DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DEPARTMENT
ENVIRONMENTAL COORDINATOR
450 110th Ave NE., P.O. BOX 90012
BELLEVUE, WA 98009-9012

OPTIONAL DETERMINATION OF NON-SIGNIFICANCE (DNS) NOTICE MATERIALS

The attached materials are being sent to you pursuant to the requirements for the Optional DNS Process (WAC 197-11-355). A DNS on the attached proposal is likely. This may be the only opportunity to comment on environmental impacts of the proposal. Mitigation measures from standard codes will apply. Project review may require mitigation regardless of whether an EIS is prepared. A copy of the subsequent threshold determination for this proposal may be obtained upon request.

File No.	12-115561-GC
Project Name/Address:	Newcastle Slide Storm Drainage Repair
Planner:	Kevin LeClair
Phone Number and Email:	425-452-2928 kleclair@bellevuewa.gov
Minimum Comment Period:	July 12, 2012

Materials included in this Notice:

- ☒ Blue Bulletin
- ☒ Checklist
- ☒ Vicinity Map
- ☐ Plans
- ☐ Other:

WAC 197-11-960 Environmental checklist.

Reviewed under Bellevue
permit # 12-115561-GC
Reviewer: Kevin LeClair
Date: June 18, 2012

ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

Purpose of checklist:

The State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA), chapter 43.21C RCW, requires all governmental agencies to consider the environmental impacts of a proposal before making decisions. An environmental impact statement (EIS) must be prepared for all proposals with probable significant adverse impacts on the quality of the environment. The purpose of this checklist is to provide information to help you and the agency identify impacts from your proposal (and to reduce or avoid impacts from the proposal, if it can be done) and to help the agency decide whether an EIS is required.

Instructions for applicants:

This environmental checklist asks you to describe some basic information about your proposal. Governmental agencies use this checklist to determine whether the environmental impacts of your proposal are significant, requiring preparation of an EIS. Answer the questions briefly, with the most precise information known, or give the best description you can.

You must answer each question accurately and carefully, to the best of your knowledge. In most cases, you should be able to answer the questions from your own observations or project plans without the need to hire experts. If you really do not know the answer, or if a question does not apply to your proposal, write "do not know" or "does not apply." Complete answers to the questions now may avoid unnecessary delays later.

Some questions ask about governmental regulations, such as zoning, shoreline, and landmark designations. Answer these questions if you can. If you have problems, the governmental agencies can assist you.

The checklist questions apply to all parts of your proposal, even if you plan to do them over a period of time or on different parcels of land. Attach any additional information that will help describe your proposal or its environmental effects. The agency to which you submit this checklist may ask you to explain your answers or provide additional information reasonably related to determining if there may be significant adverse impact.

Use of checklist for nonproject proposals:

Complete this checklist for nonproject proposals, even though questions may be answered "does not apply." IN ADDITION, complete the SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET FOR NONPROJECT ACTIONS (part D).

For nonproject actions, the references in the checklist to the words "project," "applicant," and "property or site" should be read as "proposal," "proposer," and "affected geographic area," respectively.

A. BACKGROUND

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable: SE Newcastle Coal Creek Road Slide Storm Drainage Improvements

2. Name of applicant: City of Bellevue Utilities
3. Address and phone number of applicant and contact person: Mark Cross, CIP Permit Project Manager, 450 110th Ave NE, Bellevue, WA 98004. Phone 425-452-6938
4. Date checklist prepared: June 15, 2012
5. Agency requesting checklist: City of Bellevue, Department of Development Services
6. Proposed timing or schedule (including phasing, if applicable): August 1 to December 1, 2012

7. Do you have any plans for future additions, expansion, or further activity related to or connected with this proposal? If yes, explain.

No. This project repairs a drainage swale that was covered by soil and sediment from a landslide that occurred within the Right of Way of the Newcastle Golf Club road within the City of Newcastle. The City of Newcastle is doing a repair of the slope uphill from this proposed project, both in the Cities of Bellevue and Newcastle. The two projects are near each other, in the same drainage area, but do not overlap.

8. List any environmental information you know about that has been prepared, or will be prepared, directly related to this proposal.

No. The project design and proposed follow on plantings were designed based on site visits and a survey conducted by Pace Engineering.

9. Do you know whether applications are pending for governmental approvals of other proposals directly affecting the property covered by your proposal? If yes, explain.

