediment mobilization during rainfall or construction activity.

Erosion could occur because of the proposed excavation and grading activity. A Construction Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (CSWPPP) and temporary erosion and sediment control (TESC) plan would be implemented, with standard operating procedures (SOPs) and best management practices (BMPs) appropriate to the site, conditions, and activities.

Disturbed areas would be stabilized following construction through regrading, application of mulch, and replanting with native vegetation. In-water work areas would be isolated using turbidity curtains or a cofferdam to prevent sediment from dispersing into the lake.

**g. About what percent of the site will be covered with impervious surfaces after project construction (for example, asphalt or buildings)?**

No new impervious surfaces are proposed.

**h. Proposed measures to reduce or control erosion, or other impacts to the earth, if any:**

A CSWPPP and a TESC plan would be prepared and implemented. Temporary erosion and sediment control BMPs would be deployed, inspected, and maintained as needed per the [City of Seattle’s Stormwater Code](#) (SMC Title 22, Subtitle VIII, and associated City of Seattle Director’s Rules) and Volume 2 of the Construction Stormwater Control Manual would be used to manage stormwater runoff, construction disturbance, and erosion while work is performed. Work would be monitored and adjusted as necessary to meet changing conditions.

**2. Air**

**a. What types of emissions to the air would result from the proposal [e.g., dust, automobile, odors, industrial wood smoke, greenhouse gases (GHG)] during construction, operation, and maintenance when the project is completed? If any, generally describe and give approximate quantities if known.**

**Construction**

Mobile and stationary equipment used to construct the proposed project would generate emissions due to the combustion of gasoline and diesel fuels (such as oxides of nitrogen, carbon monoxide, particulate matter and smoke, uncombusted hydrocarbons, hydrogen sulfide, carbon dioxide, and water vapor). Emissions during construction would also include dust from ground-disturbing activities, though these are expected to be minimal, localized, and temporary.

Both phases of this project would generate greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions through construction activities only. GHG emission calculations are shown in Attachment C and summarized in Table 1. GHG emissions would be generated through the operation of diesel- and gasoline-powered equipment and to transport materials, equipment, and workers to and from the project site.

**Table 1. Summary of Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions.**

<b>Activity/Emission Type</b>	<b>GHG Emissions (pounds of CO<sub>2</sub>e)<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>GHS Emissions (metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>e)<sup>1</sup></b>
Buildings	0	0
Paving	0	0
Construction Activities (Diesel)	43,685.4	19.8
Construction Activities (Gasoline)	534.6	0.24
Long-term Maintenance (Diesel)	0	0
Long-term Maintenance (Gasoline)	0	0
<b>Total GHG Emissions</b>	<b>44,220</b>	<b>20.04</b>

<sup>1</sup>Note: 1 metric ton = 2,204.6 pounds of CO<sub>2</sub>e. 1,000 pounds = 0.45 metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>e

**Operation and Maintenance**

This project proposes to rehabilitate existing stormwater infrastructure and would not generate new ongoing air emissions during operation. The finished project is not expected to result in increased GHG emissions as compared with pre-project levels. Routine maintenance activities (e.g., periodic inspections and landscaping activities to control vegetation) would generate

negligible and infrequent vehicle emissions consistent with existing municipal maintenance practices.

**b. Are there any off-site sources of emissions or odor that may affect your proposal? If so, generally describe.**

There are no known off-site sources of emissions that would affect this proposal.

**c. Proposed measures to reduce or control emissions or other impacts to air, if any:**

During construction, impacts to air quality would be reduced and controlled through implementation of standard federal, state, and local emission control criteria and City of Seattle construction practices. These would include requiring contractors to use best available control technologies, proper vehicle maintenance, and minimizing vehicle and equipment idling.

**3. Water**

**a. Surface:**

**1) Is there any surface water body on or in the immediate vicinity of the site (including year-round and seasonal streams, saltwater, lakes, ponds, wetlands)? If so, describe type and provide names. If appropriate, state what stream or river it flows into.**

Project construction involves work in and adjacent to Haller Lake.

**2) Will the project require any work over, in, or adjacent to (within 200 feet) the described waters? If so, please describe, and attach available plans.**

Project construction involves work in and adjacent to Haller Lake.

Phase 1 work would occur in the existing outfall pipe and at the outfall location below the lake's water surface and would include relocation of a fallen tree near the outfall, hydraulic jetting and cleaning of approximately 140 LF of the existing 18-inch diameter stormwater mainline, and inspection of the pipe using CCTV. In-water work areas would be isolated using turbidity curtains and fish exclusion.

If inspection determines that pipe replacement is necessary, Phase 2 would involve excavation and replacement of up to approximately 140 LF of the existing 18-inch diameter outfall pipe along the existing alignment. This work would occur in an isolated and dewatered work area and would include installation of a cofferdam, temporary equipment access road, and relocation of large woody material near the shoreline. Disturbed areas within the shoreline and ROW would be restored following construction.

**3) Estimate the amount of fill and dredge material that would be placed in or removed from surface water or wetlands, and indicate the area of the site that would be affected. Indicate the source of fill material.**

Phase 1:

The project anticipates that up to 1 CY of sediment and root debris would be dislodged from the outfall pipe during Phase 1 cleaning and discharged into the proposed isolated work

area in Haller Lake. The project intends to let this material remain in the lake, but will remove it if it appears to negatively impact the functionality of the existing outfall.

Phase 2:

Approximately 20 to 40 CY of temporary fill would be placed within and adjacent to the wetland area to support construction access during Phase 2. This fill would consist of quarry spalls placed over geotextile fabric and may be supplemented by swamp mats to further support equipment access and minimize disturbance. The temporary access area would affect approximately 720 square feet and all temporary fill would be removed following construction.

Approximately 85 CY of existing pipe bedding, backfill, and native material would be removed from within and adjacent to the wetland area during trenching for removal of the existing pipe. An equal amount of bedding and backfill material would then be placed within the prepared trench during the pipe replacement. No other permanent fill is proposed in wetlands or surface waters beyond replacement of material within the existing trench.

