

**King County**


Department of Natural Resources and Parks • Wastewater Treatment Division
 Environmental and Community Services Section • 201 South Jackson Street, MS KSC-NR-0505,
 Seattle, WA 98104-3855 • FAX 206-684-1278

DETERMINATION OF NONSIGNIFICANCE (DNS)

TITLE OF PROPOSAL: Coal Creek Trunk Maintenance Hole 25B Protection Project

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSAL: The King County Wastewater Treatment Division (WTD) proposes to temporarily protect an existing sewer pipeline maintenance hole (MH-25B) that has become exposed due to erosion of the adjacent stream bank along a segment of Coal Creek. MH-25B is currently at risk of being damaged during a high streamflow event, which could result in pipe failure and sewage release into Coal Creek. WTD is therefore proposing to stabilize approximately 80 linear feet of adjacent stream bank by installing four bendway weirs (also known as rock barbs) to redirect streamflow, stone toe protection to prevent erosion, and streambed mix for salmon habitat. Construction is anticipated to last approximately two weeks, during which time the contractor will use a portion of the Red Cedar (also known as Upper West Coal Creek) Trailhead parking lot, and the gravel ramp to the sediment pond for construction staging. WTD proposes to temporarily close the parking lot and trail system within the construction work limits from Monday through Friday, and reopen them on the weekends with construction equipment, construction staging areas, and the work area near MH-25B fenced off. WTD is currently designing a larger project, the Coal Creek Trunk Upgrade Project, which is anticipated to enter construction within the next five years and will permanently remove MH-25B and the temporary protection measures proposed by this project.

LOCATION OF PROPOSAL: The project is located within a permanent WTD easement in the Coal Creek Natural Area (King County parcel 2124059001). The property is located at 5433 Coal Creek Parkway SE, Bellevue, WA 98006. MH-25B is located on the western bank of Coal Creek as it flows along the Upper West Coal Creek Trail.

Responsible Official:	Mark Isaacson
Position/Title:	Director, King County Wastewater Treatment Division
Address:	201 South Jackson Street, MS KSC-NR-0501 Seattle, WA 98104-3855
Date: 6/10/2020	Signature:  <small>DocuSigned by: CD09B21B45EF482...</small>
Proponent and Lead Agency:	King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks Wastewater Treatment Division
Contact Person:	Grace Smith, Water Quality Planner King County Wastewater Treatment Division 201 South Jackson Street, MS KSC-NR-0505 Seattle, WA 98104 phone: 206-477-8651; e-mail: grace.smith@kingcounty.gov
Issue Date:	June 11, 2020

The State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) lead agency for this proposal has determined that it does not have a probable significant adverse impact on the environment. An environmental impact statement (EIS) is not required under 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. This information is available to the public on request.

☒ This Determination of Nonsignificance is issued under WAC 197-11-340 (2); the lead agency will not act on this proposal for 19 days from the issue date. **Comments must be submitted by June 29, 2020.** Submit comments to Katherine Fischer, Environmental Programs Managing Supervisor, King County Wastewater Treatment Division, 201 South Jackson Street, MS KSC-NR-0505, Seattle, WA 98104-3855 or katherine.fischer@kingcounty.gov.

☒ The King County Wastewater Treatment Division has submitted an application to the City of Bellevue for a Critical Areas Land Use Permit, thus there is no administrative appeal of this DNS pursuant to RCW 43.21C.075, WAC 197-11-680, KCC 20.44.120 and King County Public Rule 7-4-1. The public rule may be viewed at <http://www.kingcounty.gov/operations/policies/rules/utilities/put741pr.aspx>, or contact Grace Smith at (206) 477-8651 or grace.smith@kingcounty.gov to obtain a copy of the rule.

[Statutory authority: RCW 43.21C.110. 84-05-020 (Order DE 83-39), §197-11-970, filed 2/10/84, effective 4/4/84.]



King County

Department of Natural Resources and Parks

Wastewater Treatment Division

King Street Center, KSC-NR-0505

201 South Jackson Street

Seattle, WA 98104

Environmental Checklist

for the

King County Wastewater Treatment Division Coal Creek Trunk Maintenance Hole 25B Protection Project

June 2020

Prepared in compliance with the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) (RCW 43.21C), the SEPA Rules (WAC 197-11), and Chapter 20.44 King County Code, implementing SEPA in King County procedures.

This information is available in accessible formats upon request at
206-477-5371 (voice) or 711 (TTY).

ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

A. BACKGROUND

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable:

Coal Creek Trunk Maintenance Hole 25B Protection Project

2. Name of applicant:

King County Wastewater Treatment Division (WTD), Department of Natural Resources and Parks (DNRP)

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

King County Wastewater Treatment Division
201 South Jackson Street, MS: KSC-NR-0505
Seattle, WA 98104-3855

CONTACT:

Grace Smith, Environmental Planner
Telephone: 206-477-8651
Email: grace.smith@kingcounty.gov

4. Date checklist prepared:

June 2020

5. Agency requesting checklist:

Wastewater Treatment Division, Department of Natural Resources and Parks, King County

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

This work is scheduled to take place in 2020, during the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) in-water work window, anticipated to be between July 1 and August 31.

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

The proposed project site is located within the area of a related WTD capital project, the Coal Creek Trunk Upgrade Project, which is currently in design and is anticipated to be constructed within the next five years. That project would replace a large portion of the Coal Creek Trunk pipeline in this area with a new pipe located away from Coal Creek. The future project would also remove several of the old maintenance holes (MHs), including maintenance hole 25B (MH-25B) that will be protected by this

project. The purpose of the current project is to temporarily protect MH-25B which has become exposed due to erosion of the stream bank and streambed. MH-25B and the proposed temporary protection would be removed when the Coal Creek Trunk Upgrade Project is implemented.

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

The following environmental documents have been prepared for this project by Jacobs Engineering Group Inc. (Jacobs):

- Joint Aquatic Resources Permit Application (JARPA)
- Biological Evaluation (BE)
- Critical Areas Memorandum

In addition, the following documents have been prepared for the future Coal Creek Trunk Upgrade Project (see Section A.7. of this checklist):

- Jacobs prepared the following environmental documents:
 - JARPA
 - BE
 - Critical Areas Report
 - Tributary 2 and Tributary 0272 Fish Passage Crossing Concept Memo
- Environmental Science Associates (ESA) prepared the following documents regarding cultural resources:
 - Cultural Resources Assessment Report
 - Archaeological Resources Monitoring Plan and Inadvertent Discovery Plan

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

WTD recently applied for a permit from the USACE for the future Coal Creek Trunk Upgrade Project. This permit application is pending.

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

WDFW

- Hydraulic Project Approval

USACE

- Department of the Army (DA) Permit, Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 404
- Endangered Species Act (ESA) Compliance (Section 7)
- National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) Consultation (Section 106)

City of Bellevue

- Critical Areas Land Use Permit
- Clear and Grade Permit

11. Give 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.

King County WTD proposes to conduct a project during the summer of 2020 to protect a maintenance hole adjacent to Coal Creek that has become exposed due to erosion of the stream bank and streambed, and is at risk of being damaged (see Figure 1 for site photo). WTD conducts regular monitoring of the condition of its assets, including MH-25B, along the Coal Creek Trunk sanitary sewer. After high flows in winter 2019 to spring 2020, the WTD Conveyance and Inspection team determined that continued erosion along the Coal Creek stream bank may fully expose MH-25B without immediate protection of the MH. If MH-25B were to be fully exposed, it would increase the risk of pipe failure and sewage release into Coal Creek, as well as the possibility that some of the stream's waters would be diverted into the damaged pipe. WTD is proposing to temporarily protect MH-25B and stabilize approximately 80 linear feet of adjacent stream bank from further erosion.

WTD is currently planning a larger project, the Coal Creek Trunk Upgrade Project, which would permanently remove MH-25B, along with the associated stream crossing of the existing sewer pipe. The current project's temporary protection measures would be removed in the course of the future project.

King County WTD proposes to install four bendway weirs (also known as rock barbs) along the left stream bank to redirect the thalweg (center of the main channel) of Coal Creek away from the left stream bank and towards the center of the existing stream. Left bank and right bank refer to the stream bank when facing downstream. To prevent erosion, stone toe protection will also be installed around the bendway weirs and partially into the stream channel. Appropriately-sized, clean, and water-rounded gravels will then be placed on the stone toe protection surface to provide suitable gravels for salmonid habitat.

WTD compared impacts associated with completing the temporary bank stabilization work in the wet (within the stream) and working in the dry (temporarily diverting the water from the stream). To reduce streambed impacts, WTD proposes to perform the work in the wet by using temporary mats along the soil slopes and partially in the stream channel. Using mats will reduce compaction as construction equipment accesses the left bank. The contractor will also minimize daily crossings by coordinating on the timing of proposed actions during safety briefings at the start of each work day.

The contractor will use a portion of the Red Cedar (also known as Upper West Coal Creek) Trailhead parking lot, and the gravel ramp to the sediment pond, for construction staging. The contractor will then use heavy equipment no wider than four feet, such as a mini track loader, to transport materials from the staging areas to the construction site. For public safety WTD proposes to temporarily close the parking lot and trail system within the construction work limits, including the trail that passes beneath Coal Creek Parkway SE to the parking lot, Monday – Friday. The parking lot and the trail system will be reopened on the weekends with construction equipment, construction staging, and the work area near MH-25B fenced off.

