

WJD-6 Wetland Restoration



Improved habitat and cleaner water for Forest Lake

Forest Lake is currently over 93% of the way to achieving its long-term water quality goal. This project will help reach that goal by removing pollutants from water entering Forest Lake.

The purpose of this project is to reduce the amount of phosphorus entering Forest Lake via Washington Judicial Ditch-6 (WJD-6).

WJD-6 is a public drainage ditch located on the south side of Forest Lake. A study conducted by the Watershed District in 2016 revealed that the water entering Forest Lake from WJD-6 has high levels of phosphorus. Phosphorus is a naturally occurring nutrient that can encourage algae growth and lower water quality. One pound of

phosphorus can support up to 500 pounds of algae growth.

The proposed project will restore a wetland along WJD-6 by excavating phosphorus rich sediment and restoring native vegetation. This process will create deeper pools of water and shallow wetland benches that will allow the wetland to naturally remove phosphorus and suspended soil from the water. The restored native vegetation will also provide habitat for wildlife.

This project is estimated to reduce phosphorus loading to Forest Lake by approximately 20 lb/yr and sediment loading by 3,200 lb/yr.

Water levels upstream and downstream of the project site will not be affected.

Project Outcomes

Phosphorus Removed (lbs/yr)	20
Sediment Removed (lbs/yr)	3,200
Flood Storage Added (acre-ft)	10.8
Wetland Restored (acres)	3.70

Project Funding

Clean Water Fund Grant	\$386,00
District Levy	\$110,420
Total Project Budget	\$496,420

Project Timeline

Design & Feasibility	2022-23
Construction	Jan.-Feb. 2024