Wetland Mitigation Summary

The Purpose of the Off-Dock Container Support Facility project (Project) is to relieve congestion and improve marine container terminal capacity and efficiency at the Port of Tacoma in order to meet the public's need and demand for increased cargo movement.

The proposed Project would construct an off-dock container support facility of approximately 25 acres as close as practicably possible to the Husky and WUT entry gate, with a maximum distance of 1 mile, to help fulfill the Project Purpose and Need. The proposed Project would develop the project site into a fully functioning off-dock container yard to use for empty container and chassis storage, a single-high reefer wash facility, and a wheeled reefer valet drop-off location, with the ability to also process fully laden containers.

Other site features would include a truck entry and exit gate on Maxwell Way with a guard shelter, two emergency access gates on Thorne Road, an office trailer, perimeter security fencing, site lighting and power, security cameras, a railroad crossing, a roadability-testing area, and stormwater improvements. Proposed work includes clearing and grubbing, earthen fill, isolated excavation, site-wide grading, subgrade preparation, base course and pavement systems, stormwater infrastructure, and other utilities.

This Project is needed because existing Puget Sound Gateway Ports are operating above 80 percent capacity utilization. This is causing inefficient operations and inefficient container handling, which is resulting in a ripple of supply chain impacts that include excessive truck queuing and idling, cargo ships waiting at anchor or offshore for available terminal berths, train backlogs, delayed cargo deliveries, and slowed or halted manufacturing.

See http://www.portoftacoma.com/wapato for additional details regarding the mitigation site.