- 12. 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.**

MH-25B is located within a permanent WTD easement in the Coal Creek Natural Area (King County parcel 2124059001) near the Upper West Coal Creek Trail, along Coal Creek Parkway SE. The property is located at 5433 Coal Creek Parkway SE and is owned and managed by the City of Bellevue's Parks and Recreation Department. MH-25B is on the left bank of Coal Creek as it flows along the Upper West Coal Creek Trail.

The project is located within the Coal Creek Basin (6th Field Hydrologic Unit Code 17110012) and within the Coal Creek Basin of Water Resource Inventory Area (WRIA) 8, the Cedar/Sammamish Watershed, located in Section 21 of Township 24 North, Range 5 East, Willamette Meridian.

See Figure 2 for a location map of the project area.

B. ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS

1. Earth

a. General description of the site

(circle one): Flat, rolling, ☒ hilly, ☒ steep slopes, mountainous, other _____.

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

Slopes greater than 40% are present on the project site.

- 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 any of these soils.**

The USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service Web Soil Survey identifies the soils in the project area as Alderwood and Kitsap soils.

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

There are no seismic hazards, landslide hazards, coal mine hazards, or geologic hazard buffers within the proposed work limits.

A steep slope area extends across the trail in a portion of the project area. Work through this area will be limited to materials transported using mini track loaders and mini excavators that will stay within the footprint of the existing trail and not cause impacts to the steep slope. Similarly, the location of the proposed bendway weirs and stone toe protection are just outside and below another steep slope area, on the opposite side of the stream (the left stream bank). Since project actions along this side of the stream are limited to vegetation clearing and fill, with limited excavation required to place the protection materials, no steep slope impacts are anticipated at this location either.

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

Approximately 160 cubic yards of fill will be brought to the site to restore the gravel trail surface to existing conditions and to apply mulch to restoration areas.

Please see Section B.3.a.3 of this checklist for a description of the proposed fill and excavation that will occur on the bank of Coal Creek and within the Coal Creek streambed.

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

The installation of the proposed MH protection may cause minor localized erosion as the flow of the stream adjusts. The anticipated localized stream bank and streambed erosion that may occur as a result of this project is less than the erosion anticipated if no action is taken.

Erosion could occur as a result of vegetation removal, but is not anticipated because only minimal clearing of vegetation will be required to access the site. All areas cleared of vegetation will be restored to their previous conditions or better.

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

None

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

WTD would minimize impacts to earth by implementing the following:

- The duration of construction will be the minimum necessary to complete the temporary stabilization, and is anticipated to last approximately two weeks.
- Daily construction equipment and personnel crossings through the Coal Creek streambed are necessary to access MH-25B, but they will be minimized to the greatest extent possible by coordinating on activity timing during safety coordination briefings each day.
- WTD will monitor turbidity throughout construction activities to ensure that the temporarily elevated turbidity levels stay below the maximum limits within the mixing zone as set forth in state water quality and salmon habitat regulations (WAC 173-201A-210 and WAC 173-201A-400).
- The work will be performed in the wet by using temporary mats along the soil slopes and partially in the stream channel. Using mats will reduce compaction as construction equipment accesses the left bank, and also minimize turbidity during stream crossings.
- No trees will be removed as part of this project.
- Understory and ground cover vegetation clearing will be minimized to the greatest extent possible.
- Construction access will be limited to the Red Cedar Trailhead parking lot and the existing compacted Upper West Coal Creek Trail, except for a small segment needed to cross from the trail on the right bank to MH-25B on the left bank of Coal Creek.
- Construction staging will be limited to existing impervious surfaces.

2. Air

a. What types of emissions to the air would result from the proposal during construction, operation, and maintenance when the project is completed? If any, generally describe and give approximate quantities if known.

Short-term, minor air quality impacts from vehicle exhaust, such as from the use of a mini track loader to transport materials from the staging areas to the construction site, are possible during construction activities. Vehicle exhaust will also be produced following construction, during regular site visits to monitor vegetation establishment and stability of the structure (see Section B.14.f. of this checklist).

A King County Greenhouse Gas Emissions Worksheet is attached.

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

No

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

Engine idling will be minimized during construction activities.

3. Water

a. Surface Water:

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, or wetlands)? If yes, describe type and provide names. If appropriate, state what stream or river it flows into.

The project will occur on the left bank of Coal Creek, which is a Type F perennial stream, flowing into Lake Washington. Three tributaries to Coal Creek, all Type F perennial streams, are present within the work limits as closed-pipe culverts crossing the proposed construction access route and within the proposed staging areas in the existing Red Cedar Trailhead parking lot and along the existing Upper West Coal Creek Trail. The three tributaries and their associated buffers will not be impacted by access or construction staging for this project.

