



State of Washington
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

Mailing Address: 600 Capitol Way N - Olympia, Washington 98501-1091 - (360) 902-2200, TDD (360) 902-2207
Main Office location: Natural Resources Building - 1111 Washington Street SE - Olympia, WA

October 18, 2002

Dear Interested Parties:

Six-year Game Management Plan (GMP)
Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) has completed their Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) titled, Six-year Game Management Plan Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement. Comments are due by **November 18, 2002**.

The SEIS may be found on our website: <http://www.wa.gov/wdfw/hab/sepa/sepa.htm>. It is being sent out to all respondents from our original mailing, as well as those that commented during the DEIS, and those that have attended our previous workshops. A news release to various newspapers across the state was sent out on October 15, 2002.

WDFW has scheduled the following meetings during the review period:

- October 28, **Aberdeen**, Grays Harbor College, 1620 Edward P. Smith Drive
- October 29, **Spokane**, Spokane Falls Community College, Lounge A & B, 3410 West Ft. George Wright Drive
- October 30, **Yakima**, Yakima Convention Center, Room B, 10 North 8th
- November 6, **Federal Way**, Federal Way Library, 848 S. 320th Street

Comments received and offered at the meetings will be used to prepare a Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS). The Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission anticipates action on the plan at its December 6 - 7 meeting in Mount Vernon..

Please submit comments to the following address by **November 18, 2002**:

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
Habitat Program
Cynthia Pratt, Responsible Official
600 Capitol Way North
Olympia, Washington 98501-1091

Comments may also be received by e-mail to the following address: HabitatSEPA@dfw.wa.gov .

Following the requirements of the State Environmental Policy Act, the Draft EIS was made available for public review July 26, 2002 and the comment deadline was extended for another two weeks, ending on September 10, 2002. Based on comments received from the DEIS, it was decided to complete a SEIS. In addition, because the DEIS was sent out under the Department of Ecology's optional Non-project Review Form (NPRF) which encourages additional iterations of a non-project SEPA document, the department felt this was an appropriate way to further involve the public in its actions.

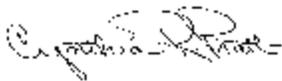
The focus of the original Draft EIS was to develop a six-year game management plan that would look at issues concerning the following:

- Scientific/professional management of hunted wildlife
- Hunting as a management tool
- Hunter ethics and fair chase
- Private lands programs and hunter access
- Tribal hunting
- Predator management
- Hunting season preferences
- Game damage and nuisance

The issues were based on a survey conducted through WDFW's Wildlife Program. These issues were reviewed and discussed in the GMP.

The SEIS focuses on critical requirements of SEPA. Impacts have been identified based on comments received during the DEIS, as well as by staff. Measures that are being taken and will be taken to mitigate impacts have been discussed. Additional information, that looks at strategies to manage game species have been updated in the GMP.

If you have questions concerning the GMP, please telephone David Ware, Game Division Manager, at (360) 902-2509. If you wish to discuss the SEPA process and the SEIS, please contact Cynthia Pratt at (360) 902-2575.



Thank you for your interest and comments.

Sincerely,

Cynthia R. Pratt
SEPA/NEPA Coordinator
Agency Designated Responsible Official
Regulatory Services Section
Environmental Services Division

Habitat Program