

Proposed Certification for a Wetland Mitigation Bank in Clark County

Interested parties are hereby notified that the Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) is considering the certification of the East Fork Lewis Wetland Mitigation Bank in Clark County, Washington.

Overview

Ecology is seeking comment regarding a proposal to construct and operate a privately-owned, 113-acre wetland mitigation bank near La Center, Washington. A wetland bank is a site where wetlands are restored, created, enhanced or preserved before unavoidable, authorized wetland losses occur. The purpose of the East Fork Lewis Wetland Mitigation Bank is to provide, for sale to the general public, high-quality, consolidated, watershed-based compensatory mitigation. Wetland bank credits would be available – subject to regulatory approval – for future projects with unavoidable impacts to wetlands and other aquatic resources.

The public comment period to evaluate state certification for the proposed bank starts Dec 8, 2010, and ends Jan. 7, 2011.

Location

The address for the proposed East Fork Lewis Wetlands Mitigation Bank is 14830 NE 379th St, La Center. The site is located on parcels 2644090000, 264355000, 264413000, 264402000, 264412000, 264411000, and 264352000, in the southeast quarter of Section 23, Township 5 North, Range 2 East, Willamette Meridian, near the city of La Center. The bank site is located within the jurisdiction of Clark County. **Please see the attached Project Vicinity Map for exact location.**

Applicant

East Fork Lewis Mitigation Partners, LLC
15600 NE 173rd St.
Woodinville, Wash. 98702
ATTN: Steve Sego
Phone: 206-661-2401
sdsego@comcast.net

Existing Conditions

The proposed bank site currently consists of upland fields with low topographical relief and drained by a series of ditches.

East Fork Lewis Wetland Mitigation Bank

Public Notice Date:
December 8, 2010

Comment Period Ends:
January 7, 2011

Send written comments to:
Kate Thompson
Department of Ecology
SEA Program
Post Office Bo 47600
Olympia, Wash. 98504-7600
kate.thompson@ecy.wa.gov

A more detailed description of the project is available in the *East Fork Lewis Wetland Mitigation Bank Mitigation Banking Instrument*, dated Nov. 5, 2010, available at: www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/sea/wetlands/mitigation/banking/public-notice

Interested parties also can review the document at:

Battle Ground Public Library
1207 SE 8th Way
Battle Ground, WA 98604

and

Department of Ecology
300 Desmond Drive, SE
Lacey, WA 98504

Proposed Improvements

If the bank is approved and certified, the site would be permanently protected as a natural area through a conservation easement. East Fork Lewis Mitigation Partners would re-establish and enhance approximately 113-acres of forested, scrub-shrub, and emergent wetlands and associated upland habitat.

Proposed Service Area

The proposed service area where mitigation credits may be used covers the southwest portion of the Lewis River Water Resources Inventory Area 27 (WRIA 27). Gee Creek and Allen Canyon Creek watersheds, and the north portion of Mill Creek sub-watershed are included as areas of special consideration. **Please see the attached proposed service area map for the project.**

Additional Information

For more information about wetland mitigation banking in Washington:

<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/sea/wetlands/mitigation/banking/index.html>

To receive updates about wetland mitigation banking in Washington or sign up for Ecology's listserv:

<http://listserv.wa.gov/cgi-bin/wa?A0=WETLAND-MITIGATION-BANKING>

Comment and Review Period

Written comments on the proposed project must be received within 30 days of the publication date of this notice to the address below. Conventional mail or e-mail comments on this public notice will be accepted and made part of the public record.

Kate Thompson
Department of Ecology
SEA Program
Post Office Bo 47600
Olympia, Washington 98504-7600
kate.thompson@ecy.wa.gov

Ecology will evaluate all the comments received to determine whether it would be in the public interest to certify the bank.

To request a public hearing on the proposed bank certification, submit your request in writing to Ecology before the end of the comment period. Any request for a public hearing must include the reason why a public hearing is warranted.