Six wetlands exist in proximity of the project area. Five of the wetlands are rated Category III and one wetland is rated Category II.

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

Yes. The project will require working along the left bank of Coal Creek, and within the stream itself. Approximately 1,200 square feet of the Coal

Creek streambed will be temporarily disturbed while a small excavator and personnel on foot cross Coal Creek and access MH-25B on the left bank.

Work will take place within the combined buffers of three wetlands, as well as the stream buffer of Coal Creek. Approximately 1,800 square feet of combined wetland and stream buffer will be temporarily disturbed during 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.

No fill or excavation will occur for equipment and personnel to access MH-25B on the left bank of Coal Creek. Approximately 40 cubic yards of excavation will be required to install the bendway weirs, stone toe protection, and streambed mix (gravel).

To stabilize the stream bank surrounding the MH, the eroded area behind MH-25B will be refilled with approximately 30 cubic yards of a mixture of clean imported streambed mix and excavated soils. Up to four bendway weirs consisting of two man-sized boulders will be installed along the left bank of Coal Creek, adding approximately two cubic yards of fill. Approximately 30 cubic yards of stone toe protection will be added to the upstream and downstream sides of the bendway weirs, as well as in between each bendway weir. The bendway weirs were selected to train the thalweg away from the left bank. They will be field-fitted during construction based on thalweg observations. Approximately 20 cubic yards of a streambed mix comprised of appropriately-sized, clean, and water-rounded gravels will then be placed on the stone toe protection surface to provide suitable gravels for salmonid habitat. These temporary bank stabilization improvements will remain in Coal Creek for approximately 5 years or until the Coal Creek Trunk Upgrade Project is complete.

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

This project will not involve any surface water withdrawals or diversions. WTD compared impacts associated with completing the bank stabilization work with and without temporarily diverting water flow from the streambed. To reduce streambed impacts, WTD proposes to perform the work in the wet, without temporarily diverting the stream. This will be accomplished by using temporary mats along the soil slopes and partially in the stream channel to reduce compaction as construction equipment

accesses the left bank. Using mats will also help to minimize turbidity caused by stream crossings.

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

The proposed work will occur in and adjacent to the mapped 100-year floodplain of Coal Creek. WTD is in direct communication with the City of Bellevue floodplain administrator regarding any temporary floodplain conditions anticipated by the proposed project.

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.

No

b. Ground Water:

1) Will ground water 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 ground water? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.

No ground water will be withdrawn and no water will be discharged to ground 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 will be discharged into the ground.

c. Water Runoff (including storm water):

1) Describe 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.

Natural patterns of runoff resulting from rainfall will not be affected by this project.

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

No

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

The project will direct the thalweg of Coal Creek away from the left stream bank, where the bank is currently eroding and leaving MH-25B exposed and at risk. However, this will not alter drainage patterns in the vicinity.

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

With the exception of redirecting the flow of Coal Creek away from MH-25B, this project will not impact surface waters in the project area. All materials put in place to stabilize MH-25B are temporary and will be removed with the MH during the Coal Creek Trunk Upgrade Project within approximately 5 years.

4. **Plants**

- a. **Check or circle types of vegetation found on the site:**

☒ **deciduous tree: alder, maple, aspen, other**

☒ **evergreen tree: fir, cedar, pine, other**

☒ **shrubs**

☒ **grass**

☐ **pasture**

☐ **crop or grain**

☐ **Orchards, vineyards, or other permanent crops**

☒ **wet soil plants: cattail, buttercup, bullrush, skunk cabbage, other**

☒ **water plants: water lily, eelgrass, milfoil, other**

☐ **other types of vegetation**

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

To access MH-25B from the trail on the right bank of Coal Creek, contractors will need to clear approximately 1,800 square feet of vegetation.

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

There are no threatened or endangered plant species known to be on or near the project site.

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

All areas cleared of vegetation will be revegetated with native plantings to existing conditions or better.

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

English ivy (*Hedera helix*), Reed canarygrass (*Phalaris arundinacea*), and Himalayan blackberry (*Rubus armeniacus*) can be found in the project vicinity.

5. Animals

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

birds: , , , , other: _____

mammals: , , elk, , other: cougar, raccoon

fish: bass, , , herring, shellfish, other: _____.

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

The following three species are listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and are likely to occur within the project area, though critical habitat for these species is not present in Coal Creek:

- Coastal-Puget Sound distinct population segment (DPS) bull trout (*Salvelinus confluentus*)
- Puget Sound evolutionarily significant (ESU) Chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*)
- Puget Sound DPS steelhead trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*).