**4) Will the proposal require surface water withdrawals or diversions? If so, give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.**

The proposal would not require surface water withdrawals or diversions. If Phase 2 is implemented, a temporary cofferdam would be installed to isolate the work area around the outfall during pipe replacement. Water within the isolated area would be pumped to the adjacent lake area between the cofferdam and turbidity curtain to allow construction activities to occur in a dewatered work area. This pumping would consist only of relocating existing lake water within the immediate vicinity of the project and would not result in any net withdrawal or diversion of surface water from Haller Lake.

**5) Does the proposal lie within a 100-year floodplain? If so, note location on the site plan.**

Per the [King County iMap](#), no portion of the project lies within a 100-year floodplain.

**6) Does the proposal involve any discharges of waste materials to surface waters? If so, describe the type of waste and anticipated volume of discharge.**

The proposed project would not discharge waste materials to surface waters.

**b. Ground:**

**1) Will groundwater be withdrawn from a well for drinking water or other purposes? If so, give a general description of the well, proposed uses and approximate quantities withdrawn from the well. Will water be discharged to groundwater? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.**

**Groundwater Withdrawal:**

No groundwater would be withdrawn from wells for drinking water or any other purpose as part of the proposed project.

**Discharge to Groundwater:**

The project does not propose infiltration or discharge of water directly to groundwater. If Phase 2 is implemented, groundwater and surface water entering the isolated excavation area may be temporarily removed by pumping to maintain a dry work area. Any water pumped from the excavation would be discharged to the adjacent isolated in-water work area between the cofferdam and turbidity curtain, allowing suspended sediments to settle before mixing with surrounding lake water.

**2) Describe waste material that will be discharged into the ground from septic tanks or other sources, if any (for example: domestic sewage; industrial, containing the following chemicals...; agricultural, etc.). Describe the general size of the system, the number of such systems, the number of houses to be served (if applicable), or the number of animals or humans the system(s) are expected to serve.**

No waste material would be discharged to groundwater.

**c. Water Runoff (including storm water):**

**1) Describe the source of runoff (including storm water) and method of collection and disposal, if any (include quantities, if known). Where will this water flow? Will this water flow into other waters? If so, describe.**

Stormwater runoff in the project area originates from the 194-acre drainage basin upstream of and feeding into the existing outfall proposed for cleaning and potential replacement. This runoff is collected by catch basins and conveyed through an existing network of stormwater pipes that converge at this outfall and discharge to Haller Lake. During construction, a temporary bypass system will be installed in an upstream maintenance hole to maintain conveyance by pumping stormwater around the work zone and into Haller Lake.

The proposed project would not create new stormwater sources or increase runoff volumes. Instead, the project would restore conveyance within the existing drainage system by removing obstructions from the outfall pipe and, if necessary, replacing a portion of the existing pipe along the same alignment. Following construction, stormwater would continue to be collected and conveyed through the existing system and discharged to Haller Lake as it currently does.

To mitigate surface water runoff in the ROW, TESC measures would be installed to prevent sediment-laden runoff from entering the lake. These measures would include straw wattles, filter fencing, and inlet protection at the upstream catch basin. Disturbed areas would be stabilized and replanted following construction.

**2) Could waste materials enter ground or surface waters? If so, generally describe.**

Potential for waste materials to enter ground or surface waters during construction is low but could occur if sediment or debris generated during excavation, pipe cleaning, or equipment operation is mobilized by rainfall or construction activities. Potential materials could include sediment, organic debris from pipe cleaning, or small amounts of fuel or hydraulic fluids from construction equipment.

To minimize this risk, TESC measures would be implemented prior to construction and maintained throughout the project. These measures may include straw wattles, filter fabric, inlet protection, and isolation of in-water work areas using turbidity curtains and a cofferdam. Construction equipment would be staged and maintained in upland areas to reduce the potential for spills. Any disturbed soils would be stabilized following construction by regrading, mulching, and replanting with native vegetation.

**3) Does the proposal alter or otherwise affect drainage patterns in the vicinity of the site? If so, describe.**

No, the proposal would not alter drainage patterns.

**d. Proposed measures to reduce or control surface, ground, runoff water, and drainage impacts, if any:**

The project would implement the following measures to reduce or control potential drainage impacts:

- Mulching disturbed areas immediately following completion of work
- Installing temporary clear plastic covering over stockpiled materials
- Placing high-visibility fencing to limit access to portions of site not undergoing construction
- Installing a stabilized construction entrance
- Installing filter fence around stockpiles and straw wattles in the ROW to capture sediment before it flows towards the lake
- Installing inlet protection on upstream inlets to prevent additional sediment from entering the system during construction

**4. Plants**

**a. Types of vegetation found on the site:**

- Deciduous trees:
  - Alder: yes     Maple: yes     Aspen: no     Other: no
- Evergreen trees:
  - Fir: yes                       Cedar: yes     Pine: no     Other: no
- Shrubs: yes
- Grass: no
- Pasture: no
- Crop or grain: no
- Orchards, vineyards, or other permanent crops: no
- Wet soil plants:
  - Cattail: yes                       Buttercup: no                       Bulrush: no     Skunk cabbage: no
  - Other: no
  - Water plants:
    - Water-lily: yes                       Eelgrass: no     Milfoil: no     Other: no
    - Other types of vegetation: invasive blackberry, English ivy, Bamboo

**b. What kind and amount of vegetation will be removed or altered?**

Limited vegetation removal and disturbance may occur in the Meridian Avenue N ROW and along the shoreline of Haller Lake to facilitate access to the existing outfall and drainage mainline. Vegetation in the project area consists of a mix of native and invasive species, including western red cedar (*Thuja plicata*), cascara (*Rhamnus purshiana*), vine maple (*Acer circinatum*), red twig dogwood (*Cornus sericea*), thimbleberry (*Rubus parviflorus*), hardhack (*Spiraea douglasii*), salmonberry (*Rubus spectabilis*), snowberry (*Symphoricarpos albus*), and western sword fern (*Polystichum munitum*), as well as invasive species such as English ivy (*Hedera helix*), Himalayan blackberry (*Rubus bifrons*), bamboo (*Phyllostachys* sp.), and knotweed (*Fallopia xbohemica*).