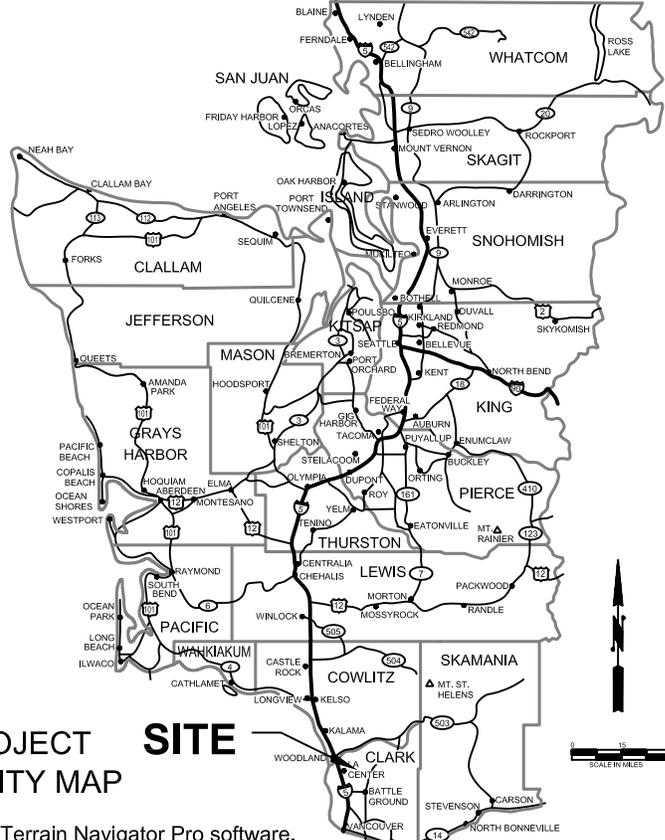
4/13/2007 4:12 PM S:\Clark-WA\County-Projects\1209-Habitat Banc NW\1209.05-East Fork Lewis Mitigation Bank\1209.05-Figures\2010\A-1 Vicinity Map.dwg Brian Bottorff

WASHINGTON



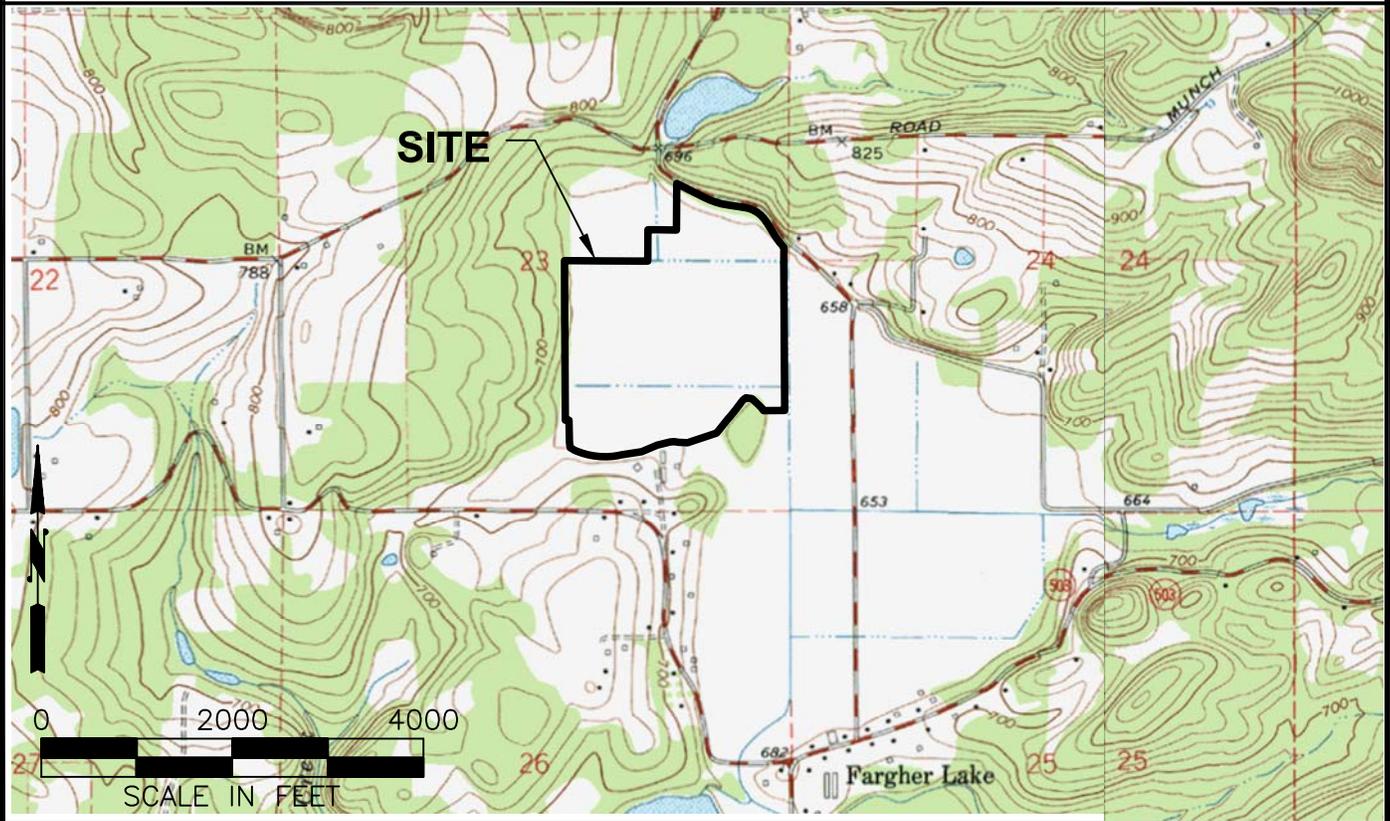
45° 53' 54" N Latitude
 122° 30' 58" W Longitude
LOCATION MAP