In addition, the following ESA-listed species have the potential to occur within the project area, but it is unlikely due to a lack of suitable habitat and/or the project area being outside of their known range:

- Western DPS gray wolf (*Canis lupus*)
- North American wolverine (*Gulo luscus*)
- Marbled murrelet (*Brachyramphus marmoratus*)
- Streaked horned lark (*Eremophila alpestris strigata*)
- Yellow-billed cuckoo (*Castilleja levisecta*)

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

Coal Creek is used as a migration route by steelhead trout and Chinook and coho salmon.

The site is within the Pacific Flyway and numerous migratory bird species likely inhabit the Coal Creek Natural Area during migratory seasons.

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

The project aims to preserve wildlife by protecting MH-25B from further risk, and thus reducing the possibility of pipe failure and sewage release into Coal Creek.

The project would minimize negative impacts to the ESA-listed species above by implementing the following:

- Work will be limited to the approved USACE and WDFW in-water work window, anticipated to be between July 1 and August 31 of 2020. This window is also when the water level is lowest in Coal Creek.
- The duration of construction will be the minimum duration necessary to complete the temporary stabilization, and is anticipated to last approximately two weeks.
- Qualified biologists will set block nets and remove fish from the reach in advance of construction.
- A biological monitor will be present for the duration of the work.

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

The Bullfrog (*Lithobates catesbeianus*) may be present in the project area, as the Washington State Invasive Species Council lists this invasive species as present in freshwater habitats such as streams, ponds, wetlands, and ditches in the lowlands of Washington. In addition, non-native songbirds are likely present in the Coal Creek Natural Area.

6. Energy and Natural Resources

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

Not applicable for this project.

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

No, this project will have no effect on solar energy use by adjacent properties.

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

Not applicable for this project.

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.**

There are no environmental health hazards posed by this project. By protecting MH-25B which is currently at risk, this project will reduce the likelihood of pipe failure and release of sewage into Coal Creek in the future, which would be an environmental health hazard.

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

There were active coal mines in the project vicinity during the nineteenth century, but there is no known resulting contamination at the project site.

- 2) **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.**

None

- 3) **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.**

None

- 4) **Describe special emergency services that might be required.**

None

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

The purpose of this project is to protect MH-25B which is currently exposed and at risk of being damaged. Completing this project will reduce

the likelihood of pipe failure and release of sewage into Coal Creek in the future.

b. Noise

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

There is light noise from traffic on nearby Coal Creek Parkway SE, but this noise will not impact the 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.

Construction will last approximately two weeks and will produce short-term intermittent noise from the use of small heavy machinery, such as a track loader, an excavator, and a dump truck. Construction will take place Monday – Friday, and will only occur during daylight hours.

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

To minimize the potential for construction noise impacts to the aquatic environment, construction activities will avoid impulsive noises, such as pile driving, jackhammering, or blasting, below the Ordinary High Water Mark of Coal Creek. In-water construction activities will occur only during the approved in-water work window and affected reaches of the creek will have fish removed in advance of in-water construction activities. Therefore, in-water noise levels are considered insignificant.

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 property is owned and managed by the City of Bellevue's Parks and Recreation Department and is used as a recreational area with trails for hiking. For the safety of park users, the trail system near the project area and the Red Cedar Trailhead parking lot will be temporarily closed during construction (approximately two weeks in duration). The trails and parking lot will be reopened on the weekends with the construction equipment, construction staging, and work area fenced off. The surrounding properties are residential neighborhoods and will not be converted to other uses as a result of this project.

- 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 nonforest use?**

There are no working farm lands or forest lands within the project area.

- 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:**

There are no working farm or forest land business operations near the project area.

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

There are no structures on the site.

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

No

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

The property is zoned single family.

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

The current comprehensive plan designation of the property is Public Facility/Single Family Low Density.

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

Not applicable.

- h. **Has any part of the site been classified as a critical area by the city or county? If so, specify.**

The City of Bellevue regulates streams, wetlands, geologic hazards areas, habitat associated with species of local importance, and frequently flooded areas as critical areas. The following critical areas are located within the project area:

