August 4, 2009

WSDOT State Rail & Marine Office ATTENTION: Elizabeth Phinney PO Box 47407 Olympia, WA 98504-7407

Dear Ms. Phinney:

SUBJECT: State Environmental Policy Act Document; Stanwood Siding Extension and Crossover Project, Water Crossings Structures, Stream Types and other Resource Concerns.

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) has reviewed the above-referenced State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) document received on July 22, 2009, and offers the following comments at this time. Other comments may be offered as the project progresses.

It appears from the general description of the project, that a Hydraulic Project Approval (HPA; Chapter 77.55 RCW, WAC 220-110, WDFW/WSDOT MOA) to be issued by WDFW, may be required for the project. The absence of certain streams from the 'StreamNet' database does not mean these streams are not fish bearing. Work in some non-fish bearing waters of the State may require an HPA.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide these comments. If you have any questions, please contact me at (360) 902-2598.

Sincerely,

Steven W. Bell Area Habitat Biologist

SWB:swb:SP-stnwd siding crossover

cc: SEPA Coordinator, WDFW (emailed)

David Brock, WDFW RHPM (emailed) Ginger Holser, WDFW AHB (emailed)