Determination of NONSIGNIFICANCE
DISTRIBUTION LIST

PROJECT:
Salmon Creek Slide Area

Notice Date: **March 10, 2016**

Please find enclosed an environmental Determination of Non Significance (DNS) issued pursuant to State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) Rules (Chapter 197-11, Washington Administrative Code). The enclosed review comments reflect evaluation of the environmental checklist by the lead agency as required by WAC 197-11-330(1)(a)(i).

Written comments may be submitted on this determination within fifteen (15) days of its issuance, after which the DNS will be reconsidered in light of the comments received.

Please address all correspondence to:

Clark County Dept. of Environmental Services
Jennifer Taylor, Environmental Coordinator
PO Box 9810
Vancouver, WA 98666-9810

DISTRIBUTION

State Agencies:
Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation
Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife
Washington State Department of Ecology
Washington State Dept. of Natural Resources

Regional Agencies:
SW Washington Health District
Fort Vancouver Regional Library
Clark Regional Wastewater District
Greater Clark Parks District

Special Purpose:
Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde
Cowlitz Indian Tribe

Local Agencies:
City of Vancouver
Clark County Conservation District
Clark Public Utilities - Water
Clark Public Utilities - Electric
Clark County Board of Commissioners
Clark County Community Development
Administration
- Development Services
- Fire Marshall's Office
- Clark County Sheriff's Office

Clark County Department of Environmental Services
Battle Ground School District
Clark County Fire District No. 6

Neighborhood & Homeowner Assoc.
Fairgrounds Neighborhood Association
Properties within 300' of project (postcard only)

Other:
Washington State University
The Columbian
The Reflector
Comcast Cable Services
CenturyLink
Clark Regional Wastewater District
City of Battle Ground Wastewater District
Northwest Natural Gas

DETERMINATION OF NON-SIGNIFICANCE

Description of Proposal: The Salmon Creek Slide Area Project will improve safety by shifting Salmon Creek Street away from a bank failure area along Salmon Creek. This project will widen the existing road approximately seven feet to the north, re-grade a ditch line at the new toe of slope, extend one culvert to meet the new ditch location, relocate utility poles and install a concrete barrier on the south side of Salmon Creek Street. Approximately ten trees north of the existing road may need to be removed. Mitigation will occur along Salmon Creek Avenue or at the Salmon Creek Greenway.

Proponent: Clark County Department of Public Works

Location of proposal, including street address, if any:
The project begins at Salmon Creek Street and NE 50th Avenue and extending east of NE 53rd Avenue.

The project is Section 19 of Township 3 North, Range 2 East, Willamette Meridian, in Clark County, Washington.

Lead Agency: Department of Public Works, Clark County, Washington

The 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.

The lead agency has determined that the requirements for environmental analysis, protection, and mitigation measures have been adequately addressed in the development regulations and comprehensive plan adopted under chapter 36.70A RCW, and in other applicable local, state, or federal laws or rules, as provided by RCW 43.21C.240 and WAC 197-11-158. Our agency will not require any additional mitigation measures under SEPA.

This DNS is issued under WAC 197-11-340(2); the lead agency will not act on this proposal for 15 days from the date below.

Comments must be submitted by **March 25, 2016**

Responsible Official: Tom Grange, P.E.

Position/title: Engineering and Construction Division Manager

Address: Clark County Public Works
1300 Franklin Street
PO Box 9810
Vancouver, WA 98666-9810

Date: 3/3/2016 **Signature:** Tom Grange

ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

A. BACKGROUND

1. Name of proposed project:

   Salmon Creek Slide Area

2. Name of applicant:

   Clark County Environmental Services

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

   Clark County Environmental Services
   1300 Franklin Street
   PO Box 9810
   Vancouver, WA 98666-9810
   Phone: (360) 397-2121 ext 4227
   Contact: Jennifer Taylor

4. Date checklist prepared:

   February 10, 2016

5. Agency requesting checklist:

   Clark County Public Works

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

   Construction is planned for the Fall of 2016.

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

   There are no activities or expansions related to this project.

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

   Review and analysis to complete this SEPA checklist.

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.

   There are no applications related to this project pending government approval.

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

    Clark County Shoreline Permit
    Clark County Stormwater Ordinance approval

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.