- Streams
 - The project will occur on the bank of Coal Creek, which is a Type F perennial stream, flowing into Lake Washington. Three tributaries to Coal Creek, all Type F perennial streams, are present within the work limits as closed-pipe culverts crossing the proposed construction access route and within the proposed staging area in the existing Red Cedar Trailhead parking lot. The three tributaries and their associated buffers will not be temporarily impacted by access or staging for this project.
- Wetlands
 - Six wetlands, five rated Category III and one rated a Category II, exist in the proximity of the project area. None of the wetlands will be impacted by this project. The combined buffers of three wetlands will be temporarily impacted.
- Geologic Hazard Areas
 - There are no seismic hazards, landslide hazards, coal mine hazards, or geologic hazard buffers within the proposed work limits.
 - A steep slope area extends across the trail in a portion of the project area. Work through this area will be limited to materials transported using mini track loaders and mini excavators that will stay within the footprint of the existing trail and will not impact this steep slope. Another steep slope is located on the opposite side of Coal Creek (the left stream bank), above the proposed bendway weirs and stone toe protection. Project actions along this side of the stream are limited to vegetation clearing and fill, with limited excavation required to place the protection materials. Therefore, no steep slope impacts are anticipated at this location either.
- Habitat Associated with Species of Local Importance
 - The project area contains habitat associated with multiple species of local importance. Pileated woodpecker, great blue heron, red-tailed hawk, Chinook salmon, and coho salmon have all been documented within the project area. Additional species of local importance are potentially present in the project area, due to the presence of snags and a high amount of habitat connectivity between wetlands, streams, and upland vegetation. These species include:
 - Bald eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*)
 - Vaux's swift (*Chaetura vauxi*)
 - Merlin (*Falco columbarius*)
 - Purple martin (*Progne subis*)
 - Osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*)

- Green heron (*Butorides striatus*)
- Townsend's big-eared bat (*Corynorhinus townsendii*)

- Frequently Flooded Areas

- The project area is located within and adjacent to the mapped 100-year floodplain for Coal Creek.

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

No people will reside within the completed project site. Following construction completion, WTD staff will continue to visit the site regularly to monitor the establishment of vegetation and the stability of the structure.

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

No people will be displaced as a result of this project.

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

No measures are needed.

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

This project is compatible with existing and projected land uses. Therefore, no measures are proposed.

m. Proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with nearby agricultural and forest lands of long-term commercial significance, if any:

No agricultural or forest lands of long-term commercial significance are near the project area. Therefore, no measures are proposed.

9. Housing

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

No units will be provided as part of this project.

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

No units will be eliminated as part of this project.

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

No measures are needed.

10. Aesthetics

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

No structures are proposed as part of this project.

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

No views will be altered or obstructed as a result of this project.

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

No measures are needed.

11. Light and Glare

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

No light or glare will be produced by this project.

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

No

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

None

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

No measures are needed.

12. Recreation

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

The project is located within the Coal Creek Natural Area, which is a popular city park frequented by local residents. Visitors of the park use the hiking trails and enjoy the natural scenery and wildlife that inhabit the area.

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

During construction activities, which will last approximately two weeks, the trail system within the work area limits will be closed Monday – Friday, as well as the trail that passes beneath Coal Creek Parkway SE and enters the Red Cedar Trailhead parking lot. During construction the Red Cedar Trailhead parking lot will also be closed while it is used for construction staging. The trails and parking lot will be reopened on the weekends, with the construction equipment, construction staging, and work area fenced off for public safety.

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

In an effort to minimize impacts on recreation, the trail system and parking lot will be reopened on the weekends. The project will be completed as quickly as possible, with an anticipated construction duration of approximately two weeks. WTD will post signs at trail entrances and within the trail system, notifying the public of trail closures ahead.

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 located on or near the site? If so, specifically describe.**

There are no archaeological sites or above-ground historic resources within or adjacent to the project area.

- 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.**

The Coal Creek Natural Area was historically used for coal mining, and two coal mines are located approximately one half mile and one mile from the project area. This project will not impact either coal mine.

- 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 archeology and historic preservation, archaeological surveys, historic maps, GIS data, etc.

The project was screened by the King County Historic Preservation Program (KC HPP) for the presence of cultural resources within the project area. These screenings included a review of historic registers, databases including the Washington Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation's (DAHP) records database (WISAARD), historic maps and reports, and predictive GIS modeling. In December 2019, Environmental Science Associates (ESA) completed a Cultural Resources Assessment for WTD's future Coal Creek Trunk Upgrade Project. ESA's assessment included a literature review, which covered the project area of the current proposal.

- 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.**

No effects to cultural resources are expected as a result of this project. An Inadvertent Discovery Plan (IDP) will be prepared in advance of construction. The IDP will outline the procedures to follow, should archaeological resources be discovered during construction. Affected Tribes, as well as any other potentially affected parties, will be invited into consultation under Section 106 of the NHPA. The project will comply with any conditions or mitigation measures imposed on it through that process.

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.**

The project site is adjacent to and accessible via Coal Creek Parkway SE.

- 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 directly served by public transit. The nearest transit stop is located approximately 0.8 miles away.

- c. How many additional parking spaces would the completed project or non-project proposal have? How many would the project or proposal eliminate?**

The completed project will not alter the number of parking spaces available.

