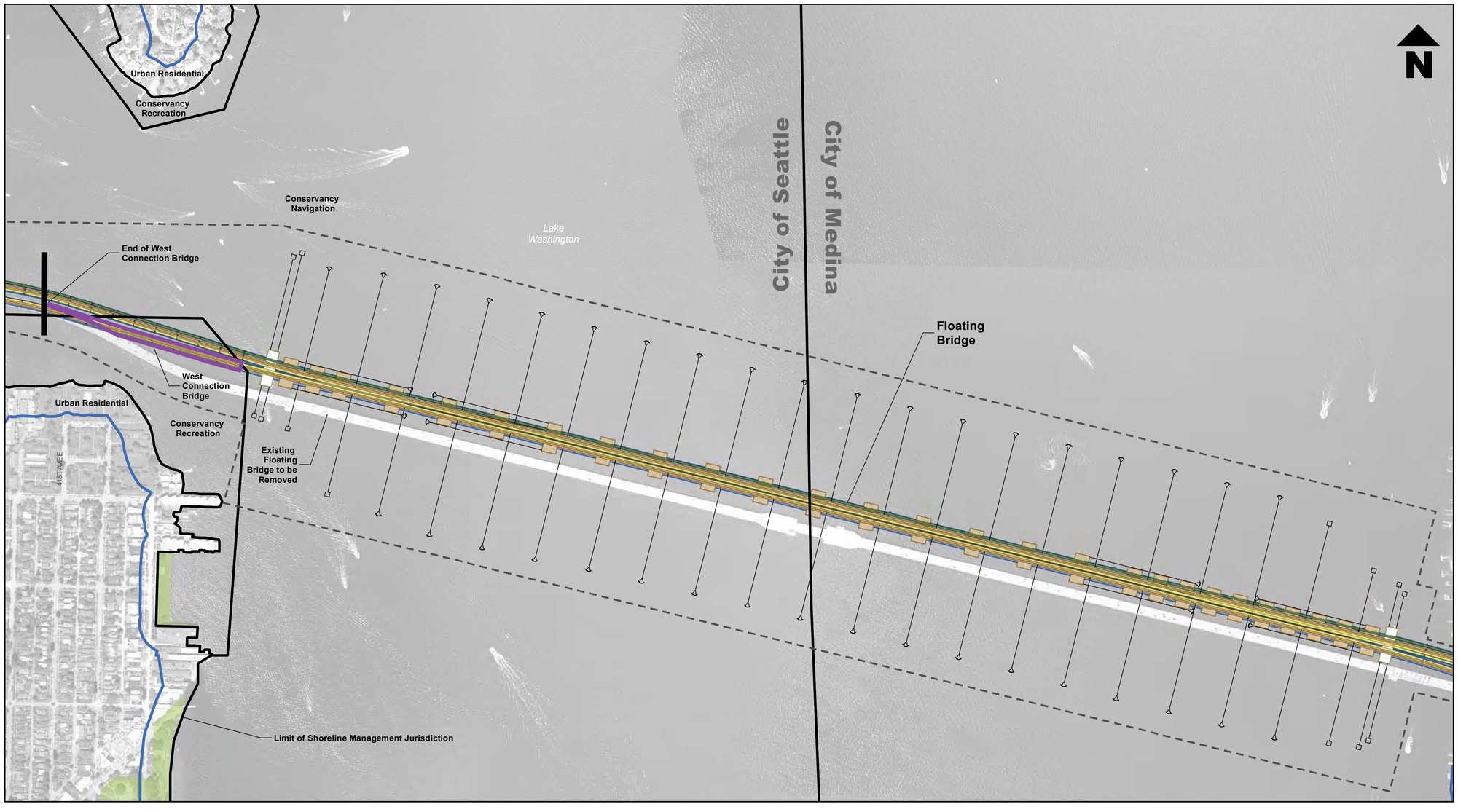
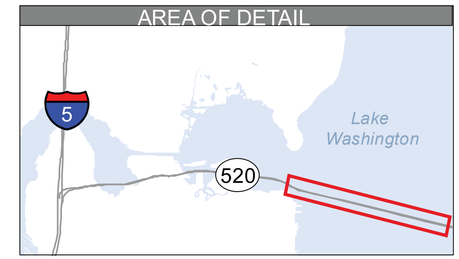
October 2011

Floating Bridge (Shoreline application #3011843)





- Columns
- Existing regional bicycle/ pedestrian path
- Pavement
- Proposed bicycle/pedestrian path
- General-purpose lane
- HOV, direct access, and/or transit only
- Westbound managed shoulder
- Bridge limits
- Anchor and cable
- Cross pontoon
- Supplemental stability pontoon
- Limits of construction
- West connection bridge
- Shoreline environment designation
- Limit of shoreline management jurisdiction
- Park and open space

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Floating Bridge (Shoreline application #3011843)

What elements is WSDOT requesting permits for?

- Floating Bridge (including all construction, demolition and construction staging)

What Seattle shoreline environment does this project occur in?

- Conservancy Recreation (CR)
- Conservancy Navigation (CN)

When will project construction begin?

- As part of the larger, I-5 to Medina project, construction of the Floating Bridge will begin in 2012 and conclude in 2015.
- **No site work or construction, including clearing of trees or vegetation, would occur until all local, state and federal permits are obtained, and the construction contracting for the Floating Bridge and mitigation is in place.**

Is mitigation needed for this project?