The Salmon Creek Slide Area project will improve safety by shifting Salmon Creek Street away from a bank failure area along Salmon Creek. This project will widen the existing road approximately seven feet to the north, re-grade a ditch line at the new toe of slope, extend one culvert to meet the new ditch location, relocate utility poles and install a concrete barrier on the south side of Salmon Creek Street. Approximately ten trees north of the existing road may need to be removed. Mitigation will occur along Salmon Creek Avenue or at the Salmon Creek Greenway.

12. Location of the proposal.

The proposed project starts at the intersection of Salmon Creek Street and NE 50th Avenue and ends at the intersection of Salmon Creek Street and NE 53rd Avenue in Clark County, Section 19 of Township 3 North, Range 2 East, Willamette Meridian. See attached vicinity map.

B. ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS

1. Earth

a. General description of the site: Flat, rolling, hilly, steep slopes, mountainous, other.

The vast majority of the project site is flat with slopes less than 5%.

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

The steepest slope is approximately 5%. Salmon Creek, outside of the project limits, has slopes >15%.

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 prime farmland.

According to the US Department of Agriculture, Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS), Hilboro loam (Non-Hydric/HIA) is the soil type in the project area.

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

Salmon Creek, outside of the project limits, has slopes >15%. A recent bank failure and repair occurred in January 2016. There is also evidence of older bank failures in this same reach of Salmon Creek.

e. Describe the purpose, type, and approximate quantities of any filling or grading proposed. Indicate source of fill.

Approximately 0.75-acres of ground disturbance and 2,000-cubic yards of excavation and will be necessary to shift the roadway and re-grade the ditch line. Fill material will be supplied by the contractor from a properly permitted facility and approved by the County Engineer. Excess material will be disposed of by the contractor at a properly permitted facility.

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

Project plans will incorporate sediment and erosion control measures to reduce the amount of erosion and decrease the amount of turbidity in stormwater runoff. These measures may include but are not limited to silt fence, check dams, straw wattles, and inlet protection. These measures will be monitored for effectiveness during construction and will be repaired or replaced to maintain performance.

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

The roadway shift will add less than 5,000 square feet of new impervious surface.

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

The contractor will be required to implement an erosion control plan complying with the Clark County Erosion Control Ordinance during construction. After construction, appropriate restoration of disturbed areas and re-vegetation will occur according to ensure final site stabilization.

2. Air

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

Emissions from construction worker vehicles and equipment during construction will be temporary and short-term. The project is a repair to an existing roadway and will not increase air emissions.

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

No off-site sources of emissions or odors that would affect the project are known at this time.

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

During construction, the contractor will be required to shut off all idle equipment. Construction equipment is required by law to have in place and functional the emission control devices they were equipped with at the time of their manufacture. Also, common construction dust control practices will be addressed in the plans and implemented by the contractor. No mitigation measures are proposed because there are no long-term emissions or impacts to air quality.

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

Salmon Creek is south of the project area. Work will not effect Salmon Creek.

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

The majority of the project is adjacent to Salmon Creek, separated by Salmon Creek Street.

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 dredge material will be placed into or removed from surface water or wetlands. Work to restore the ditch line will be scheduled to be completed during dry weather conditions. Appropriate BMPs will be used to ensure no impacts to the water quality of Salmon Creek.

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

There should be no surface water withdrawals or diversions. Additional BMPs will be added if necessary to contain stormwater runoff or surface waters during the culvert extension work.

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

No.

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, the proposed project does not involve any discharges of waste materials into surface waters. BMPs will be used to ensure compliance with state water quality standards.

b. Ground Water:

1) Will ground water be withdrawn, or will water be discharged to ground water? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.

The project design does not call for groundwater withdrawals or discharges. If groundwater is encountered, water from the work area will be pumped and treated before discharged to an upland area or be disposed of off site.

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.

This project will not discharge any waste material into the ground.

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 flows from NE Salmon Creek Street then disperses and infiltrates in existing roadside vegetation. An existing culvert at NE 53rd Avenue will be extended where the widened roadway fills the existing ditch. Existing culverts that carry stormwater under driveways will be relocated in the new ditch line. The project will not require construction of any new storm water outfall structures or a new point of discharge to any water body.

Stormwater management for the project has been designed to meet the Clark County Stormwater and Erosion Ordinance (Chapter 40.386), and the Ecology's Stormwater Management Manual for Western Washington (Ecology, 2012; Rev. December 2014).