Vegetation removal would be limited to the minimum necessary to access and repair the existing infrastructure. Up to five trees may be removed along the existing mainline alignment if pipe replacement is required. Refer to Table 2 for a summary of these trees. Additional clearing may include removal of invasive shrubs, vines, and groundcover within the temporary construction access area and trench alignment. A fallen tree near the outfall would also be cut and repositioned to allow access to the pipe outlet. Following construction, disturbed areas would be regraded and replanted with native vegetation similar to existing plant varieties. Noxious weeds identified within the work area would be treated prior to replanting, where feasible. The project would mitigate tree removals by replacing each removed tree with at least three new trees.

**Table 2. Summary of trees that may be removed**

	Species	Common Name	Diameter (inches)	Health
1	<i>Thuja plicata</i>	western redcedar	54	Covered in Ivy, tilted over lake
2	<i>Salix xsepulcralis</i>	weeping willow	53	Ivy recently cleaned off, tilted over lake
3	<i>Thuja plicata</i>	western redcedar	66	Covered in Ivy
4	<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>	sycamore maple	70	Covered in Ivy
5	<i>Thuja plicata</i>	western redcedar	6	Healthy, very young

**c. List threatened or endangered species known to be on or near the site.**

No federally listed endangered or threatened plant species or State-listed sensitive plant species are known to occur within the City of Seattle municipal limits.

**d. Proposed landscaping, use of native plants, or other measures to preserve or enhance vegetation on the site, if any:**

Following completion of construction, all disturbed upland areas in the ROW would be regraded, decompacted as needed, and stabilized with mulch. Disturbed areas would be replanted with native species such as western red cedar, cascara, vine maple, red twig dogwood, thimbleberry, hardhack, salmonberry, snowberry, and western sword fern or similar native species appropriate for the riparian conditions. Existing native vegetation would be retained where feasible and clearing would be limited to the minimum area necessary to complete the work. Any terrestrial noxious or invasive species identified in the Phase 2 work area would be treated

or removed prior to replanting to support establishment of native plantings. The project would mitigate tree removals by replacing each removed tree with at least three new trees

**e. List all noxious weeds and invasive species known to be on or near the site.**

The King County Noxious Weed Program (available for view on the [King County iMap](#)) does not identify noxious weeds and invasive species on or near the site, but site visits confirmed the presence of invasive species, including Himalayan blackberry, English Ivy, and knotweed. Aquatic bed wetland vegetation along the shoreline of Haller Lake is dominated by the invasive fragrant water-lily (*Nymphaea odorata*).

**5. Animals**

**a. List any birds and other animals that have been observed on or near the site or are known to be on or near the site:**

**Birds:**

- Hawk: yes       Heron: yes     Eagle: yes     Songbirds: yes  
 Other: The project is within the Pacific Flyway Migratory Corridor and the project area is known to host a wide variety of transient, resident, and migratory waterfowl, songbirds, and raptors. In addition to boxes checked, some commonly observed species include transient geese, ducks, crows, pigeons, and gulls.

**Mammals:**

- Deer: no       Bear: no       Elk: no       Beaver: no  
 Other: The geographic extent of the project encompasses presence and habitats for a variety of animal species commonly found in urban areas. Commonly observed species include opossums, rabbits, raccoon, skunk, squirrel, rats, mice, and bats.

**Fish:**

- Bass: no     Salmon: no     Trout: no     Herring: no     Shellfish: no     Other: None\*  
\*Per Section 6, Table 6-8 of the [Seattle Biological Evaluation](#)

**b. List any threatened or endangered species known to be on or near the site:**

Birds: No threatened or endangered bird species are known to be on or near the site.

Mammals: According to [WDFW's Priority Habitats and Species on the Web database](#), Little Brown Bat may be present on or near the project site

Fish: No ESA-listed or State-listed endangered, threatened, or sensitive fish species are found in Haller Lake.

**c. Is the site part of a migration route? If so, explain.**

Seattle is included in migratory routes of many birds and is part of the Pacific Flyway, a major north-south route of travel for migratory birds in the Americas extending from Alaska to Patagonia, South America.

The area in and around the project site is not known to be part of any specific mammal or fish migration routes.

**d. Proposed measures to preserve or enhance wildlife, if any:**

The proposed work would limit plant removal, pruning, and other disturbances to that required for project construction. All damaged vegetation outside of the work area would be restored to pre-project conditions. Vegetation removal would occur outside of the March-July breeding bird nesting window or vegetation would be screened by a qualified wildlife biologist for breeding bird activity before vegetation is removed. Disturbed aquatic vegetation along the shoreline of Haller Lake is dominated by invasive plant species and is expected to self-recover quickly after disturbance. The project would mitigate tree removals by replacing each removed tree with at least three new trees

**e. List any invasive animal species known to be on or near the site.**

According to [King County's Website](#), these invasive terrestrial animal species are known to be in the City of Seattle and surrounding area: European starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*), house sparrow (*Passer domesticus*), Eastern gray squirrel (*Sciurus carolinensis*), and fox squirrel (*S. niger*). Aquatic invasive species include nutria (*Myocastor coypus*), New Zealand mud snail (*Potamopyrgus antipodarum*), and American bullfrog (*Lithobates catesbeianus*).

**6. Energy and Natural Resources**

- a. What kinds of energy (electric, natural gas, oil, wood stove, solar) will be used to meet the completed project's energy needs? Describe whether it will be used for heating, manufacturing, etc.**

Petroleum fuel (gasoline and diesel) would be used to operate maintenance equipment. No additional energy would be required to meet the constructed project's energy needs.

- b. Would your project affect the potential use of solar energy by adjacent properties? If so, generally describe.**

The proposed project would not affect the potential use of solar energy by adjacent properties because it does not build structures or plant vegetation that would block access to the sun.

- c. What kinds of energy conservation features are included in the plans of this proposal? List other proposed measures to reduce or control energy impacts, if any:**

There are no conservation features or proposed measures to reduce or control energy impacts because there would be no such impacts.

