

# Lower Duwamish Waterway Group

Port of Seattle / City of Seattle / King County / The Boeing Company

## MEMORANDUM

To: EPA, Ecology, and interested stakeholders  
From: LDWG  
Subject: Second Quarterly Update for the LDW Fishers Study  
Date: April 10, 2015

This memorandum provides the quarterly update for the second quarter (January through March, 2015) of the Lower Duwamish Waterway (LDW) fishers study. The first quarterly update was provided as a presentation, which is available at [www.ldwg.org](http://www.ldwg.org), and delivered to the community. Since no surveys were conducted this quarter, this second quarterly update is being provided in memorandum format and will also be posted at [www.ldwg.org](http://www.ldwg.org).

### SURVEY PROGRESS AND KEY OBSERVATIONS

Tables 1 and 2 provide an updated summary of the survey's progress. Despite being out on the river for the same number of survey days as during the first quarter, the surveyors from the Environmental Coalition of South Seattle (ECOSS) encountered only one fisher (who declined to take the survey) during the second quarter. Therefore, no surveys were conducted during the second quarter.

**Table 1. Number of surveys conducted by month**

Statistic	First Quarter				Second Quarter			
	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total	Jan	Feb	Mar	Total
<b>Total number of surveys conducted</b>	51	18	7	<b>76</b>	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
<b>Number of surveys by location</b>								
Spokane Street Bridge	43	14	5	<b>62</b>	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
T-105	2	0	1	<b>3</b>	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
Tier 2 locations	6	4	1	<b>11</b>	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
<b>Number of unsuccessful survey attempts</b>	49	27	0	<b>76</b>	0	1	0	<b>1</b>
<b>Success rate</b>	51%	40%	100%	<b>50%</b>	na	0%	na	<b>0%</b>

na – not applicable

T-105 – Terminal 105

**Table 2. Number of survey days in the field**

Statistic	First Quarter (Oct to Dec)	Second Quarter (Jan to Mar)
<b>Total number of survey days</b>	18	18
<b>Number of visits by location</b>		
Tier 1: Spokane Street Bridge	12	14 <sup>a</sup>
Tier 1: T-105	6	4 <sup>a</sup>
Tier 2: Each group of locations	5 each	6 each
<b>Number of visits by day of the week</b>		
Weekdays	6	6
Fridays	3	3
Weekends	9	9

<sup>a</sup> Spokane Street Bridge was visited instead of T-105 on 2 days in March because of T-105 temporary access restriction due to potential structural issues and safety concerns.

T-105 – Terminal 105

A survey day consists of a 4-to-5-hour shift<sup>1</sup> in the field and is generally structured as follows:

- ◆ The Tier 2 locations identified in the schedule (those in either Group 1, 2 or 3) are visited. If fishers are found, they are approached and asked to take the survey. If no fishers are found, the outreach team moves on to the next location.
- The Tier 1 location identified in the schedule (i.e., either Spokane Street Bridge or Terminal 105 [T-105]) is visited. If fishers are found, they are approached and asked to take the survey. If no fishers are present at the site, the outreach team spends about 2 hours at the Tier 1 location waiting to see if any fishers arrive.
- ◆ Some or all the Tier 2 locations identified in the schedule (depending on the amount of time available until the end of the shift) are visited. If fishers are found, they are approached and asked to take the survey. If no fishers are found, the outreach team moves on to the next location.

### **T-105 PIER CLOSURE**

On March 17, 2015, the Lower Duwamish Waterway Group (LDWG) received notification that the Port of Seattle had identified potential structural issues with the T-105 pier and potential safety concerns with regard to pier use. Therefore, the pier was temporarily closed (eliminating public access) pending further structural evaluation and possible repairs. The rest of the T-105 shoreline public access would remain open. As a result, LDWG and ECOSS proposed the following interim solution:

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<sup>1</sup> Per the implementation plan (Windward 2014), a shift is an approximately 4-to-5-hour period; its length depends, in part, on the number of fishers encountered.

- ◆ **March to May** – For the remainder of the non-summer months, planned visits to T-105 would be replaced with visits to the Spokane Street Bridge, resulting in six visits per month to the Spokane Street Bridge instead of the previously planned four visits.
- ◆ **June to September** – A new plan would be implemented for the summer months based on alternatives discussed during the planned meeting to be held in May to establish the key informant interview process (see the following section).

### **SCHEDULE FOR KEY INFORMANT INTERVIEW PROCESS**

The objective of the key informant interviews is to have in-depth discussions with people who fish on the LDW and/or prepare or consume LDW seafood. The timeline and process for developing the methodology and conducting these interviews are as follows:

- ◆ **May** – A meeting with the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology), ECOSS, Duwamish River Cleanup Coalition (DRCC), Washington State Department of Health (DOH), Public Health – Seattle & King County, LDWG, and interested community members will be held to develop the plan for the interviews.
- ◆ **June** – A memorandum outlining the plan will be submitted to EPA/Ecology.
- ◆ **June/July** – ECOSS staff will be trained to conduct the interviews.
- ◆ **July/August** – Key informant interviews will be conducted.
- ◆ **September** – Results from the key informant interviews will be summarized for eventual inclusion in the fishers study data report. Prior to inclusion in the data report, the interview results will be discussed with those invited to the May interview development meeting (see above).

### **NEXT STEPS**

- ◆ Conduct third quarter of survey (April to June)
- ◆ Initiate the key informant interview process (as described above)
- ◆ Determine a solution for the T-105 closure for the summer months as part of the key informant interview development meeting in May
- ◆ Provide a third quarterly update of survey progress in July

### **REFERENCES**

Windward. 2014. Lower Duwamish Waterway fishers study implementation plan. Final. Windward Environmental LLC, Seattle, WA.