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

The contractor is required to develop and follow a Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasure Plan (SPCC) in case of any accidental loss of hazardous materials. A spill response kit, and personnel trained in its use, will be available on-site at all times to contain and cleanup any accidental release of hazardous material during construction activity. Adhering to the project's SPCC and Stormwater Pollution Plan by using BMPs, taking preventative measures, containing accidental spills, and promptly reporting accidental spills will minimize the risk of ground and surface water contamination.

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

The contractor is required to apply BMPs as necessary to manage runoff impacts to water quality.The contractor is required to prepare a Spill Prevention, Control and Countermeasure (SPCC) plan to be used for the duration of the project. The SPCC plan shall identify construction-planning elements and recognize potential spill sources at the site. The plan shall outline responsive actions in the event of a spill or release and shall identify notification and reporting procedures. The plan shall also outline contractor management elements such as personnel responsibilities, project site security, site inspections, and training.

4. Plants

a. List or circle types of vegetation found on the site.

Vegetation near the project boundary includes: roadside grasses, managed residential lawns, Douglas fir and red alder, and various fruit trees.

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

The project will require approximately 0.75-acres of ground disturbance made of roadside grasses, managed residential lawns and the removal of approximately 10 Douglas Fir trees.

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 near the project.

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

Disturbed areas will be replanted or reseeded with native vegetation. Mitigation for riparian impacts may occur along Salmon Creek Avenue or along the Salmon Creek Greenway.

5. Animals

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

Birds: The site can be expected to provide habitat resources for a limited number of resident and migratory songbirds typical of urban and semi-rural landscapes.

Mammals: The site can be expected to contain a few species of small mammals and rodents typical of urban and semi-rural landscapes.

Fish: Federally listed species mapped for Salmon Creek include: Lower Columbia River Chinook, Lower Columbia River Coho salmon, and Lower Columbian River Steelhead. Salmon Creek is outside the project area.

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

Federally listed species mapped for Salmon Creek include: Lower Columbia River Chinook, Lower Columbia River Coho salmon, and Lower Columbian River Steelhead. Salmon Creek is adjacent to but outside the project area.

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

The site is within the Pacific Flyway, a large migratory bird corridor.

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

Measures to preserve or enhance wildlife include using appropriate BMPs and replanting disturbed areas with native vegetation.

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.

During construction, the energy needs for the project will consist of gasoline and diesel fuel required to operate construction equipment and work vehicles. This project has no long term energy needs.

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

No, this project will not affect the use of solar energy by adjacent properties.

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:

The contractor will be required to follow an no idling policy for stationary vehicles and equipment.

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.

The proposed project will increase, in the short term, the potential for environmental health hazards at the project site. The increased risks will result from the presence of hazardous materials (e.g., diesel fuel, gasoline, oil, hydraulic fluid, etc.) associated with equipment and vehicles.

1) Describe special emergency services that might be required.

Emergency services that may be needed include medical, fire, and hazardous spill response. The project will incorporate a number of preventive BMPs that should minimize (and make unlikely) the need for these services.

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

The contractor will be required to prepare a Spill Prevention, Control and Countermeasure (SPCC) plan to be used for the duration of the project. The SPCC plan shall identify construction-planning elements and recognize potential spill sources at the site. The plan shall outline responsive actions in the event of a spill.

b. **Noise**

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

Noise in the project area is primarily generated by traffic from Salmon Creek Street. The project will not create additional noise or be effected by existing noise in the area.

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 will be generated during clearing, grading and paving construction activities. Construction activities will be limited to the hours of 7:00 AM to 10:00 PM.

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

Noise reduction measures include restricting construction hours to 7:00 AM to 10:00 PM, requiring the contractor to shut down idling equipment and maintaining noise minimzing devices (mufflers) on the construction equipment.

8. Land and Shoreline Use

a. What is the current use of the site and adjacent properties?

The property is currently roadway shoulder and roadside vegetation. Adjacent property is residential housing and Salmon Creek.

b. Has the site been used for agriculture? If so, describe.

Project construction takes place within Clark County right-of-way.

c. Describe any structures on the site.

There are overhead electric powerlines and poles, overhead telephone lines and pedestals, water lines, one fire hydrant, one roadway crossing culvert, one driveway culvert and residential fencing.

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

An existing fence may be remvoed. The fire hydrant, utility poles, pedestals and lines may be relocated.

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

The project property is zoned as urban reserve-10 (UR-10).

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

The comprehensive plan designation for the area is urban reserve.

