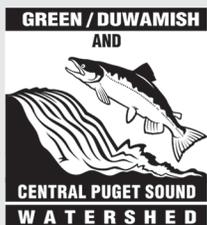


WATER RESOURCE INVENTORY AREA 9 (WRIA 9) WATERSHED ECOSYSTEM FORUM



Algona
Auburn
Black Diamond
Burien
Covington
Des Moines
Enumclaw
Federal Way
Kent
King County
Maple Valley
Normandy Park
Renton
SeaTac
Seattle
Tacoma
Tukwila
King Conservation District
King County Flood Control District
Vashon/Maury Island Community Council
Covington Water District
Port of Seattle
Washington Department of Ecology
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
Washington Department of Natural Resources
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Green-Duwamish Urban Waters Partnership
Washington Environmental Council
Green/Duwamish Watershed Alliance
Trout Unlimited/ Mid-Sound Fisheries Enhancement Group
Save Habitat and Diversity of Wetlands (SHADOW)
American Rivers
The Boeing Company
Master Builders Association
King County Agricultural Commission

October 3, 2019

Jeffrey Bezos
Chief Executive Officer, Amazon
Amazon Corporate Headquarters
410 Terry Avenue North
Seattle, WA 98109



RE: Call for Amazon Leadership to creatively develop the Desimone Oxbow property of the Duwamish River

Dear Mr. Bezos:

We applaud you for pledging to make Amazon carbon neutral by 2040 as per <https://kdvr.com/2019/09/22/amazon-to-buy-100000-electric-vans-as-part-of-broader-climate-pledge/>.

Your fight of climate change motivates us to inform you of a groundbreaking opportunity for Amazon to fight climate change, restore critical habitat for salmon, and stave off extinction of Puget Sound's orca whales.

The opportunity for Amazon to be a big winner for the region: Take business community leadership to ensure that property known as the Desimone Oxbow on the Duwamish River is creatively developed to both meet the growing need for distribution facilities in the urban areas of King County and the County's critical need and efforts to restore salmon habitat and fight climate change.

To get an idea of ways to both develop and restore habitat of the property, we are sending you a June 2019 report, Desimone Oxbow Habitat Restoration, prepared by the College of Science and Engineering, Seattle University (enclosed) that evaluates how restoring shallow-water habitat at the Desimone Oxbow could support recovery of the Duwamish River's population of wild Chinook salmon and other salmonids (which are a major food source for Puget Sound's starving and dwindling population of southern resident orca whales). Three site design alternatives are evaluated. Two of the three design alternatives propose a combination of industrial development together with meaningful habitat restoration. The restoration component is targeted to increase the survival of baby Chinook salmon which depend greatly upon the Duwamish River where fresh and salt water mix to successfully transition from freshwater to saltwater creatures—the epic story of the Pacific Northwest.

Creative site development of the Oxbow property would, moreover, serve as a model for other development and re-development across areas of King County where significant ecological and economic potential collide.

We hope to hear from you as soon as possible. Please contact Doug Osterman, Salmon Recovery Manager for the Green/Duwamish Watershed, at 206-477-4793 or doug.osterman@kingcounty.gov with questions.

Sincerely,

Marlla Mhoon
Councilmember, City of Covington
WRIA 9 WEF Co-Chair

Bill Peloza
Deputy Mayor, City of Auburn
WRIA 9 WEF Co-Chair

Financial support provided by signers of Watershed Planning Interlocal Agreement for WRIA 9 including:

Algona, Auburn, Black Diamond, Burien, Covington, Des Moines, Enumclaw, Federal Way, Kent, King County, Maple Valley, Normandy Park, Renton, SeaTac, Seattle, Tacoma, Tukwila

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