

## PROJECT OVERVIEW

Seattle City Light is addressing contamination known to exist along the penstock at City Light's Newhalem Creek Hydroelectric Project under a CERCLA Non-Time Critical Removal Action. The contamination is suspected to be from historical penstock painting activities. A project completed in summer 2017 removed a significant volume of contaminated soil during the replacement of 52 penstock support saddles with new, cast-in-place concrete saddles. That soil removal was completed as a Time Critical Removal Action.

## PROJECT LOCATION

The Newhalem Creek Hydroelectric Project Penstock and Power House are located just south of the Skagit River, across the river from the town of Newhalem, WA. The Penstock system runs downhill, south to north, in a forest clearing approximately 600 feet south of the river. The 30-inch-diameter penstock is 1,122 feet long, approximately 904 feet of which are above ground and 218 feet are located within a bedrock tunnel. The project is within the Ross Lake National Recreation Area, which is part of the North Cascades National Park Complex.

## PROJECT PHASES

- 1) Remove contaminated soil from most saddle locations during replacement of all 52 historical wooden penstock support saddles [Time Critical Removal Action].
- 2) Characterize penstock site; Prepare Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis (EE/CA) including response action alternatives; Select response [Non-Time Critical Removal Action].
- 3) Complete response.

## ACTIVITIES COMPLETED SINCE LAST UPDATE

Phase 1 was completed on September 25, 2017.

## ACTIVITIES PLANNED

A schedule for Phase 2 has not yet been established. Phase 2 is expected to require up to one year to complete, depending on timing of and seasonal access to the site, etc.

## IMPACT TO PARK VISITORS

The nearby Trail of the Cedars is open to the public.

## PUBLIC SAFETY

There are no anticipated impacts to public safety on the Trail of the Cedars or other trails in the vicinity of the project.



## INFORMATION CONTACT:

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