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

Rural conservancy residential

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

The project is with Clark County's mapped Riparian Habitat Zone. There are no other environmentally sensitive areas within the site boundaries.

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

The project does not propose the construction of residential or commercial property.

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

This project will not cause displacement.

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

This project does not require measures to reduce displacement.

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

All applicable engineering standards and environmental regulations will be followed.

9. Housing

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

No housing will be provided.

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

No housing units will be eliminated.

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

None.

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?

An existing 4-foot tall rail fence will be removed, a 3-foot tall concrete barrier will be constructed and utility poles will be relocated.

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

No views would be obstructed.

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

Disturbed areas will be reseeded or replanted with native vegetation.

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 or glare from the finished project be a safety hazard or interfere with views?

No. This project will not add light or interfere with views.

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

There are no off-site sources of light or glare that will affect the proposed project.

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

Reduction measures are not necessary because no light or glare will be caused by this project.

12. Recreation

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

There are no formal recreational facilities in the project area.

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

No existing recreational uses will be displaced.

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

The project improves the current public road for motorized vehicles due to a public safety hazard.

13. Historic and Cultural Preservation

a. Are there any places or objects listed on, or proposed for, national, state, or local preservation registers known to be on or next to the site? If so, generally describe.

There are no known national, state or local preservation eligible properties within the project area.

b. Generally describe any landmarks or evidence of historic, archaeological, scientific, or cultural importance known to be on or next to the site.

Clark County Mapsonline archaeological model has this area listed as moderate-high archaeological probability, but no evidence of historic, scientific, cultural importance, or any landmarks are known to be within the project area.

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

The proposed project will not impact known historic or cultural resources. In the event that any archaeological or historical artifacts are found during project activity, work will stop and the site will be protected from further disturbance. Clark County will notify the Tribes, and all appropriate County, State, and Federal agencies, including the Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation.

14. Transportation

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

A traffic safety plan will be developed and followed during construction to maintain a safe access through the work area. There will no long term access changes to Salmon Creek Street or the surrounding roadways.

b. Is site currently served by public transit? If not, what is the approximate distance to the nearest transit stop?

There is bus service by C-TRAN Route #19 along Salmon Creek Avenue with a stop near the Washington State University campus.

c. How many parking spaces would the completed project have? How many would the project eliminate?

No parking spaces are proposed and no parking spaces will be eliminated.

d. Will the proposals require any new roads or streets, or improvements to existing roads or streets, not including driveways? If so, generally describe (indicate whether public or private).

The existing public road will be shifted north approximately seven feet.

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

No water, rail, or air transportation will be used.

f. How many vehicular trips per day would be generated by the completed project? If known, indicate when peak volumes would occur.

No vehicular trips will be generated by this project.

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

Flaggers will be on-site to direct traffic around the work area while equipment and materials are brought on site. Construction would have minimal impacts on the travelling public.

15. Public Services

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

No additional public services will be required.

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

There are no impacts to public services. No mitigation measures are proposed.

16. Utilities

a. List utilities currently available at the site:

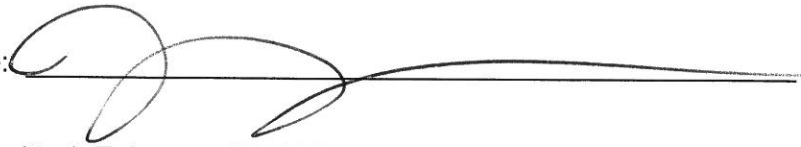
Water and electric power (Clark Public Utilities), sanitary sewer (CRWWD) and (City of Battle Ground), telephone (CenturyLink), cable (Comcast), and stormwater (Clark County) are located along Salmon Creek Street.

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.

An existing fire hydrant and existing utility poles may need to be relocated. No new utilities installations were required as part of 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: **February 29, 2016**