		R 2 E	
		6	1
T 5 N			
	31		36



PROJECT SITE VICINITY MAP

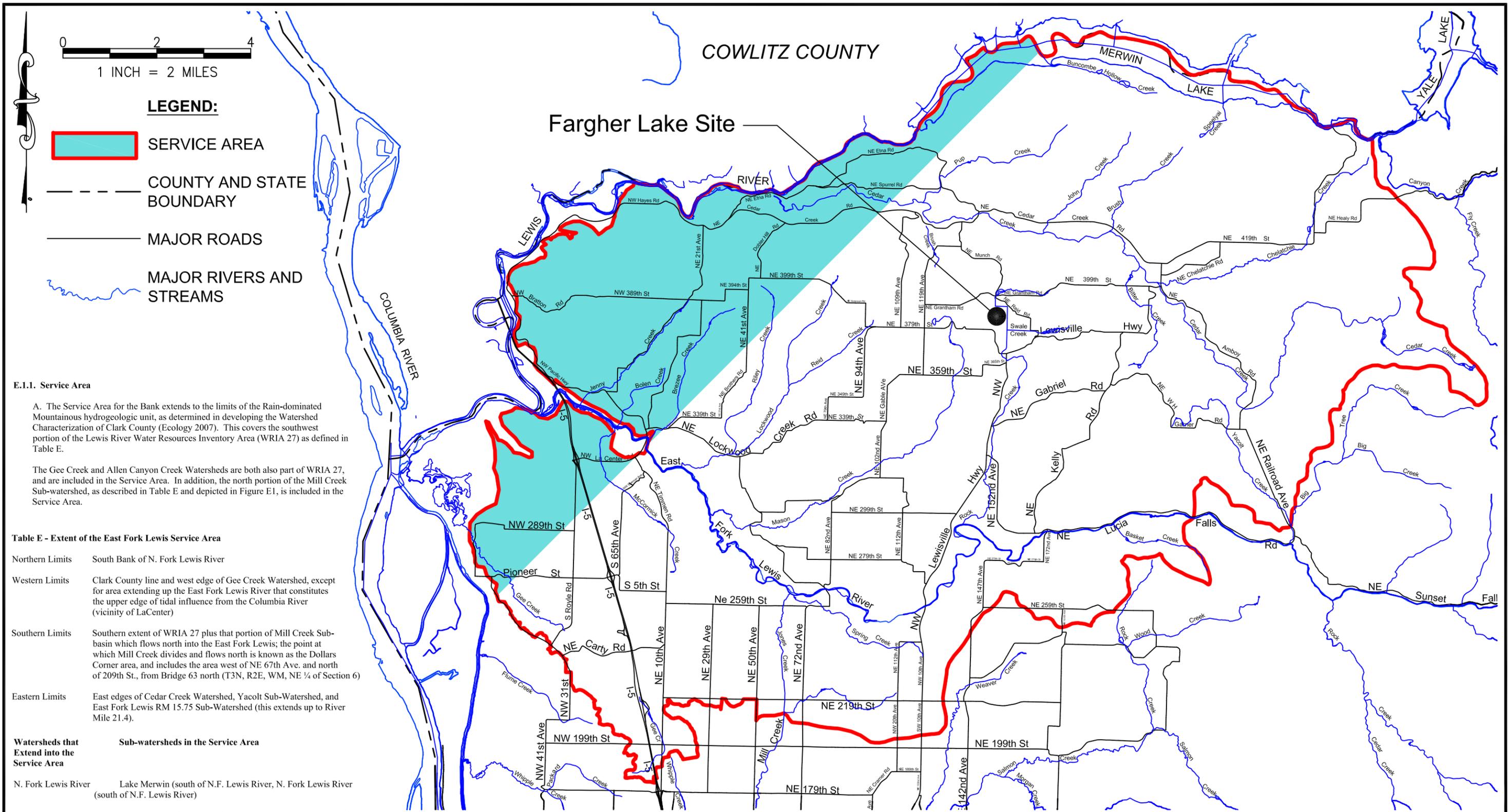
NOTE:
 USGS topographic quadrangle map reproduced using MAPTECH Inc., Terrain Navigator Pro software.