The City of Newcastle has recently received permits from the City of Bellevue to do slope stability work uphill closer to the Newcastle Golf Club Road. The City of Newcastle slope stability work is uphill of this proposed project in the same drainage sub-basin, but does not overlap this project.

10. List any government approvals or permits that will be needed for your proposal, if known.

- SEPA Threshold Determination, City of Bellevue.
- Clear and Grade Permit, City of Bellevue.
- Right of Way Permit, City of Newcastle.

11. Give brief, complete description of your proposal, including the proposed uses and the size of the project and site. There are several questions later in this checklist that ask you to describe certain aspects of your proposal. You do not need to repeat those answers on this page. (Lead agencies may modify this form to include additional specific information on project description.)

The proposed project includes constructing a new rock lined drainage swale, approximately 300 feet long to replace an existing drainage swale that was washed out and covered in sediment during a landslide originating within the City of Newcastle road right of way. The new rock lined drainage swale would require the importation of approximately 140 cubic yards of rock (200 tons) and the excavation and shaping of 275 cubic yards of native soil for a total of 415 cubic yards of cut and fill. The work is confined to a closed depression between the hillside supporting the Newcastle Golf Club Road to the south and the abandoned railroad grade to the north.

The closed depression collects drainage from the hillside and then conveys it to an existing catch basin. This catch basin, which is covered by a raised circular metal grill commonly called a birdcage, is surrounded by a settling pond that removes sediment from the stormwater. The stormwater is then

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conveyed to a manhole down the slope towards Coal Creek. The stormwater is combined in this manhole with stormwater from a Bellevue residential neighborhood to the north and then travels several hundred feet along a grass lined swale to the west where it enters a structured stormdrainage detention pond for further water quality treatment and detention before being conveyed to Coal Creek.

The proposed project will disturb an area around the new swale estimated at 10, 915. The swale, along with its support berms will cover 2,500 square feet. Nine Maple and Alder trees will be cut as part of the swale grading and construction. The trees will be kept in the disturbed area to retain their organic material on the site. After construction is complete, the disturbed portion of the site, approximately 8400 square feet will be covered with 4 inches of hog fuel and replanted with a mix of native trees and shrubs. Additionally, willow live stakes will be planted adjacent to the swale in a triangular pattern every two feet to provide additional vegetative coverage of the disturbed area and the new permanent swale as soon as possible.

12. Location of the proposal. Give sufficient information for a person to understand the precise location of your proposed project, including a street address, if any, and section, township, and range, if known. If a proposal would occur over a range of area, provide the range or boundaries of the site(s). Provide a legal description, site plan, vicinity map, and topographic map, if reasonably available. While you should submit any plans required by the agency, you are not required to duplicate maps or detailed plans submitted with any permit applications related to this checklist.

The project is located at 15502 Newcastle Golf Club Road. The access to the site is located immediately to the east of a telephone cell tower site on the north side of the road. This access road will act as the construction access. See attached map.

B. ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS

1. **Earth**

a. General description of the site (circle one): Flat, rolling, hilly, steep slopes, mountainous, other .

The site is mostly sloped with slopes ranging from o percent to 12 percent. Areas outside the construction area to the south leading up to the Newcastle Golf Club Road, are steeper and include slopes in the 40 percent range. The area to be disturbed during construction of the rocked swale is a closed depression that is drained entirely through an existing 42 inch diameter round catch basin.

b. What is the steepest slope on the site (approximate percent slope)? The steepest slope of the disturbed area is 12 percent.

The overall site, Coal Creek Natural Area, contains slopes greater than 40%.

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The slide debris that settled in the closed depression is primarily fill material that was placed to support Newcastle Golf Club Road to south.

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c. What general types of soils are found on the site (for example, clay, sand, gravel, peat, muck)? If you know the classification of agricultural soils, specify them and note any prime farmland.

A geotechnical report was done at this site and at the uphill slide site. Underlying the entire project site is a very dense/hard Siltstone and Sandstone. Above this base geological formation are variable layers or looser materials consisting of silt with variable amounts of clay and sand. The debris field that covered the proposed drainage swale is of this clay and and silt material with very little organic content.

See attached Draft Preliminary Geotechnical Engineering Report by Terracon Consultants for the City of Newcastle.

d. Are there surface indications or history of unstable soils in the immediate vicinity? If so, describe.