LOCATIONS OF EXISTING UTILITIES ARE APPROXIMATE AND MAY BE INCOMPLETE

CALL 48 HOURS BEFORE YOU DIG 1-800-424-5555 "It's the Law" NORTHWEST UTILITIES NOTIFICATION CENTER

CLARK COUNTY, WASHINGTON

TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM

PUBLIC WORKS
ENGINEERING & CONSTRUCTION DIVISION

ENGINEERING AND DESIGN SECTION

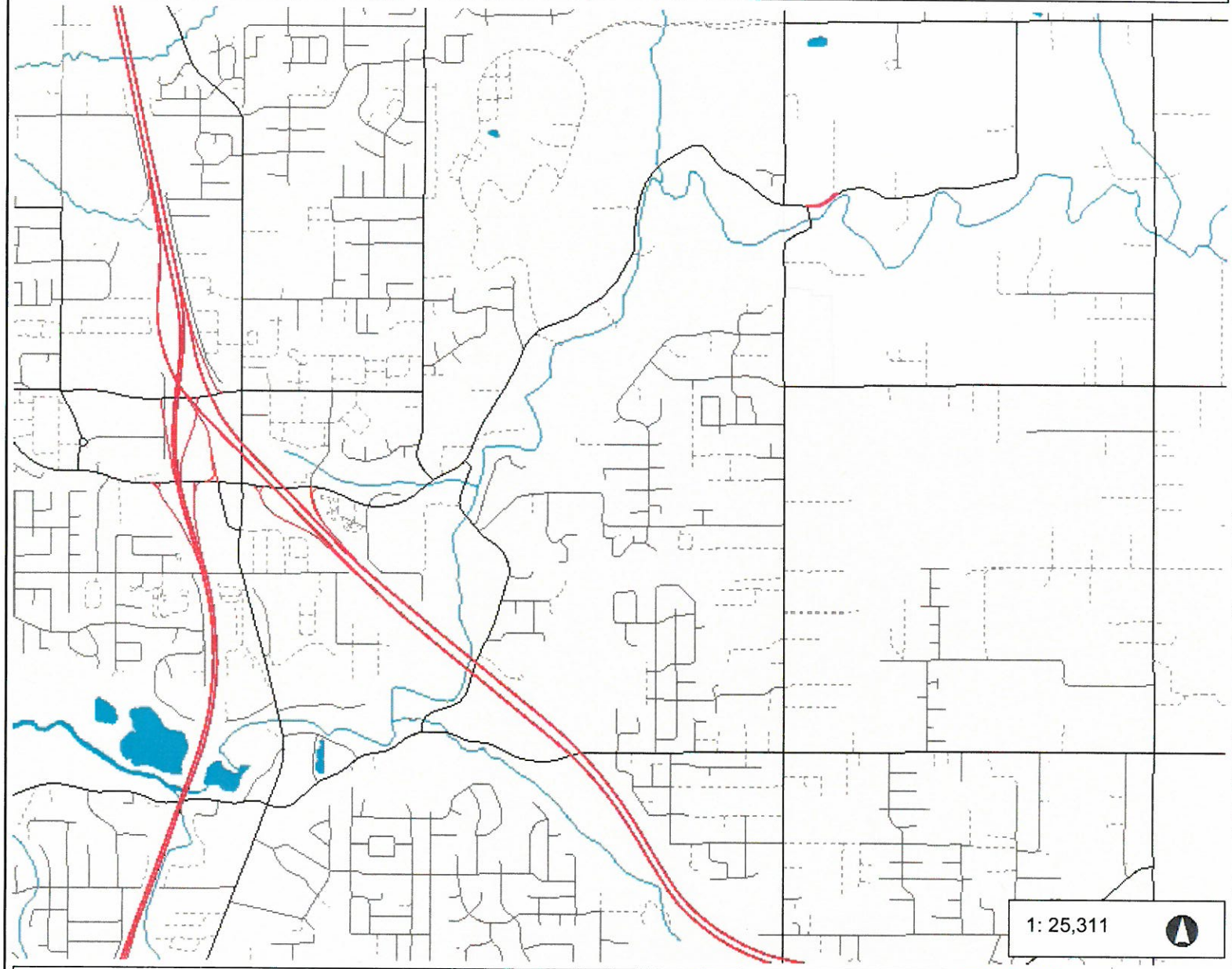
SALMON CREEK SLIDE AREA CRP-018258

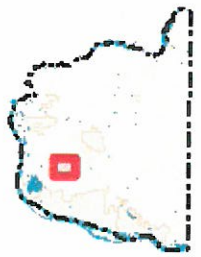
LAYOUT PLAN

DATE 02/10/2016

PLAN 1 OF 1

Salmon Creek Slide Area





Legend

- Cities Boundaries
- Urban Growth Boundaries

Notes:

1: 25,311

4,218.5 0 2,109.26 4,218.5 Feet

WGS_1984_Web_Mercator_Auxiliary_Sphere
Clark County, WA. GIS - http://gis.clark.wa.gov

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