

PROJECT OVERVIEW

Seattle City Light will be removing burned debris and impacted soil from the area immediately surrounding the Ladder Creek Settling Tank outside Newhalem, WA. During the 2015 Goodell Wildfire, the tank's protective building burned, and a scattered debris field of charred remains of the fire surrounds the tank. Due to contamination risks to nearby Ladder Creek posed by the debris and residual metals and contamination in nearby soil, the debris and impacted surface soil surrounding the tank will be removed.

IMPACT TO PARK VISITORS

Helicopter flights will occur near the Newhalem townsite and National Park Service Visitor Center and Campgrounds (Newhalem and Goodell Creek) and nearby trails May 23-25. Helicopter passes will be approximately every 10 minutes between the hours of 8 am to 6 pm for no more than 8 hours/day. If necessary additional flights may occur May 29 and 30.

PROJECT LOCATION

The Ladder Creek Tank Site is approximately 1/4 mile from the Gorge Powerhouse and across the Skagit River from Newhalem. The site is approximately 300 feet in elevation above the Powerhouse. The project is within the Ross Lake National Recreation Area, which is part of the North Cascades National Park Service Complex.

PROJECT PHASES

- 1) Clean and remove debris from settling tank interior.
- 2) Remove debris and impacted surface soil surrounding the tank, and stage materials in bulk bags.
- 3) Fly bulk bags of debris and soil to Newhalem via helicopter and haul to disposal site.
- 4) Restore site to pre-Removal Action conditions.

ACTIVITIES COMPLETED SINCE LAST UPDATE

Phase 1 was completed on September 1, 2017.

ACTIVITIES PLANNED

Contractor will be conducting Phases 2-4 May 14 – June 1, 2018.



Otherwise, impact to park visitors is minimal. Access to the tank site is limited to a rugged hiking trail originating at a footbridge over Ladder Creek behind the Gorge Powerhouse. Public access to the trail is blocked by a locked gate on the bridge.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Access to the tank site is restricted. There are no anticipated impacts to public safety associated with planned work.

INFORMATION CONTACT:

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