

# Salmon-Safe Assessment

## New Urban Site Development

Salmon-Safe site assessments and other science team activity may be performed virtually, or in part virtually, based on COVID-19 related guidance in place at the time of assessment by the CDC or other federal, state, or local government authority.

### 1. Planning



This preparation phase provides information for the design and management team and allows for communication about the project with Salmon-Safe. Activities include:

1. site manager and design team review Salmon-Safe standards;
2. introductory call with Salmon-Safe to review process and address questions;
3. collect project documents including, at a minimum, the most current project drawings, drainage report, geotechnical report, completed stormwater management worksheet, and/or Phase I environmental report, if available, and forward to the Science Team for review;
4. project team presents project approach to stormwater management to Salmon-Safe Science Team;
5. Salmon-Safe provides a memo summarizing findings from the pre-assessment, including areas where the design is consistent with the standards as well as questions and recommendations for the project team; and
6. schedule Science Team assessment.

**When?** The best time to conduct a pre-assessment is upon issuance of the 50% DD set. The pre-assessment can usually be completed with a couple of weeks, depending on project size and complexity.

#### Questions?

Contact us at [info@salmonsafe.org](mailto:info@salmonsafe.org)

### 2. Assessment



Salmon-Safe's independent Science Team convenes as project specifics are being developed and the project is obtaining the necessary permits, approvals, and entitlements. Activities include:

#### 1. Project overview and orientation for the Science Team

Project team members make presentations on their respective aspects of the project, including how the design was approached and arrived at, and how the design satisfies Salmon-Safe standards related to their disciplines. Specifically:

- the developer and/or site manager describes overall sustainability goals for the project;
- the architect walks through the architecture plans at a high level, describing the site context, site size, building size and height, and general program;
- the landscape architect walks through the landscape plans, describing all vegetated areas, including existing vegetation and habitat present, plant selection, and irrigation;
- the civil engineer provides a site-level overview of stormwater management. Civil engineer also should be prepared to describe any soil contamination and planned remediation, as well as any surface water bodies, their flow path, habitat quality, and fish presence, as appropriate; and
- the general contractor describes construction-phase pollution prevention practices to be employed, including details of any anticipated dewatering activities, while also providing a rough outline of the project schedule.

#### 2. Site inspection for the Science Team

Development, design, and construction team members mentioned above lead the Science Team on a site walk and discuss any additional questions that arise in the field. The Salmon-Safe Science Team and staff will then convene for an internal debrief to gather and collate their observations.

**When?** If the project is pursuing fast-track certification, the full site assessment can happen at any time. Alternatively, the Science Team will assess the site once construction has begun and ground disturbance activities are underway. Site assessments can take a few hours or a full day, depending on project size and complexity.

### 3. Certification of Project



This step provides a certification decision for the development project. Typical activities include:

1. Science Team reviews any supplemental documentation that may have been requested during the Assessment phase;
2. Science Team delivers final Report/Recommendations for Certification;
3. Salmon-Safe reviews Report with site manager;
4. Salmon-Safe provides a certification letter for sign-off and collects documentation to address pre-conditions;
5. certification is formalized and Salmon-Safe helps develop a communications strategy with site management, including award of the certification plaque; and
6. annual verification reporting to Salmon-Safe regarding progress on all conditions.

**When?** Once the Science Team receives all requested supplemental documentation, the Report can be issued within 4-6 weeks. Formalization of certification (or the sign-off on the certification letter) can then happen as quickly as the project team desires. Once certification is formalized, the five-year certification cycle begins.



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