

Welcome

Index-Galena Road NEPA Scoping Open House

Purpose of the meeting:

- To provide an opportunity for you to discuss the project with staff and offer written comments about what should be addressed during the environmental review.
- To begin the NEPA process and comment period (the comment period is February 1 – 29).

Handouts:

- Comment form
- Title VI form

Title VI, 42 U.S.C. § 2000d et seq., was enacted as part of the landmark Civil Rights Act of 1964. It prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, and national origin in programs and activities receiving federal financial assistance.

**You may hand in comments tonight
and/or mail comments to Tina Hokanson.**

*Thank you for attending!
Please help yourself to refreshments*

2006

November
Flooding washed out Index-Galena Road between Mile Post (MP) 6.4 and 6.9, blocking access from the Town of Index

Damage also occurred at Mile Posts: 1.0, 3.0, 6.4, 6.7, 9.0, 10.5, 10.9, 11.9, 12.8, 13.1, 13.8 and 14.2 (Flooding damaged roads and bridges at 27 sites around Snohomish County)

2007

January
Met with Congressional staff to discuss the damage

May
Held Public Meeting to discuss the extent of the flood damage and next steps

June
County and representatives for USFS, FHWA, WSDOT walked the sites to view the damage & prioritize repairs

2008

January
Advertised for engineering consultant, reviewed submittals, held extensive interviews and site visits

July
Approved contract for feasibility study.

August
Began work on Feasibility Study to evaluate alternative alignments

Summer
Completed interim repairs of flood damage at MP 3.0

2009

March
Completed Feasibility Study and presented it to FHWA, WSDOT and USFS. Study identified alternatives for further design evaluation in Design Report.

July
Newsletter announced meeting and provided update on the project

Held public meeting to present Feasibility Study.

August-September
Helicopters transported drilling equipment to site

Conducted geological evaluation of soils under the proposed alignment

November
Postcard updated the public on project status

2010

January
Met w/FHWA, WSDOT, USFS to discuss Feasibility Study findings (continued coordination meetings with funding agencies) and discuss what would be evaluated in Design Report (the culmination of the 30% Design Stage)

March
Begin work on Design Report: gathering/analyzing data to evaluate the five alternatives identified in the Feasibility Study

Summer
Completed second round of repairs at MP 10.5

Completed preliminary reconnaissance of critical areas, streams and wetlands

September
Newsletter updated the public on project status and next steps

2011

February
Presented Draft Design Report (30% design) to FHWA, WSDOT, and USFS for review

May
Design Report approved by FHWA, WSDOT, and USFS; newsletter update mailed

June
Held Public Open House to present Design Report recommendations

July
County, FHWA, USFS, and WSDOT met to discuss NEPA review process

August
Completed repair of 10.9 & 3.0

FHWA determines the county will be required to prepare a NEPA Environmental Assessment

October-November
County met with FHWA, USFS, and WSDOT re: environmental studies to prepare.

Proceeded with detailed data gathering required for design and environmental studies:

- Surveyed and mapped the topography
- Refined horizontal and vertical alignments of the roadway design
- Delineated all streams and wetlands within proposed study area
- Analyzed core samples along route to determine stability, permeability, extent and location of walls and reinforced slope areas
- Continued coordination with FHWA, WSDOT and USFS at key milestones

2012

January
Newsletter update mailed, provide notice of NEPA public scoping meeting

February
Public NEPA Scoping meeting for NEPA Environmental Assessment

Begin environmental studies.

June
60% design. Continue work on environmental studies—identify impacts and develop mitigation for impacts.

Fall 2012-Winter 2013
Begin submittals of studies to FHWA, USFS and WSDOT for review and approval. Includes documentation for Section 7 Endangered Species Act review

2013-15

2013
Agencies review studies. Studies must be reviewed and approved prior to issuance of the NEPA Environmental Assessment

Early to mid-2013
90% design

Late 2013-Early 2014
Pending approval of all studies, the NEPA Environmental Assessment will be issued for public review and comment.

2014-2015
Pending issuance of Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI), the construction permit applications will be submitted for review and approvals

2015
Advertise for construction contractor after final regulatory permits and funding have been approved

2012-2015 scheduling is based on 2011 projections. the permitting process, the short construction season at the site, and weather conditions will play significant roles in the date of completion.

Approvals Required for the Index-Galena Project

Federal Regulatory Requirements

- National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Review
- Northwest Forest Plan
- Clean Water Act Section 404 Permit (Corps Permit)
- Endangered Species Act Section 7
(and Essential Fish Habitat) Consultation
- National Historic Preservation Act Section 106 Review

State Implementation/Issuance

- Clean Water Act Section 401 Water Quality
- Coastal Zone Management Certification
- Hydraulic Project Approval
- DNR Aquatic Land Use Authorization
- NPDES Construction Stormwater General Permit
- Washington Scenic Rivers System

Local Implementation/Issuance

- Critical Area Ordinance Review and Compliance Certification
- Flood Hazard Permit
- Land Disturbance Activity Permit
- Shoreline Management Act
- State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) Review