**7. Environmental Health**

- a. Are there any environmental health hazards, including exposure to toxic chemicals, risk of fire and explosion, spill, or hazardous waste, that could occur as a result of this proposal? If so, describe:**

Small amounts of materials likely to be present at each site during construction include gasoline and diesel fuels, hydraulic fluids, oils, lubricants, solvents, paints, and other chemical products. A spill of one of these chemicals could potentially occur during maintenance activities because of either equipment failure or worker error.

Though unlikely, contaminated soils, sediment, or groundwater could be encountered during excavation. If disturbed, contaminated substances could expose construction workers and potentially other individuals in the vicinity through direct contact, blowing dust, stormwater runoff, or vapors.

**1) Describe any known or possible contamination at the site from present or past uses.**

The project site is not known to have environmental contamination, but it is possible contamination of soil or groundwater associated with past uses or activities on or near the project site may be present.

**a) Describe existing hazardous chemicals/conditions that might affect project development and design. This includes underground hazardous liquid and gas transmission pipelines located within the project area and in the vicinity.**

There are no known hazardous chemicals or conditions that might affect project development and design.

**b) Describe any toxic or hazardous chemicals that might be stored, used, or produced during the project's development or construction, or at any time during the operating life of the project.**

Chemicals or pollutants that might be stored, used, or produced during construction or maintenance activities could include:

- Petroleum products associated with vehicular and equipment use, including fuel, lubricants, hydraulic fluids, and oils
- Paints, glues, solvents, and adhesives
- Chemicals associated with portable toilets

The completed project would not store, use, or produce toxic or hazardous chemicals.

**c) Describe special emergency services that might be required.**

No special emergency services are anticipated. Construction activities would be typical of small-scale utility maintenance and pipe replacement projects and would be conducted by qualified crews using standard safety procedures. Emergency services, such as fire, medical, or police response, would be available through existing City of Seattle emergency service providers if needed. The site would be accessible to emergency vehicles at all times.

**d) Proposed measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any:**

During both construction and subsequent maintenance activities, SPU workers would use standard operating procedures and BMPs identified in the City of Seattle's Stormwater Code found at SMC Title 22, Subtitle VIII, City of Seattle Directors' Rules

SDCI 10-2021/SPU DWW 200, and Volume 2 Construction Stormwater Control Manual to reduce or control possible environmental health hazards.

SPU work crews and/or its construction contractors would be required to develop and implement a Spill Plan to control and manage spills during construction. In addition, a spill response kit would be maintained at each site during construction work at that site, and all project site workers would be trained in spill prevention and containment consistent with the City of Seattle's Standard Specifications for Road, Bridge, and Municipal Construction.

Soil contaminated by spills would be excavated and disposed of by qualified contractors and/or City of Seattle staff in a manner consistent with the level and type of contamination and in accordance with federal, state and local regulations.

**b. Noise**

**1) What types of noise exist in the area which may affect your project (for example: traffic, equipment, operation, other)?**

Normal noises found in urban residential areas are expected. These would have no impact on the proposed project.

**2) What types and levels of noise would be created by or associated with the project on a short-term or a long-term basis (for example: traffic, construction, operation, other)? Indicate what hours noise would come from the site.**

Noise levels in the vicinity of construction would temporarily increase during construction activities. Short-term noise from construction equipment would be limited to the allowable maximum levels of City of Seattle's Noise Control Ordinance (SMC Chapter 25.08). Per SMC 25.08, elevated noise from construction equipment would be allowed only between the hours of 7 a.m. and 10 p.m. weekdays, and between 9 a.m. and 10 p.m. on weekends and legal holidays. For this project, construction typically would take place between 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. on weekdays, except for emergencies that may occur before or after those times. There would be no additional noise after completion of the project except for periodic inspection, maintenance, and renovation activity.

**3) Proposed measures to reduce or control noise impacts, if any:**

Construction equipment would be muffled in accordance with the applicable laws. SMC Chapter 25.08 (which prescribes limits to noise and construction activities) would be enforced while the project is being constructed and during operations, except for emergencies.

**8. Land and Shoreline Use**

**a. What is the current use of the site and adjacent properties? Will the proposal affect current land uses on nearby or adjacent properties? If so, describe.**

The project site is in an unimproved City of Seattle street ROW for Meridian Ave N that extends from a paved cul-de-sac and beyond the shoreline of Haller Lake. The ROW provides shorelines access to the community, and contains a sewer mainline, stormwater drainage mainline, and drainage outfall maintained by SPU. The shoreline area includes riparian vegetation and aquatic habitat associated with the lake. Adjacent properties consist of single-family residences, including two developed residential parcels with homes and garages and one vacant waterfront parcel.

The proposal would maintain and potentially replace existing drainage infrastructure and would not change the long-term use of the site or surrounding properties. Construction activities would be short-term and may result in short-term noise, equipment presence, and limited access in the ROW. Upon completion of the work, the site would be restored and would continue to function as publicly accessible ROW.

- b. Has the project site been used as working farmlands or working forest lands? If so, describe. How much agricultural or forest land of long-term commercial significance will be converted to other uses as a result of the proposal, if any? If resource lands have not been designated, how many acres in farmland or forest land tax status will be converted to nonfarm or non-forest use?**

The project site has not been used as working farmland or forestland.

- 1) Will the proposal affect or be affected by surrounding working farm or forest land normal business operations, such as oversize equipment access, the application of pesticides, tilling, and harvesting? If so, how?**

The proposed work would neither affect nor be affected by surrounding working farm or forest land normal business operations because there are no such operations at or near the project site.

- c. Describe any structures on the site.**

Existing structures within the site include an 18-inch diameter stormwater drainage mainline and outfall pipe that conveys stormwater from the surrounding drainage basin to Haller Lake. The pipe discharges below the lake's water surface elevation.

Two 8-inch diameter sanitary sewers converge at a maintenance hole in the ROW north of the lake's OHWM. A 12-inch diameter sanitary sewer then conveys flow from the maintenance hole in a southeast direction beneath the drainage mainline.

Other structures include a stormwater inlet and catch basin in the paved portion of Meridian Ave N upstream of the project area and an SDOT guardrail at the south end of the improved roadway. A private wooden fence along the western property boundary and a chain-link fence along the east boundary of the ROW are also present in or adjacent to the ROW.

