

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Skagit County Hearing Examiner will hold a public hearing on **Wednesday, April 28, 2010** in the Board of County Commissioners Hearing Room, 1800 Continental Place, Mount Vernon, Washington, at the hour of **9:00 a.m.** or soon thereafter, for the purpose of determining whether the Hearing Examiner should approve, uphold or deny the following:

A. Shoreline Substantial Development Request PL09-0290 submitted by the City of Anacortes, to install approximately 8,600 linear feet of a 24-inch diameter ductile iron water main. Approximately 4,300 linear feet of the proposed water line is located within 200 feet of the Shoreline of Padilla Bay. The proposed project will include the removal of the existing 36 inch concrete culvert beneath East March's Point Road and replacement with two 102-inch by 62-inch concrete culverts. The applicant anticipates that the culvert replacement will improve the hydrologic connection between Whitmarsh salt water estuary and Padilla Bay and enhance foraging and rearing habitat for anadromous fish. The proposed 24-inch diameter water line will extend from the existing 36-inch diameter water main located at the intersection of East March's Point Road and South March's Point Road, north approximately 4,000 linear feet along the shoreline of Padilla Bay within the road right-of-way for East March's Point Road, to the intersection of East March's Point Road and North Texas Road. The 24-inch diameter water line will then extend 4,600 linear feet west from the intersection of North Texas Road and East March's Point Road within the road right of way of North Texas Road to the existing 20-inch diameter water main within the Shell and Tesoro oil refineries. The proposed utility is located within a portion of Sections 33 and 34, Township 35 North, Range 2 East, Skagit County, WA. Staff Contact: John Cooper, Senior Planner

B. Special Use Permit request #PL09-0484 for the development of a habitat restoration project on lands designated Agriculture-Natural Resource (Ag-NRL). The proposal also includes a Shoreline Permit Request #PL09-0485 to allow an approximate 60 acre tidal marsh restoration, levee setback and proposed realignment of a portion of Big Ditch. The proposal is a collaborative effort of the **Nature Conservancy, Dike District 3, Drainage District 17** and local landowners to reconnect natural freshwater tidal hydrology to approximately 50 acres of currently diked floodplain, restore historical tidal marsh vegetation communities, provide juvenile Chinook rearing habitat, remove fish passage barriers and improve fish passage to several miles of tributary spawning areas, increase watershed connectivity for coho, chum and other native fish species, and improve flood and sediment storage conditions for the tributary levee system. The subject proposal is located within the Hill Ditch/Fisher Slough shoreline area and is designated a Rural Shoreline Area in the Skagit County Shoreline Management Master Program. The proposed project is located within the Agriculture-Natural Resource Land (Ag-NRL) zoning/comprehensive plan designated area as indicated in the Skagit County Comprehensive Plan and associated maps adopted October 10, 2007 and as thereafter amended. The project is located approximately 1.4 miles south of Conway on Old Pioneer Highway adjacent to the Fisher Slough crossing, within a portion of Sections 19, 20, 29 and 30, Township 33N, Range 4E W.M., situated within Skagit County, Washington. Staff Contact: Betsy Stevenson or Brandon Black.

Your views for or against the requests are invited either by attendance, representation or letter. Comments and/or facsimiles must be received by this office no later than 4:30 p.m. **Tuesday, April 27, 2010** or be presented at the public hearing.