

## OVERVIEW

The City of Bellingham (City), American Rivers (AR), and supporting partners are working to implement a multi-benefit project on the Middle Fork Nooksack River. The project aims to improve fish passage for three ESA-listed Puget Sound threatened anadromous fish species by removing the diversion dam while maintaining water supply diversion at the site. The project team has completed the design phase and have secured the majority of project funding. The project is now in the construction phase, with completion of fish passage, dam removal, and channel restoration elements scheduled for completion in 2020.

## THIS MONTH

- **Construction Activities**
  - The pre-construction conference was held on December 10, 2019 in Bellingham with Walsh Construction, HDR, City, American Rivers, Nooksack Tribe, and WDFW representatives attending.
  - Walsh Construction has begun pre-construction planning and project development activities. Several construction submittals, requests for information, and project related correspondence have been submitted and are under review in preparation for site mobilization.

## January 2020

- The City will issue Walsh Construction the Notice to Proceed on or after January 2, 2020.
- Weekly Construction Progress meetings are scheduled to recur throughout the duration of project implementation. The weekly meetings will be attended by the project management team beginning January 7.
- The Contractor's Preliminary Schedule indicates work to mobilize equipment and install TESC features will begin at the project site on January 13, 2020. In-water work, including intake construction, dam removal, and channel restoration will occur during the approved in-water work period of June 1 – September 30, 2020.
- DNR State Lands staff will attend a site visit on January 14 to discuss the Plan of Operation and finalize operational requirements for temporary work on DNR State Lands in accordance with the Land Use License obtained for the project.
- A sign will be developed for posting at the project site acknowledging the significant contributions of partners.