Yes. The slopes uphill have experienced sliding. The reason for the proposed project is to create a confined drainage swale through and on top of slide material that moved down the hill suddenly several years ago. The City of Newcastle has received permitting from the City of Bellevue for work to secure the steeper slope adjacent to the Newcastle Golf Club Road.

e. Describe the purpose, type, and approximate quantities of any filling or grading proposed. Indicate source of fill.

The proposal is to import 140 cubic yards of rock (200 tons) and to re-grade 275 cubic yards of native material. Total cut and fill is 415 cubic yards. The swale itself will cover approximately 2,515 square feet. The total area to be disturbed is estimated at 10, 915 square feet.

f. Could erosion occur as a result of clearing, construction, or use? If so, generally describe.

Yes. Erosion could occur during construction. The drainage way that is to be built includes slopes up to 12 Percent grade. Much of the area to be disturbed as construction access and to construct the new swale is more in the 5 percent slope range.

g. About what percent of the site will be covered with impervious surfaces after project construction (for example, asphalt or buildings)?

None. The swale is to be constructed of rock, quarry spall and wood. No impervious layer is proposed with the work.

h. Proposed measures to reduce or control erosion, or other impacts to the earth, if any:

Five measures will be used to limit erosion and to control sediment from moving off site.

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1. The City of Bellevue installed a temporary 12" HDPE plastic pipe to convey the water from the base of the slope to the vicinity of the existing 60" catchbasin. This temporary conveyance will be used as much as possible during construction to limit the opportunity for stormwater to pick up sediment.
2. Disturbance to the surrounding slopes will be limited during construction. Most of the construction access area is part of the debris field of unconsolidated silt, sand, and clay from the slide itself. At the completion of construction, the nine trees that will be cut during the work along with 4" of hog fuel will be added to the disturbed area to prevent further erosion.
3. A range of native trees and shrubs will be planted down through the hog fuel to restore the vegetation to the site that existed pre-slide.
4. Silt fencing will be installed around the 60" catchbasin prior to starting construction to limit suspended sediment from entering the stormdrainage system that extends downhill to Coal Creek.
5. Weekly water quality monitoring will be done to assure water quality standards are met during construction.

Erosion control measures are required per Bellevue City Code 23.76. BMPs will be inspected by the City of Bellevue Clearing and Grading Inspector.

a. **Air**

a. What types of emissions to the air would result from the proposal (i.e., dust, automobile, odors, industrial wood smoke) during construction and when the project is completed? If any, generally describe and give approximate quantities if known.

The will be temporary emissions from construction equipment and vehicles caring workers and equipment during construction.

b. Are there any off-site sources of emissions or odor that may affect your proposal? If so, generally describe.

No. The site is located in a City of Bellevue park and no other sources of emissions are nearby.

b. Proposed measures to reduce or control emissions or other impacts to air, if any:

The contractor will use equipment that is in good working condition and meets current air quality standards. Equipment will be turned off when not in use to limit emissions.

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3. **Water**

a. Surface:

1) Is there any surface water body on or in the immediate vicinity of the site (including year-round and seasonal streams, saltwater, lakes, ponds, wetlands)? If yes, describe type and provide names. If appropriate, state what stream or river it flows into.

Yes, Coal Creek is located downhill 260 feet to the north.

2) Will the project require any work over, in, or adjacent to (within 200 feet) the described waters? If yes, please describe and attach available plans.

No. Drainage from this site is directed to an existing water quality swale and then to a storm detention pond system downhill before entering Coal Creek about a half mile downstream to the west.

3) Estimate the amount of fill and dredge material that would be placed in or removed from surface water or wetlands and indicate the area of the site that would be affected. Indicate the source of fill material.

Total cut and fill is estimated at 415 cubic yards. This includes 140 cubic yards of imported rock to help form the drainage swale.

4) Will the proposal require surface water withdrawals or diversions? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.

No.

5) Does the proposal lie within a 100-year floodplain? If so, note location on the site plan.

No.

6) Does the proposal involve any discharges of waste materials to surface waters? If so, describe the type of waste and anticipated volume of discharge.

No.

b. Ground:

1) Will ground water be withdrawn, or will water be discharged to ground water? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.

No.

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2) Describe waste material that will be discharged into the ground from septic tanks or other sources, if any (for example: Domestic sewage; industrial, containing the following chemicals. . . ; agricultural; etc.). Describe the general size of the system, the number of such systems, the number of houses to be served (if applicable), or the number of animals or humans the system(s) are expected to serve.