- d. Will any structures be demolished? If so, what?**

A privately owned chain-link fence and its associated concrete foundations may be removed during Phase 1 because it's encroaching in the ROW. If Phase 2 is implemented, the chain-link fence will be required to be removed to replace the existing pipe. No other structures are proposed to be demolished.

**e. What is the current zoning classification of the site?**

According to the [City of Seattle DSO Map](#), the project site is zoned Neighborhood Residential (NR).

**f. What is the current comprehensive plan designation of the site?**

According to the [City of Seattle DSO Map](#), the project site is designated Residential.

**g. If applicable, what is the current shoreline master program designation of the site?**

According to the [SDCI Property Information Map](#), the project site is not located within a Shoreline Management District.

**h. Has any part of the site been classified as an "environmentally critical" area? If so, specify.**

According to the [SDCI Property Information Map](#), some or all of the proposed site has been classified as the following ECAs:

- Riparian Corridor
- Wetland
- Liquefaction-Prone Area

**i. Approximately how many people would reside or work in the completed project?**

No people would reside or work in the completed project.

**j. Approximately how many people would the completed project displace?**

The project would not displace any people.

**k. Proposed measures to avoid or reduce displacement impacts, if any:**

No measures are proposed because there would be no displacement impacts.

**l. Proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with existing and projected land uses and plans, if any:**

No such measures are proposed because the project would not change existing land uses.

**m. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts to agricultural and forestlands of long-term commercial significance, if any:**

No such measures are proposed because the project would not affect agricultural or forestlands of commercial significance.

**9. Housing**

**a. Approximately how many units would be provided, if any? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.**

The proposed project would not construct any housing units.

**b. Approximately how many units, if any, would be eliminated? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.**

The proposed project would not eliminate any housing units.

**c. Proposed measures to reduce or control housing impacts, if any:**

No measures are proposed because there would be no housing impacts.

**10. Aesthetics**

**a. What is the tallest height of any proposed structure(s), not including antennas? What is the principal exterior building material(s) proposed?**

No above-ground utility structures are proposed.

**b. What views in the immediate vicinity would be altered or obstructed?**

No views would be altered or obstructed.

**c. Proposed measures to reduce or control aesthetic impacts, if any:**

No measures to reduce or control aesthetic impacts are proposed.

**11. Light and Glare**

**a. What type of light or glare will the proposal produce? What time of day would it mainly occur?**

The proposed project does not include installation of permanent lighting and will not introduce new artificial sources of light or glare. Removal of vegetation may result in a localized increase in natural light but is not expected to substantially increase glare or light exposure on adjacent properties.

**b. Could light or glare from the finished project be a safety hazard or interfere with views?**

The constructed project would not produce light or glare. No new streetlights are proposed or required. During construction, if an emergency requires after-dark work, the construction contractor may deploy portable lights that temporarily produce light and glare.

**c. What existing off-site sources of light or glare may affect your proposal?**

There are no existing off-site sources of light and glare that would affect the proposal.

**d. Proposed measures to reduce or control light and glare impacts, if any:**

No measures are proposed to reduce or control light and glare impacts because no impacts would occur. If an emergency requires after-dark work during construction, portable lighting would be adjusted as feasible to minimize glare.

**12. Recreation**

**a. What designated and informal recreational opportunities are in the immediate vicinity?**

Recreational opportunities in the immediate vicinity of the project site include shoreline access, lake viewing, and designated uses like bird watching, kayaking, canoeing, swimming, and fishing. The surrounding residential neighborhood also supports informal recreation such as walking, running, and biking. The subject ROW is used informally by local residents to access the shoreline of Haller Lake.

**b. Would the proposed project displace any existing recreational uses? If so, describe.**

Temporary construction activities in the ROW may occur near the shoreline but are not expected to significantly affect recreational opportunities at Haller Lake. The proposed work would not permanently displace existing recreational uses.

**c. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts on recreation, including recreation opportunities to be provided by the project or applicant, if any:**

Impacts are expected to be temporary and minimal, but SPU would require its Crew and/or contractor to maintain safe pedestrian and vehicle access at all times.

**13. Historic and Cultural Preservation**

**a. Are there any buildings, structures, or sites, located on or near the site that are over 45 years old listed in or eligible for listing in national, state, or local preservation registers? If so, specifically describe.**

According to the Washington Information System for Architectural and Archaeological Records Data (WISAARD), there are no buildings, structures, or sites on or adjacent to the project site that are over 45 years old and listed in or determined to be eligible for listing in national, state, or local preservation registers. However, there are buildings and structures older than 45 years near the project location, including the subject pipe section.

**b. Are there any landmarks, features, or other evidence of Indian or historic use or occupation? This may include human burials or old cemeteries. Are there any material evidence, artifacts, or**

**areas of cultural importance on or near the site? Please list any professional studies conducted at the site to identify such resources.**

No landmarks, features, or other evidence of Indian or historic use or occupation are known to be on or adjacent to the project location. However, according to the WISAARD predictive model based on environmental factors, the project location is in an area with a moderate risk rating for detecting archaeological resources. No cultural resource surveys were conducted for the proposed project. No known archaeological materials or cemeteries have been found in or near the project site.

**c. Describe the methods used to assess the potential impacts to cultural and historic resources on or near the project site. Examples include consultation with tribes and the Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation, archaeological surveys, historic maps, GIS data, etc.**

The following resources were used to identify and then assess potential impacts to cultural and historic resources on or near the project site:

- Department of Ecology's [SEPA Checklist Guidance for Section B: Historic & Cultural Preservation](#)
- Washington Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation's [WISAARD](#)
- [Washington Heritage Register](#) and National Register of Historic Places

**d. Proposed measures to avoid, minimize, or compensate for loss, changes to, and disturbance to resources. Please include plans for the above and any permits that may be required.**

The proposed work would minimally disturb previously disturbed and filled upland, wetland, and shoreline areas. The proposed work would not affect buildings or known cultural resources; none of this portion of SPU's existing stormwater conveyance system would be considered historically or culturally important. The work's location on previously disturbed and filled ground and general confinement to the interior of an existing pipe importantly reduces the chance of encountering contextually significant archaeological materials. However, given the Moderate rating for potentially encountering archaeological materials, the project will have an approved inadvertent discovery plan onsite and in effect during all construction and ground-disturbing activities.