- d. **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).**

This project does not involve any new roads or improvements to existing roads.

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

The project will not occur in the immediate vicinity of water, rail, or air transportation.

- f. **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 nonpassenger vehicles). What data or transportation models were used to make these estimates?**

Following construction, approximately one vehicle will visit the site twice per month to monitor the establishment of vegetated areas. In addition, approximately one vehicle will visit the site annually and following storm events to monitor the stability of the protection structure and MH-25B.

- g. **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.**

No, this project will not interfere with, affect or be affected by the movement of agricultural and forest products on roads in the area.

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

No transportation impacts are expected as a result of the project. Therefore, no measures are proposed.

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.**

No, this project will not increase the need for public services.

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

No measures are proposed.

16. Utilities

- a. **Circle utilities currently available at the site:**
electricity, natural gas, water, refuse service, telephone, sanitary sewer, septic system, other_____
- 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.**

No utilities are proposed for this project.

C. SIGNATURE

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



Signature: _____

Date Submitted: June 8, 2020

**Katherine Fischer
Environmental Programs Managing Supervisor
King County WTD, DNRP**



Figure 1. Photo of Maintenance Hole 25B taken February, 2020.

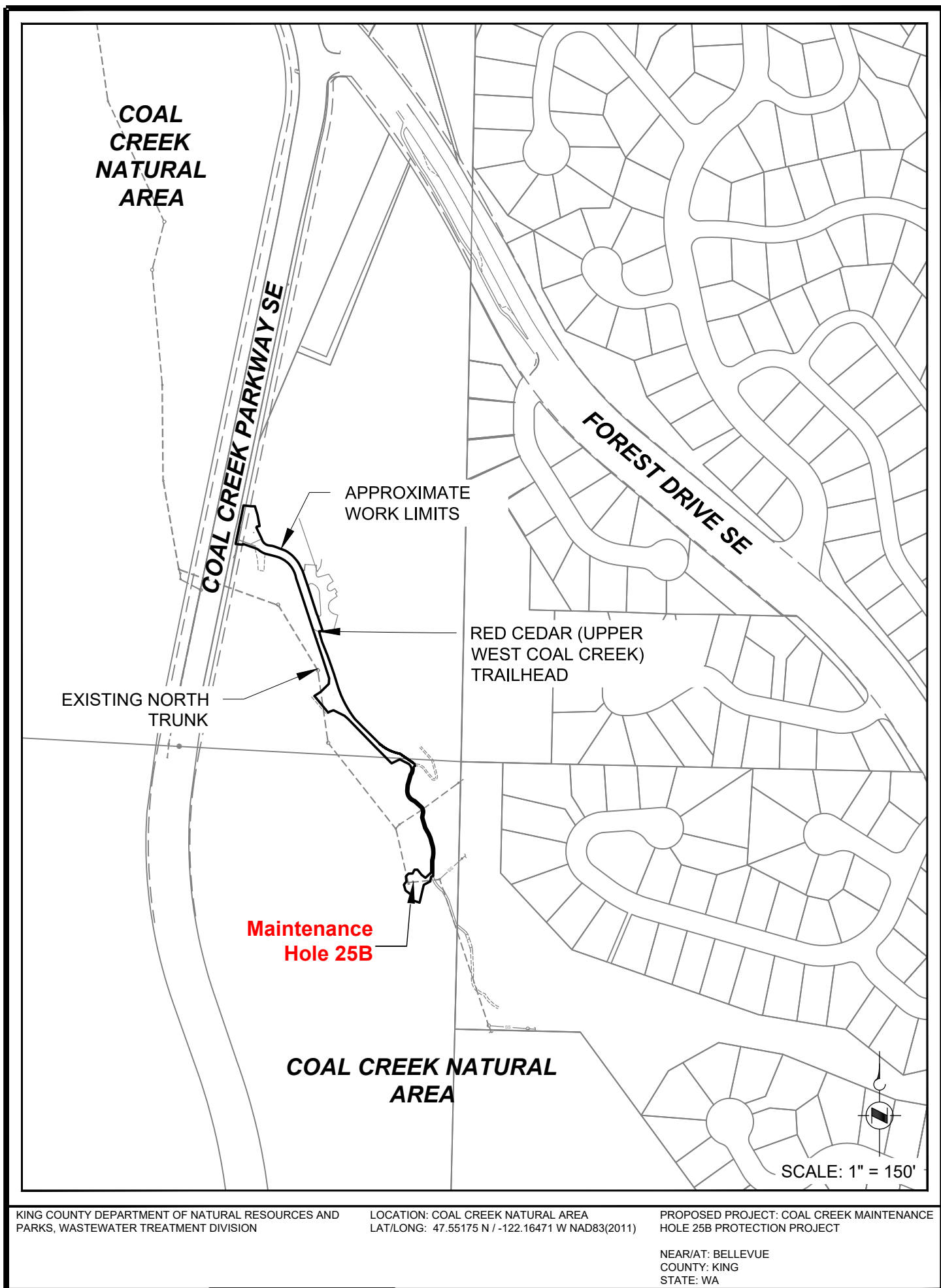


Figure 2. Location Map

King County Greenhouse Gas Emissions Calculator:
Coal Creek Trunk Maintenance Hole 25B Protection Project SEPA DNS