None.

c. Water runoff (including stormwater):

1) Describe the source of runoff (including storm water) and method of collection and disposal, if any (include quantities, if known). Where will this water flow? Will this water flow into other waters? If so, describe.

Currently, stormwater from the City of Newcastle road collection system is captured into a temporary 12 inch HDPE pipe and conveyed to an existing 60 inch catch basin. This piping system was installed after the uphill slide covered the previous drainage swale across this lower site.

2)..Could waste materials enter ground or surface waters? If so, generally describe.

No. The construction site is contained within an enclosed drainage area. All stormwater will be filtered through filter fence and in a detention pond surrounding the existing 60 inch catch basin. Water quality testing will occur every week during construction to monitor stormwater.

d. Proposed measures to reduce or control surface, ground, and runoff water impacts, if any:

The same BMPs used to control erosion will also be required to protect surface water contamination, per BCC 23.76.

4. **Plants**

a. Check or circle types of vegetation found on the site:

X____ deciduous tree: alder, big leaf maple, Ninebark

X____ evergreen tree: fir, cedar,

X____ shrubs: Salmonberry, Snowberry

_____ grass

_____ pasture

_____ crop or grain

_____ wet soil plants: cattail, buttercup, bullrush, skunk cabbage, other

_____ water plants: water lily, eelgrass, milfoil, other

_____ other types of vegetation

b. What kind and amount of vegetation will be removed or altered?

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The area that will be disturbed is only partially covered by vegetation because of the lingering effects of the sediment and debris that covered this area. The area to be disturbed during construction is 10, 915 square feet. The area covered by vegetation, including the nine trees that will be cut to provide for construction is approximately 3,500 square feet.

c. List threatened or endangered species known to be on or near the site.
None.

d. Proposed landscaping, use of native plants, or other measures to preserve or enhance vegetation on the site, if any:
The entire disturbed area outside of the new stormdrainage swale will be replanted with a mix of native trees and shrubs consistent with the City of Bellevue Critical Areas Handbook. In addition all trees cut during construction will be kept on site and 4" of hog fuel will be placed over the disturbed areas to limit erosion and to contribute organic material to the newly planted site. Monitoring will be done at the end of the first full growing season to access the survival and condition of the planted species.

5. **Animals**

a. Circle any birds and animals which have been observed on or near the site or are known to be on or near the site:

birds: hawk, eagle, songbirds, other:
mammals: deer, moles, coyote.
fish: None.

Coal Creek is known to support fish habitat (cutthroat trout and coho salmon). The storm drainage feature to be treated flows into Coal Creek. The project is necessary to protect downstream habitat from sedimentation from mobilized slide debris.

b. List any threatened or endangered species known to be on or near the site.
Coal Creek is within the range of Chinook Salmon, Steelhead, and Bull Trout.

c. Is the site part of a migration route? If so, explain.
Birds migrate through this area and may use the site for nesting or feeding.

d. Proposed measures to preserve or enhance wildlife, if any:

Restoration of native plants across the disturbed site should be of benefit to the full range of wildlife that live near the site.

6. **Energy and natural resources**

a. What kinds of energy (electric, natural gas, oil, wood stove, solar) will be used to meet the completed project's energy needs? Describe whether it will be used for heating, manufacturing, etc.

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None. Limited amounts of oil will be used during construction only.

b. Would your project affect the potential use of solar energy by adjacent properties? If so, generally describe.

No.

c. What kinds of energy conservation features are included in the plans of this proposal? List other proposed measures to reduce or control energy impacts, if any:

Limit idling by equipment. Keep powered equipment in good working order.

7. **Environmental health**

a. Are there any environmental health hazards, including exposure to toxic chemicals, risk of fire and explosion, spill, or hazardous waste, that could occur as a result of this proposal? If so, describe.

No.

1) Describe special emergency services that might be required.

Ambulance in the case of an accident on site.

2) Proposed measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any:

Use equipment that meets current safety standards.

b. **Noise**

1) What types of noise exist in the area which may affect your project (for example: traffic, equipment, operation, other)?

None.

2) What types and levels of noise would be created by or associated with the project on a short-term or a long-term basis (for example: traffic, construction, operation, other)? Indicate what hours noise would come from the site.

Short-term noise would be created from construction equipment and trucks used to deliver materials and transport construction workers. No long term noise will be generated by the project.

Bellevue construction hours of operation shall be observed per Noise Code provision of BCC 9.18

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3) Proposed measures to reduce or control noise impacts, if any:
Use equipment that is equipped with mufflers and sound suppression that is in good working order.