- Mitigation will be needed for unavoidable impacts associated with construction and operation of the Floating Bridge. WSDOT has committed to mitigating for a variety of natural resource and community impacts.

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Floating Bridge – Impacts and Mitigation

Are there natural resource impacts requiring mitigation?

- Temporary construction impacts associated with the Floating Bridge are limited primarily to potential water quality impacts.
- Permanent impacts from the floating bridge, such as filling and shading, will result in a loss of lakebed habitat and indirect effects to aquatic habitat.

What is the mitigation for temporary impacts?

- Mitigation will be protective measures to avoid water quality impacts during construction.

What is the mitigation for permanent impacts?

- Mitigation will be conducted at both on- and off-site locations.
- On-site mitigation will take place on the east side of Lake Washington. The nearshore area will be enhanced to improve sockeye salmon spawning habitat, and will provide a portion of the mitigation needed to offset project impacts.
- As on-site mitigation opportunities are limited because of existing land uses, mitigation for permanent impacts will be conducted at three off-site locations where aquatic habitats can be restored and/or enhanced to improve the ecological functions of the entire watershed.
- These off-site mitigation locations are: Bear Creek (City of Redmond), South Lake Washington Mitigation Site (Department of Natural Resources), Cedar River - Elliott Bridge Reach (King County)

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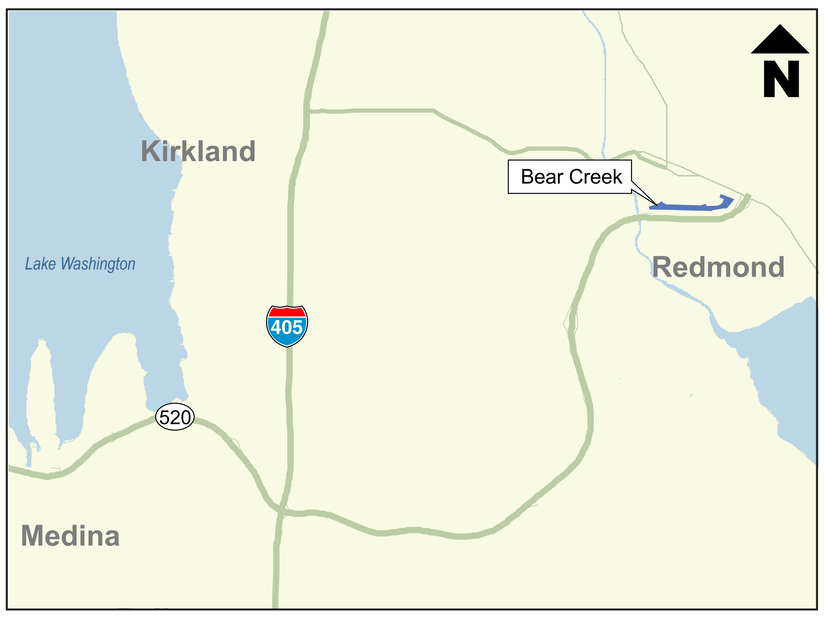
Mitigation projects outside of Seattle

Mitigation for permanent impacts to aquatic habitat associated with the Floating Bridge and Montlake Bascule Bridge will take place outside of the City of Seattle and will be permitted separately in those jurisdictions. These sites are located at:

Bear Creek (City of Redmond)

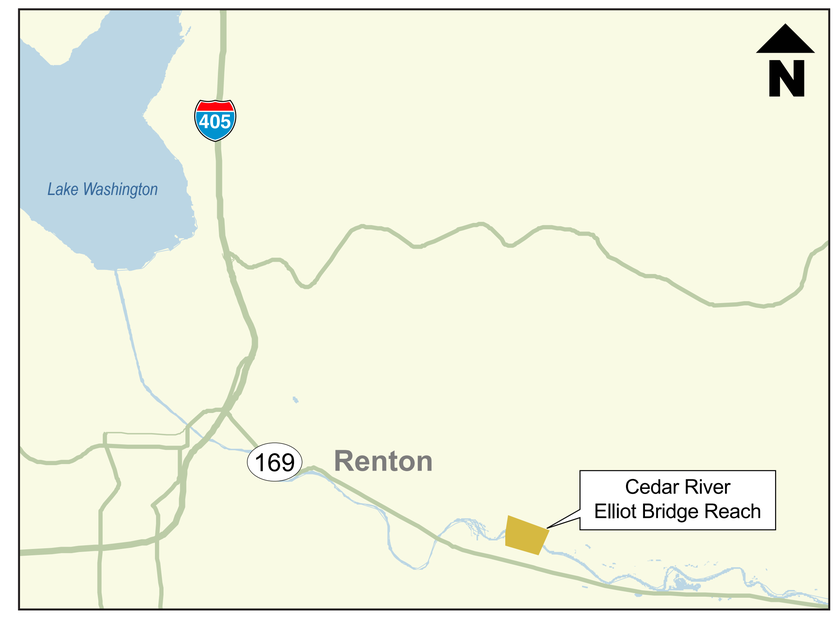


Restoration of salmon habitat through reconstruction and enhancement of portions of Bear Creek.

South Lake Washington Mitigation Site (Department of Natural Resources)

Removal of in-water structure and restoration of shoreline vegetation to improve conditions for salmon migrating from the Cedar River.

Cedar River Elliott Bridge Reach (King County)



Establishment of floodplain wetlands and aquatic channel habitat creation

Mitigation at these sites must be built in advance of, or concurrent with construction of the Floating Bridge and Montlake Bascule Bridge projects, as required by regulations.