#### 14. Transportation

**a. Identify public streets and highways serving the site or affected geographic area, and describe proposed access to the existing street system. Show on site plans, if any.**

All work activity would occur in City-owned ROW for Meridian Ave N. The site is served by N 130th St, which is classified by SDOT as a Principal Arterial.

**b. Is the site or affected geographic area currently served by public transit? If so, generally describe. If not, what is the approximate distance to the nearest transit stop?**

The project site is not served directly by public transit. Public bus transit service in this area of the City is provided by King County Metro. The nearest bus stop is at N 128th St and Meridian Ave N, approximately 500 feet north of the project site and serving Routes 345 and 365.

**c. Will the proposal require any new or improvements to existing roads, streets, pedestrian, bicycle or state transportation facilities, not including driveways? If so, generally describe (indicate whether public or private).**

The proposal would not require any new transportation infrastructure or improvements to existing roads, streets, pedestrian, bicycle or state transportation facilities.

**d. Will the project or proposal use (or occur in the immediate vicinity of) water, rail, or air transportation? If so, generally describe.**

The proposed project would not use or occur in the immediate vicinity of water, rail, or air transportation facilities.

**e. How many vehicular trips per day would be generated by the completed project or proposal? If known, indicate when peak volumes would occur and what percentage of the volume would be trucks (such as commercial and non-passenger vehicles). What data or transportation models were used to make these estimates?**

Transport of materials, equipment, and personnel during construction would generate an estimated 5 round trips for Phase 1 and up to an additional 64 round-trips for Phase 2. The stormwater drainage assets subject of this Environmental Checklist currently requires infrequent, periodic trips to transport SPU crews, contractors, and equipment to perform visual inspections, maintenance, and repairs when needed. The completed project is not anticipated to require more maintenance or operational service beyond that which these assets currently require and would not generate any new or additional round trips.

**f. Will the proposal interfere with, affect or be affected by the movement of agricultural and forest products on roads or streets in the area? If so, generally describe.**

The proposal would not interfere with, affect, or be affected by movement of agricultural and forest products on roads or streets in the area.

**g. Proposed measures to reduce or control transportation impacts, if any:**

The proposal does not include any proposed measures to reduce or control transportation impacts.

**15. Public Services**

**a. Would the project result in an increased need for public services (for example: fire protection, police protection, public transit, health care, schools, other)? If so, generally describe.**

The proposed project is not expected to create an increased need for public services.

**b. Proposed measures to reduce or control direct impacts on public services, if any.**

During construction, the project would be required to accommodate emergency access at all times. Emergency access would comply with relevant policies administered by SDOT as part of its street use permitting process. No other measures to reduce or control direct impacts on public services are proposed.

**16. Utilities**

**a. Check utilities available at the site:**

- None     Electricity     Natural gas     Water  
 Refuse service     Telephone     Sanitary sewer     Septic system  
 Other: cable and communications

**b. Describe the utilities that are proposed for the project, the utility providing the service, and the general construction activities on the site or in the immediate vicinity which might be needed.**

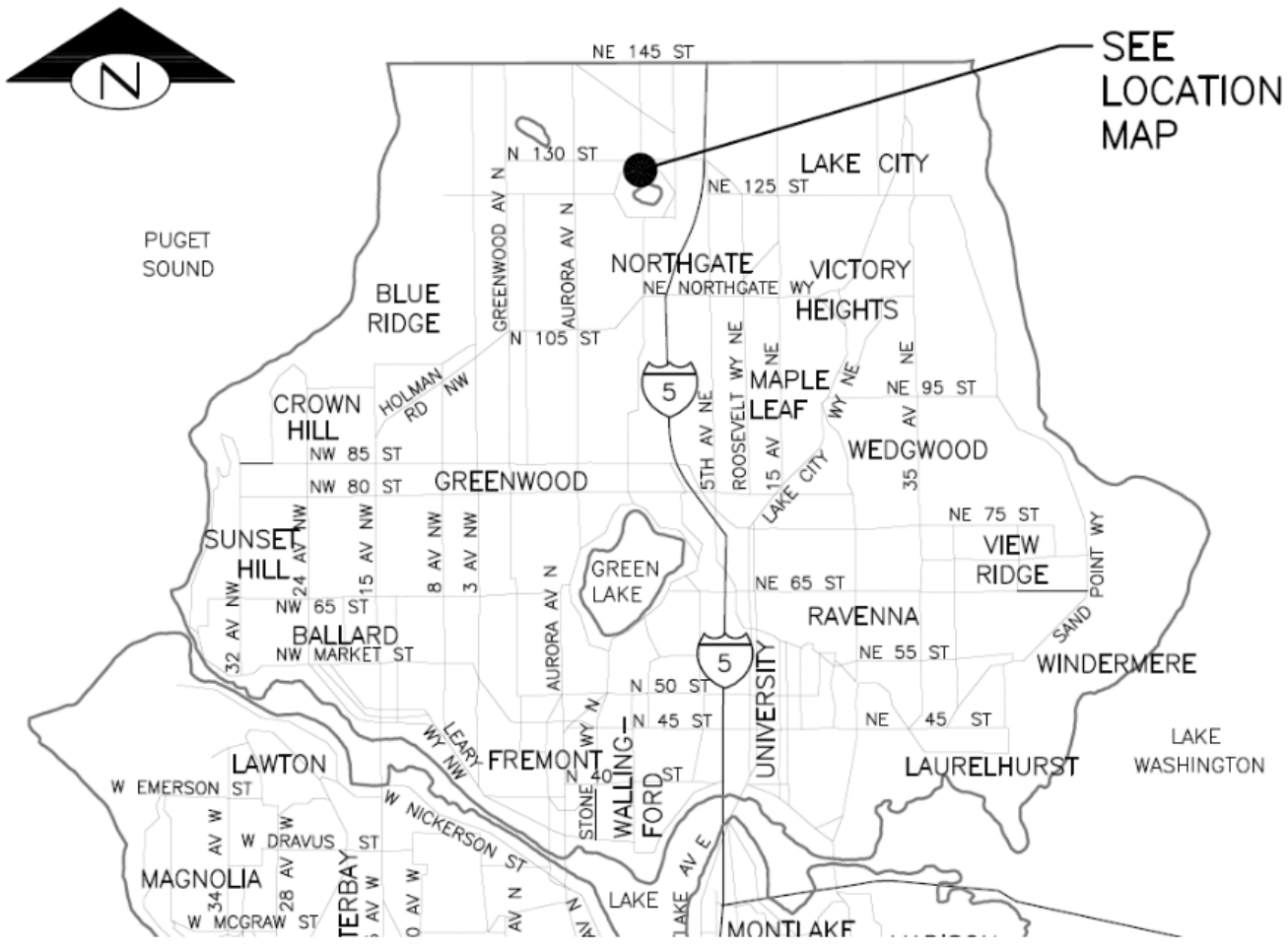
The project would maintain and potentially replace an existing stormwater drainage mainline and outfall owned and maintained by SPU. No new utility services are proposed, and work would not affect existing water, sewer, gas, or any other utility services in the area.

