



March 25, 2011

Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife
 Region 3
 1701 S. 24th Ave.
 Yakima, WA 98903-5720

RE: SR 539 Widening Project: Horton Road to Tenmile Road (MP 1.64 to MP 6.26) (Larson Road)
 Mitigation Site
 WDFW HPA Permit **104032-2**

Dear Interested Parties:

The Washington State Department of Transportation completed monitoring of the site on July 19th 2010 to determine survival of planted species for compliance with the above-listed HPA.

General Site Information		
WDFW HPA Permit Number	104032-2	
Restoration Location	North of Bellingham, WA on the west side of Guide Meridian road on the corner of Guide Meridian and W Larson road.	
Construction Date	2007-2008	
Monitoring Period	2008-2010	
Year of Monitoring	3 of 3	
Area of Project Impact	0.03 acre buffer, 824 linear ft stream channel	
Type of Restoration	Stream Restoration	Stream Buffer Enhancement
Area of Restoration	706 linear feet	1.49 acres

Site development:

Permit Requirement	2008 Results	Management Activities
80% survival of planted species	96% survival overall	Ongoing weed control

The stream buffer enhancement acreage is a combination of wetland creation and wetland enhancement. This wetland is located within 100 feet of the property boundary so it is ineligible for wetland mitigation credit. It is, however, available for stream buffer mitigation and this is what is reflected in the table above.

Based on the total count completed by the region, survival of the planted woody species across the site is 96 percent (Photo

1). The dominant species observed in the buffer include red alder (*Alnus rubra*), salmonberry (*Rubus spectabilis*), and black

cottonwood (*Populus balsamifera* ssp. *Trichocarpa*) and in the wetland include redosier dogwood (*Cornus sericea*), willows (*Salix* spp.), salmonberry (*Rubus spectabilis*), and twinberry honeysuckle (*Lonicera involucrata*). Overall, the planted native species are robust and thriving (Photo 2).

The riparian zone has a continuously thick growth of willows (*Salix* spp.) along each bank of the stream. The banks are relatively steep, however, with the installation of the erosion control fabric and live stakes, the stream banks have remained stable. An additional 1,211 redosier dogwood (*Cornus sericea*) and willow (*Salix* spp.) live stakes were planted along the creek in November, 2010. The stream channels were shallowly inundated at the time of summer vegetation monitoring (Photo 2). The stream channels meander, slowing water and providing storage for flood flow.



Photo 1
Woody cover in the stream buffer
(July 2010)



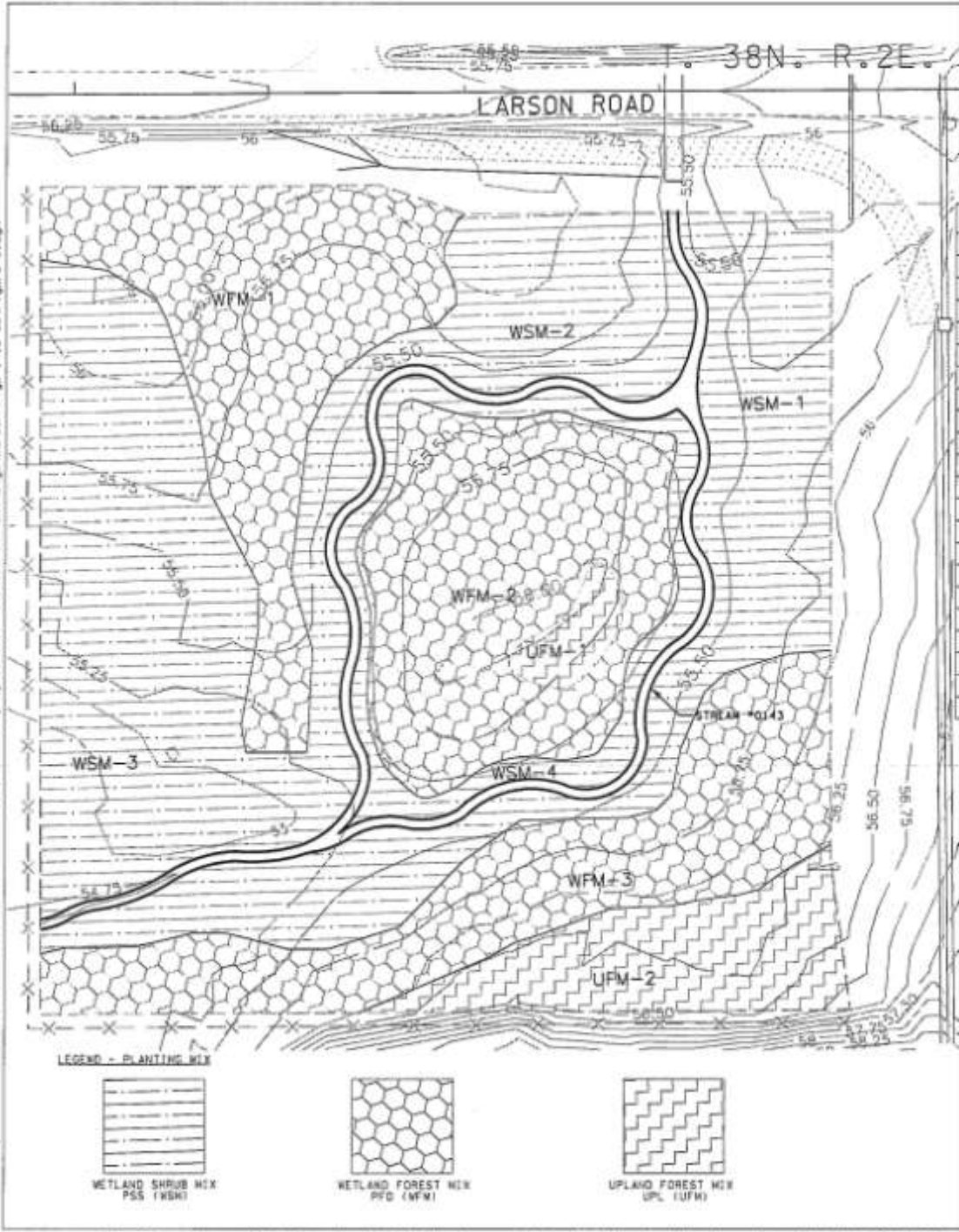
Photo 2
Stream Channel (July 2010)

We welcome your questions or comments. Please contact me at 360/570-6640 or by e-mail at busht@wsdot.wa.gov for questions about these mitigation sites.

Sincerely,

Tony Bush
Wetland Assessment and Monitoring Program

1/13/2006 12:09:33 PM PL011 D:\proj\00-01177-001\Cad\CURRENT\Drawn\Larson Figs 1-13.dwg figure 9.dgn



Planting plan and plant schedule for the Larson Road wetland mitigation site within the SR 539 w