

Draft SEIS Now Available—Submit Comments by November 9



Caption: An artistic rendering of the restored estuary within the North Basin at mean tide.

Ecology and the Washington Department of Enterprise Services (DES) invite the public to review and comment on a Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (Draft SEIS) for the Deschutes Estuary Restoration Project. This begins a public comment period from October 9 through 11:59 PM on Monday, November 9, 2026. Comments on the Draft SEIS will be accepted through an [online comment form](#), via mail, and at two public hearings (one in-person and one online).

The Draft SEIS is available on [Ecology’s website](#) for review or download. A printed copy of the full Draft SEIS is available for public viewing at Ecology’s Southwest Region Office in Lacey. Electronic copies are available for review or download at the following locations:

- Washington State Library
- Lacey Timberland Library
- West Olympia Timberland Library
- Olympia Timberland Library
- Tumwater Timberland Library

Comments received on the Draft SEIS during the comment period will be compiled and reviewed. Ecology and DES will consider substantive comments in preparation of the Final SEIS, expected next year. The SEIS may be used by agencies to inform permit decisions for the project.

Learn more about the Draft SEIS

This Draft SEIS does not review actions, alternatives, or impacts that were already analyzed in the 2022 Final EIS. Instead, the Draft SEIS evaluates the potential environmental impact of design elements that have been updated or added to the project since the original planning-level EIS was completed in 2022. These key design updates were determined to potentially have new or increased environmental impacts, requiring an environmental analysis under state law.

The Draft SEIS includes discussion of new and updated project elements and analyzes potential cumulative impacts from the updated project design, including the following:

- Replacement of the Marathon Park Utility and Pedestrian Bridge
- New berm and elevated trail at Heritage Park and new berm at the Tumwater Historic Brewery
- Protection of the BNSF Railroad Bridge
- Refined design for river channel dredging and habitat areas, the 5th Avenue Bridge and roadway, and recreational elements



Caption: An artistic rendering of the Heritage Park habitat berm and pedestrian path.

How to submit comments

Electronically

Online comment form: <https://ecology.commentinput.com/?id=buGTA658B>

By Mail

SEPA Draft SEIS for the Deschutes Estuary Restoration Project

Washington Department of Ecology

c/o Bobbak Talebi, Southwest Region Office

P.O. Box 47775

Olympia, WA 98504-7775

Public Meetings

Ecology and DES will host two public meetings with presentations, and an opportunity to comment on the Draft SEIS during the hearing portion of the meetings.

In-Person Public Meeting

Wednesday, October 28, 5:30 PM

Olympia Center

222 Columbia St NW, Olympia, WA 98501

Online Public Meeting

Tuesday, November 3, 5:30 PM

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86823866604>

+1 253 205 0468 US

Webinar ID: 868 2386 6604

What are substantive comments?

Comments that talk about specific impacts, reference data or specific language you are concerned about, identify new or unknown information, or describe specific actions for consideration are the most helpful and improve the SEPA review.

Commenters are asked to please focus feedback on the updated analyses and revised environmental impacts presented in this Draft SEIS. Comments about the earlier long-term management alternatives, previously analyzed impact areas that have not been modified, or broader issues evaluated in the 2022 Final EIS will be noted, but fall outside the defined scope of this Draft SEIS.

Commenters are asked to please refer to specific chapters and page numbers of the Draft SEIS, when possible.

Questions?

If you have questions, please email us at deschutesestuary@ecy.wa.gov or call (564) 250-7417.

Other Languages or Accommodations

For more information, contact Lynn Turner at lynn.turner@ecy.wa.gov or call 564-250-7417. If you call, ask for an interpreter to be connected with one.

Para más información, favor de llamar Lynn Turner al 564-250-7417 y solicite un intérprete.

如需更多信息，請致電給 Lynn Turner 564-250-7417並要求翻譯員服務

보다 많은 정보를 위해서는 담당자 Lynn Turner 564-250-7417에게 연락하여 통역을 요청하십시오

Để biết thêm thông tin, vui lòng gọi Lynn Turner theo số 564-250-7417 và yêu cầu thông dịch viên

Accessibility

The Department of Ecology is committed to providing people with disabilities access to our information and services by meeting or exceeding the requirements of state and federal laws.

To request an ADA accommodation, email lynn.turner@ecy.wa.gov, call 564-250-7417, or call Ecology through the Washington Telecommunication Relay for services including text telephone (TTY) at 711 or through your preferred relay service provider. Visit ecology.wa.gov/ADA for more accessibility information.