 **ECOLOGICAL LAND SERVICES, INC.**
 1157 3rd Ave., Suite 220 Longview, WA 98632
 (360) 578-1371 Fax: (360) 414-9305

DATE: 4/9/10
 DWN: BCB
 REQ. BY: TK
 PRJ. MGR: FN
 CHK:
 APPR:
 PROJ.#: 1209.05

**Figure A-1
 VICINITY MAP
 Fargher Lake Site
 East Fork Lewis Wetland Mitigation Bank
 Clark County, Washington
 Section 23, Township 5N, Range 2E, W.M.**



LEGEND:

- SERVICE AREA
- COUNTY AND STATE BOUNDARY
- MAJOR ROADS
- MAJOR RIVERS AND STREAMS

E.1.1. Service Area

A. The Service Area for the Bank extends to the limits of the Rain-dominated Mountainous hydrogeologic unit, as determined in developing the Watershed Characterization of Clark County (Ecology 2007). This covers the southwest portion of the Lewis River Water Resources Inventory Area (WRIA 27) as defined in Table E.

The Gee Creek and Allen Canyon Creek Watersheds are both also part of WRIA 27, and are included in the Service Area. In addition, the north portion of the Mill Creek Sub-watershed, as described in Table E and depicted in Figure E1, is included in the Service Area.

Table E - Extent of the East Fork Lewis Service Area

Northern Limits	South Bank of N. Fork Lewis River
Western Limits	Clark County line and west edge of Gee Creek Watershed, except for area extending up the East Fork Lewis River that constitutes the upper edge of tidal influence from the Columbia River (vicinity of LaCenter)
Southern Limits	Southern extent of WRIA 27 plus that portion of Mill Creek Sub-basin which flows north into the East Fork Lewis; the point at which Mill Creek divides and flows north is known as the Dollars Corner area, and includes the area west of NE 67th Ave. and north of 209th St., from Bridge 63 north (T3N, R2E, WM, NE ¼ of Section 6)
Eastern Limits	East edges of Cedar Creek Watershed, Yacolt Sub-Watershed, and East Fork Lewis RM 15.75 Sub-Watershed (this extends up to River Mile 21.4).

Watersheds that Extend into the Service Area

Watersheds that Extend into the Service Area	Sub-watersheds in the Service Area
N. Fork Lewis River	Lake Merwin (south of N.F. Lewis River, N. Fork Lewis River (south of N.F. Lewis River)
E. Fork Lewis River	E. Fork Lewis River RM 3.19, 7.25 and 15.75, Jenny Creek, Brezee Creek, Lockwood Creek, Mason Creek, Rock Creek North, Dean Creek, McCormick Creek, Mill Creek East Fork, Yacolt Creek
Cedar Creek	Cedar Creek Upper, Cedar Creek Middle, Cedar Creek Lower, Pup Creek, Chelatchie Creek
Allen Canyon Creek	Allen Canyon Creek
Gee Creek	Gee Creek

- NOTES:**
- STATE, COUNTY, ROADS, RIVERS AND STREAM BOUNDARIES FROM ECOLOGY WEBSITE: <http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/mapsdata/geodatacatalog/default.htm>
 - SERVICE AREA BOUNDARY BASED ON MAP PREPARED BY STEPHEN STANLEY WETLAND RESTORATION BIOLOGIST WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY SEA PROGRAM.
 - MAP PREPARED BY ECOLOGICAL LAND SERVICES, INC., DECEMBER, 2007 AND JANUARY, 2010.

**FIGURE E-1
EAST FORK LEWIS RIVER
SERVICE AREA**