Instructions

Use this calculator to quantify emissions from energy use, water use, and vehicle miles traveled, for either the construction phase **or** the ongoing operations phase of the project. The calculator will convert any data entered into metric tons of CO2 equivalent (MTCO2e). Therefore, all data **must** be entered in the correct input unit (see 'input unit' column). If your data is in different units than those in the calculator, utilize the conversion tables to the right.

For construction, enter the total amount of fuel and other energy sources used while constructing the project, as well as the total amount of water used.
For ongoing operations, enter the estimated electricity and/or fuel that the project will use on an annual basis, and the expected lifetime of the project. Enter estimated annual water use in the same way.

Fuel use vs. VMT for ongoing project operations: if you do not have an estimate for transportation fuel use, substitute vehicle miles traveled (VMT). Enter the total annual miles traveled and the anticipated lifetime of the project in years. Do not enter both VMT and transportation fuel use for ongoing project operations.

Project Input		Data Input		Input Unit	Output		Additional Calculations
Energy Use		Construction	Operations		MTCO2e		Project Life (years)
enter in the amount of electricity or fuel used by project phase							
	Electricity			kWh	0	0	
	Gasoline ¹	60		gallons	0.6798	0	
	Diesel ¹	1,080		gallons	13.4784	0	
	Natural Gas			therms	0	0	
	Heating Oil			gallons	0	0	
	Jet Fuel			gallons	0	0	
	Steam			Mlb	0	0	
	Propane			gallons	0	0	
Energy Use--Biofuels							Project Life (years)
	Green Electricity ²			kWh	0	0	
	Biogenic Sources ³						
	Biodiesel ¹			gallons	0	0	
	Landfill gas or Biogas ²			MMBtu	0	0	

Project Input	Data Input	Input Unit	Output		
Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT)			MTCO2e		Project Life (years)
enter the estimated annual VMT for the project	550	miles	0.289837209	0	5

Project Input	Data Input	Input Unit	Output		
Water Use ('watergy')			MTCO2e		Project Life (years)
enter the amount of water used by project phase		gallons	0	0	

1. Lifecycle GHG Emissions (includes both combustion and fuel production)

2. Green electricity and biogas are considered carbon-neutral energy sources; CO2e output is zero

3. Please separately calculate and note any biogenic sources of greenhouse gas emissions

Conversions	
kWh	MWh
1	0.001

kg	Metric Tons
1	0.001

therm	MMBtu
1	0.1

Mlb	MMBtu
1	1.095

CCF	gallon
1	748

King County Greenhouse Gas Emissions Calculator:
Coal Creek Trunk Maintenance Hole 25B Protection Project SEPA DNS

Project or Tool Input		Output	Additional Calculations	Final Output
a	Energy	MTCO2e	Project Life (years)	MTCO2e
	Construction phase	14		14.16
	Operations phase	-	0	-
b	Water	MTCO2e	Project Life (years)	MTCO2e
	Construction phase	-		-
	Operations phase	-	0	-
c	Transportation (VMT)			MTCO2e
	KC Employee Commute Climate Pollution Map	Av MTCO2e	# employees	
		-	0	-
	KC Residential Transportation Climate Pollution Map	Av MTCO2e	# households	
		-	0	-
d	Embodied Energy	MTCO2e		MTCO2e
		-		-
1	Waste Reduction Model (WARM)	MTCO2e		MTCO2e
		-		-
2	URBEMIS	lbsCO2/day	# project days	MTCO2e
		-	0	-
3	Roadway Construction Emissions Model	tonsCO2/project		MTCO2e
		-		-
4	Build Carbon Neutral	MTCO2		MTCO2e
		-		-
5	Tree Carbon Calculator	kgCO2	# trees	MTCO2e
		-	0	-
6	Reforestation Calculator	MTCO2e		MTCO2e
		-		-

NET Project Impact	
MTCO2e	14.16

Conversions	
lbs	Metric Tons
0.00045359237	1
Short Tons	Metric Tons
0.90718474	1
grams	Metric Tons
0.000001	1
kg	Metric Tons
0.001	1