Snohomish County Public Works will be replacing culverts in two locations under 51st Avenue SE. The culverts pose a barrier to fish passage and are being replaced as part of the Brightwater settlement funding that was given to Snohomish County for culvert replacements in the Bear Creek watershed.

The new crossings will be significantly larger than the existing culverts and allow the creek to function as closely to the natural state of the creek as possible under the roadway. This will allow for fish passage in all stages of life and spawning within the culvert. Headwalls on each end of the crossing will increase the shoulder width at the culvert location.

In order to safely install the new culverts, a complete closure of 51st Avenue SE between 180th Street SE and 196th Street SE will be required for approximately nine weeks beginning the week of July 5 (dependent on final schedule and weather). A detour route will be in place during construction. Location of the closure will be dependent upon which of the two crossings is being worked on at that time. Local and emergency access will be available. Residents in the area between the two crossings will be able to get to their homes at all times; however the direction of approach will not always be the same. There may be single-lane closures after this time in order to complete the project.

We apologize in advance for the inconvenience and ask for your patience during construction.

For more information on this project, visit www.snoco.org (search “Road Projects”) or contact Nova Heaton, 425-388-3261 (TTY: 425-388-3700). For more information on other surface water projects, visit www.surfacewater.info.