8. **Land and shoreline use**

a. What is the current use of the site and adjacent properties?
Park and trails.

b. Has the site been used for agriculture? If so, describe.

No.

c. Describe any structures on the site.

None.

d. Will any structures be demolished? If so, what?

No.

e. What is the current zoning classification of the site?
R-1 Residential, one unit per acre.

f. What is the current comprehensive plan designation of the site?
Public Park.

g. If applicable, what is the current shoreline master program designation of the site?
None.

h. Has any part of the site been classified as an "environmentally sensitive" area? If so, specify.
Steep slopes to the south.

i. Approximately how many people would reside or work in the completed project?
None.

j. Approximately how many people would the completed project displace?
None.

k. Proposed measures to avoid or reduce displacement impacts, if any:
N/A

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l. Proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with existing and projected land uses and plans, if any:

Replant disturbed area with native vegetation will make site compatible with surrounding use for public park purposes.

9. **Housing**

a. Approximately how many units would be provided, if any? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.

None.

b. Approximately how many units, if any, would be eliminated? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.

None.

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control housing impacts, if any:

N/A

10. **Aesthetics**

a. What is the tallest height of any proposed structure(s), not including antennas; what is the principal exterior building material(s) proposed?

N/A

b. What views in the immediate vicinity would be altered or obstructed?

None.

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control aesthetic impacts, if any:

Revegetation with native plant species.

11. **Light and glare**

a. What type of light or glare will the proposal produce? What time of day would it mainly occur?

None.

b. Could light or glare from the finished project be a safety hazard or interfere with views?

None.

c. What existing off-site sources of light or glare may affect your proposal?

None.

d. Proposed measures to reduce or control light and glare impacts, if any:

N/A

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12. **Recreation**

a. What designated and informal recreational opportunities are in the immediate vicinity?
Site is located within park that provides passive recreational opportunities along with active hiking and running opportunities.

b. Would the proposed project displace any existing recreational uses? If so, describe.
No. The adjacent gravel road is a portion of the existing Coal Creek Natural Area trail system. Pedestrian use will be maintained during construction. Some temporary signage will be needed to protect trail users during construction.

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts on recreation, including recreation opportunities to be provided by the project or applicant, if any:
Revegetation with native species will actually improve area as park land from its current condition as an under vegetated slide debris site.

13. **Historic and cultural preservation**

a. Are there any places or objects listed on, or proposed for, national, state, or local preservation registers known to be on or next to the site? If so, generally describe.
No. The surrounding area was used for Coal Mining. Any significant historical material that is uncovered during construction will be preserved and notice will be provided to the State Office of Historic and Archaeological Preservation.

b. Generally describe any landmarks or evidence of historic, archaeological, scientific, or cultural importance known to be on or next to the site.
None.

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts, if any:
Be aware there could be coal mining artifacts in the area.

14. **Transportation**

a. Identify public streets and highways serving the site, and describe proposed access to the existing street system. Show on site plans, if any.
The existing site will be accessed from the Newcastle Coal Creek Golf Club road at an existing driveway and gravel road access point next to the existing cell tower along the north side of the road.

b. Is site currently served by public transit? If not, what is the approximate distance to the nearest transit stop?
No.

c. How many parking spaces would the completed project have? How many would the project eliminate?
N/A

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d. Will the proposal require any new roads or streets, or improvements to existing roads or streets, not including driveways? If so, generally describe (indicate whether public or private).

No.

e. Will the project use (or occur in the immediate vicinity of) water, rail, or air transportation? If so, generally describe.

No.

f. How many vehicular trips per day would be generated by the completed project? If known, indicate when peak volumes would occur.

During construction we expect 4 to 8 vehicle trips per day for two weeks. The trips will be split between light pickup type vehicles and heavier trucks delivering construction equipment and rock.

g. Proposed measures to reduce or control transportation impacts, if any:

Use trucks designed to meet road load limits. No overloading of trucks.

15. **Public services**

a. Would the project result in an increased need for public services (for example: fire protection, police protection, health care, schools, other)? If so, generally describe.

No.

b. Proposed measures to reduce or control direct impacts on public services, if any.

N/A

16. **Utilities**

a. Circle utilities currently available at the site: electricity, natural gas, water, refuse service, telephone, sanitary sewer, septic system, other.

None.

b. Describe the utilities that are proposed for the project, the utility providing the service, and the general construction activities on the site or in the immediate vicinity which might be needed.