**C. SIGNATURE**

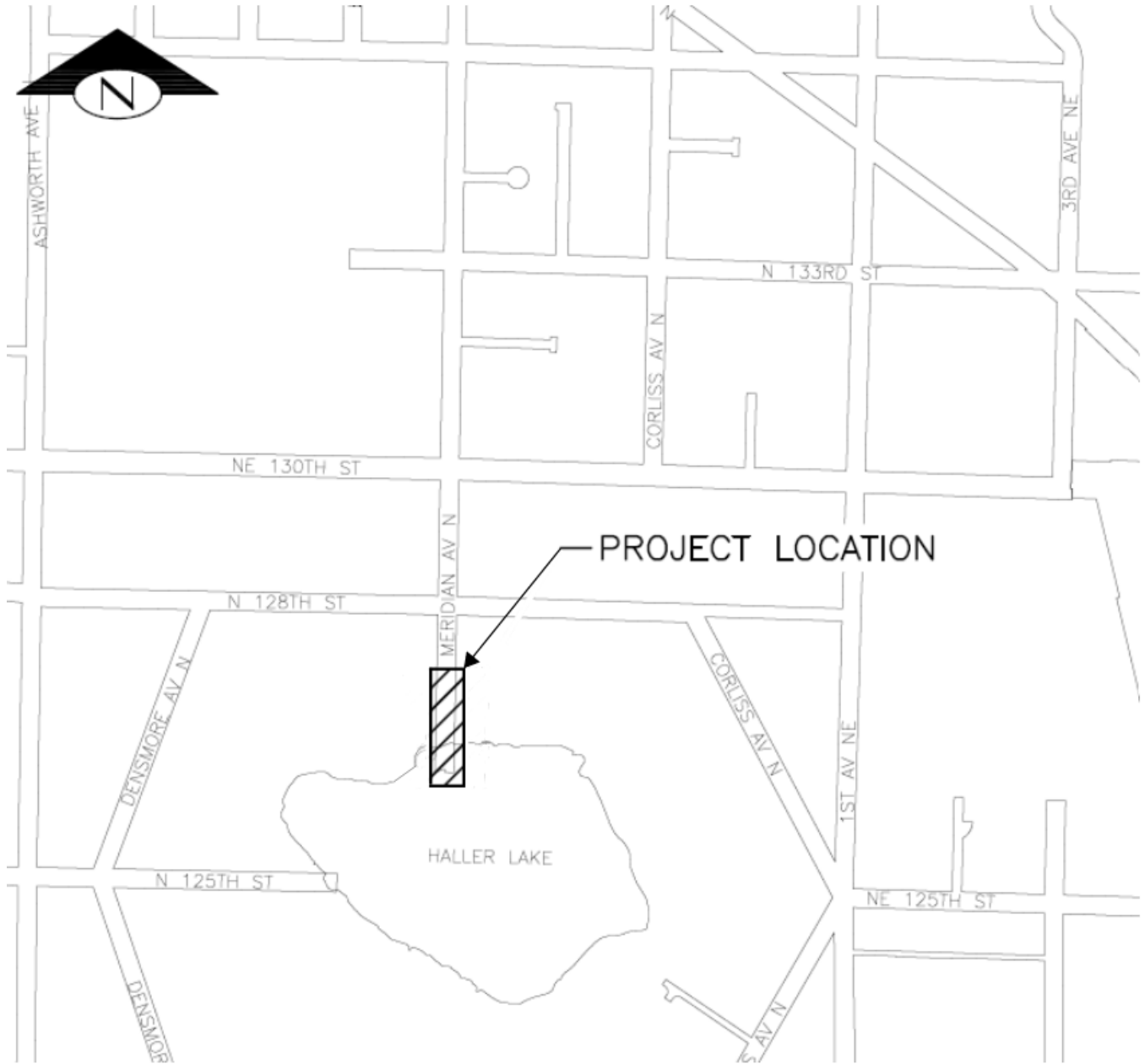
The above answers are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand the Lead Agency is relying on them to make its decision.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature on File  
Will Zweig, Drainage Operations Engineer

- Attachment A: Vicinity Map
- Attachment B: Location Map
- Attachment C: Greenhouse Gas Emissions Worksheet



**Attachment A: Vicinity Map**  
Map of north Seattle detailing the location at approximately NE 125<sup>th</sup> St, between Aurora Ave N and Interstate 5.



**Attachment B: Location Map**

Detail map showing project location at Haller Lake where Meridian Ave N intersects with the north side of the lake.

