



State of Washington

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

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NOTICE OF WITHDRAWAL OF DETERMINATION OF NONSIGNIFICANCE

Name of Proposal: SOUTH FORK COWICHE CREEK FISH PASSAGE PROJECT

Description of Proposal: A temporary stream bypass will be constructed using clean, washed gravel and /or sand bags and plastic sheeting. The upstream cofferdam will fully span the active stream channel above the current crossing structure. A temporary bypass channel or pipe will release the flow into the nearest riffle below the downstream end of the area in which in-stream work is to be performed. The objective of the bypass will be to totally isolate the work area from moving water, while maintaining stream flow past the work area to the lower portion of the stream. During the dewatering of the work site, some fish are likely to become trapped within the work area, and will be netted and released downstream of the project site as the site is de-watered. The bypass will remain in place during the bed and bank re-grade, and installation of cross-vanes.

Proponent: North Yakima Conservation District (NYCD and Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW)

Location of Proposal, including street, if any: The current crossing structure lies on the South Fork of Cowiche Creek, along Cowiche Mill Road, approximately ¼ mile above Summitview Road. Cowiche Creek is a right bank tributary to the Lower Yakima River. WRIA 38, Washington, Yakima County; Section 04, Township 13 North, Range

Lead Agency: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

Environmental Document Being Withdrawn: Determination of Nonsignificance for South Fork Cowiche Creek Fish Passage Project, issued July 9, 2004

The lead agency for this proposal is considering making substantial changes to the proposal based upon an evaluation of new information that was brought to our attention during the comment period. A new threshold determination will be made upon completion of the proposal revision.

Responsible Official: Teresa A. Eturaspe

Position/Title: SEPA/NEPA Coordinator, Regulatory Services Section

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Please contact: Teresa A. Eturaspe **Phone:** (360) 902-2575 **Fax:** (360) 902-2946 or **e-mail:** habitatSEPA@dfw.wa.gov if you have questions or comments about this determination.

DATE OF ISSUE: June 19, 2004 **SIGNATURE:**