None.

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By Kevin LeClair at 9:44 am, Jun 18, 2012

TO BE COMPLETED BY APPLICANT

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C. SIGNATURE:

The above answers are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that the lead agency is relying on them to make its decision.

Signature:

Date Submitted: Mark Cross June 15, 2012

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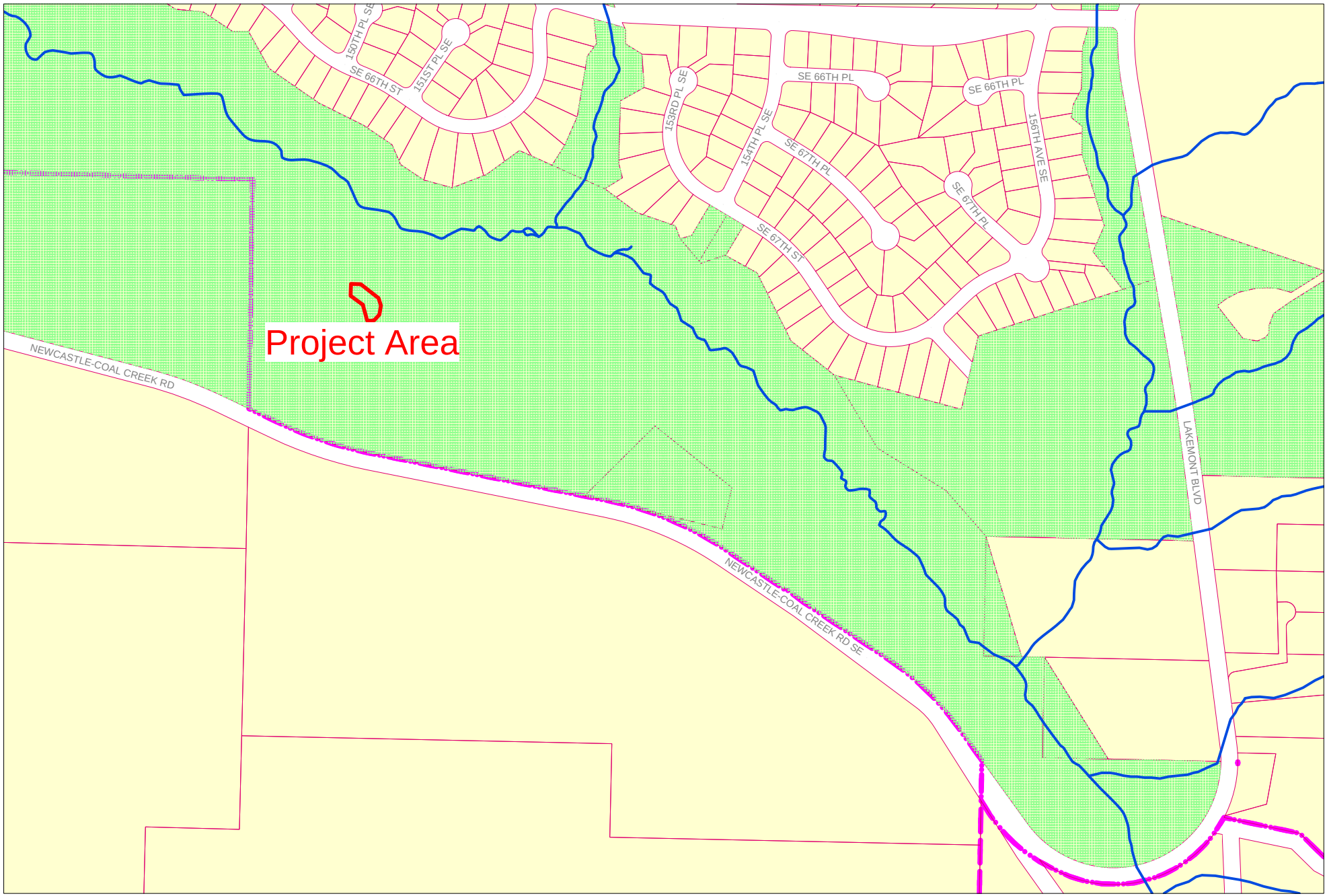
By Kevin LeClair at 9:44 am, Jun 18, 2012

Vicinity Map - 12-115561-GC - Newcastle Slide Storm Drainage Repair



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Monday, June 18, 2012 9:51 AM