**Attachment C: Greenhouse Gas Emissions Worksheet**

**Section I: Buildings**

Type (Residential) or Principal Activity (Commercial)	# Units	Square Feet (in thousands of square feet)	Emissions Per Unit or Per Thousand Square Feet (MTCO <sub>2</sub> e): Embodied	Emissions Per Unit or Per Thousand Square Feet (MTCO <sub>2</sub> e): Energy	Emissions Per Unit or Per Thousand Square Feet (MTCO <sub>2</sub> e): Transportation	Lifespan Emissions (MTCO <sub>2</sub> e)
Single-Family Home	0	N/A	98	672	792	0
Multi-Family Unit in Large Building	0	N/A	33	357	766	0
Multi-Family Unit in Small Building	0	N/A	54	681	766	0
Mobile Home	0	N/A	41	475	709	0
Education	N/A	0.0	39	646	361	0
Food Sales	N/A	0.0	39	1,541	282	0
Food Service	N/A	0.0	39	1,994	561	0
Health Care Inpatient	N/A	0.0	39	1,938	582	0
Health Care Outpatient	N/A	0.0	39	737	571	0
Lodging	N/A	0.0	39	777	117	0
Retail (Other than Mall)	N/A	0.0	39	577	247	0
Office	N/A	0.0	39	723	588	0
Public Assembly	N/A	0.0	39	733	150	0
Public Order and Safety	N/A	0.0	39	899	374	0
Religious Worship	N/A	0.0	39	339	129	0
Service	N/A	0.0	39	599	266	0
Warehouse and Storage	N/A	0.0	39	352	181	0
Other	N/A	0.0	39	1,278	257	0
Vacant	N/A	0.0	39	162	47	0
<b>TOTAL Section I Buildings</b>						<b>0</b>

**Section II: Pavement**

						Emissions (MTCO <sub>2</sub> e)
Pavement (sidewalk, asphalt patch)	N/A	0.0	0	N/A	N/A	0
Concrete or Asphalt Pad (50 MTCO <sub>2</sub> e per 1,000 sq ft of pavement 6 inches deep)	N/A	0.0	50	N/A	N/A	0
<b>TOTAL Section II Pavement</b>						<b>0</b>

**Section III: Construction**

	Emissions (MTCO <sub>2</sub> e)
<b>TOTAL Section III Construction</b> (See detailed calculations below)	<b>20.04</b>

**Section IV: Operations and Maintenance**

	Emissions (MTCO <sub>2</sub> e)
<b>TOTAL Section IV Operation and Maintenance</b> (See detailed calculations below)	<b>0.00</b>

<b>TOTAL GREENHOUSE GAS (GHG) EMISSIONS FOR PROJECT (MTCO<sub>2</sub>e)</b>	<b>20.04</b>
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**Section III: Construction Details**

**Construction: Diesel**

Equipment	Diesel (gallons)	Assumptions
Vactor truck - Phase 1 Travel	0.4	= 1 days x 1 round-trip/day x 4 miles/round trip ÷ 10 mpg
Vactor Truck - Phase 1 Usage	22	270 hp engine; = 1 days x 4 hr/day x 5.5 gal/hr
Vactor Truck - Phase 2 Travel	8	= 20 days x 1 round-trip/day x 4 miles/round trip ÷ 10 mpg
Vactor Truck - Phase 2 Usage	440	270 hp engine; = 10 days x 8 hr/day x 5.5 gal/hr
Excavator - Phase 2	560	345 hp engine; = 10 days x 8 hr/day x 7 gal/hr
Dump Truck (10 CY capacity) - Phase 2	24	= 4 round trips x 30 miles/round trip ÷ 5 mpg
40 HP Bypass Pump - Phase 2	591	= 20 days x 24 hr/day x 0.044 gal/hr/HP x 40 HP x 0.7 load factor
<b>Subtotal: Gallons of Diesel</b>	1,645.4	-
<b>GHG Emissions in lbs CO<sub>2</sub>e</b>	43,685.4	26.55 lbs CO <sub>2</sub> e per gal of diesel
<b>GHG Emissions in metric tons CO<sub>2</sub>e</b>	19.8	1 metric ton = 2,204.6 pounds of CO <sub>2</sub> e

**Construction: Gasoline**

Equipment	Gasoline (gallons)	Assumptions
Pick-up Trucks or Crew Vans - Phase 1	1	= 2 days x 2 vehicles x 1 round-trip/day x 4 miles/round trip ÷ 15 mpg
Pick-up Trucks or Crew Vans - Phase 2	21	= 20 days x 2 vehicles x 2 round-trip/day x 4 miles/round trip ÷ 15 mpg
-	-	-
-	-	-
<b>Subtotal: Gallons of Gasoline</b>	22	-
<b>GHG Emissions in lbs CO<sub>2</sub>e</b>	534.6	24.3 lbs CO <sub>2</sub> e per gal of Gasoline
<b>GHG Emissions in metric tons CO<sub>2</sub>e</b>	0.24	1 metric ton = 2,204.6 pounds of CO <sub>2</sub> e

**Construction Summary**

	CO <sub>2</sub> e (lbs)	CO <sub>2</sub> e (metric tons)
<b>Diesel</b>	43,685.4	19.8
<b>Gasoline</b>	534.6	0.24
<b>Total for Construction</b>	44,220	<b>20.04</b>

**Section IV: Long-Term Operations and Maintenance Details**

**Operations and Maintenance: Diesel**

Equipment	Diesel (gallons)	Assumptions
-	-	-
-	-	-
-	-	-
-	-	-
<b>Subtotal: Gallons of Diesel</b>	0	-
<b>GHG Emissions in lbs CO<sub>2</sub>e</b>	0	26.55 lbs CO <sub>2</sub> e per gal of diesel
<b>GHG Emissions in metric tons CO<sub>2</sub>e</b>	0.00	1,000 lbs = 0.45 metric tons

**Operations and Maintenance: Gasoline**

Equipment	Gasoline (gallons)	Assumptions
-	-	-
-	-	-
-	-	-
-	-	-
<b>Subtotal: Gallons of Gasoline</b>	0	-
<b>GHG Emissions in lbs CO<sub>2</sub>e</b>	0	24.3 lbs CO <sub>2</sub> e per gal of Gasoline
<b>GHG Emissions in metric tons CO<sub>2</sub>e</b>	0.00	1,000 lbs = 0.45 metric tons

**Operations and Maintenance Summary**

	CO <sub>2</sub> e (lbs)	CO <sub>2</sub> e (metric tons)
<b>Diesel</b>	0	0.00
<b>Gasoline</b>	0	0.00
<b>Total for Construction</b>	0	0.00