



PREPROPOSAL STATEMENT OF INQUIRY

CR-101 (June 2004)
(Implements RCW 34.05.310)
Do NOT use for expedited rule making

Agency: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

Subject of possible rule making: The department is considering a recommendation to reclassify lynx and marbled murrelet from the state's threatened species subcategory (WAC 232-12-011) to state endangered (WAC 232-12-014).

Statutes authorizing the agency to adopt rules on this subject: RCW 77.04.012, 77.04.055, 77.12.020, and 77.12.047.

Reasons why rules on this subject may be needed and what they might accomplish: The department has reviewed all relevant data pertaining to the population status of lynx and marbled murrelet in Washington. Information on lynx indicates that the state population has likely declined largely from the loss of suitable habitat to wildfires. Washington's marbled murrelet population has continued to decline due to a number of factors, including loss and fragmentation of suitable nesting habitat, nest predation, and changes in availability of prey in the marine environment.

Identify other federal and state agencies that regulate this subject and the process coordinating the rule with these agencies: For lynx, federal and state agencies that regulate this species include the US Fish and Wildlife Service and the Washington Department of Natural Resources. For marbled murrelet, federal and state agencies that regulate this species include the US Fish and Wildlife Service, US Forest Service and the Washington Department of Natural Resources.

Process for developing new rule (check all that apply):

- Negotiated rule making
- Pilot rule making
- Agency study
- Other (describe)

How interested parties can participate in the decision to adopt the new rule and formulation of the proposed rule before publication:

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Contact by: February 12, 2016. Expected proposal filing on or after February 19, 2016

DATE
January 06, 2016

NAME (TYPE OR PRINT)
Joanna Eide

SIGNATURE

TITLE
Rules Coordinator

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FILED

DATE: January 06, 2016
TIME: 9:53 AM

WSR 16-02-115