



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

DETERMINATION OF NONSIGNIFICANCE

Name of Proposal: KLICKITAT HATCHERY TRANSFER AND LYLE FALLS USE AGREEMENT

Description of Proposal: The proposed project would transfer ownership of the Klickitat Salmon Hatchery and responsibility for operation of the Lyle Falls fishways from WDFW to the Yakama Nation. Following transfer of title for the hatchery and execution of a long-term use agreement for the Lyle Falls fishway, the Yakama Nation will operate the hatchery, and both fishways, under the auspices of the Yakama-Klickitat Fisheries Project (YKFP), in cooperation with WDFW. Through reservations in the title to the hatchery, WDFW retains reversionary rights if hatchery operations cease for more than two years, and maintains existing public access and timber rights. The decision to enter into a use agreement with the YN for Lyle Falls, as well as to terminate an MOU and an easement at Castile Falls (located in Yakima County, on the Yakama Reservation) are exempt from SEPA pursuant to WAC 197-11-800(5). However, the action at Lyle Falls is directly related to the hatchery transfer and thus likely falls within SEPA review under WAC 197-11-305, as the draft Anadromous Plan describes the potential for inter-related operation of the Lyle Falls fishway and the Hatchery. The Lyle Falls use agreement is interrelated with the hatchery transfer, as WDFW would likely not proceed with they Lyle Falls action unless the hatchery action proceeds in some fashion. The Castile Falls action is unrelated, as the location of the fishways on the “closed portion” of the Yakama Reservation argues for the transfer of responsibility regardless of the hatchery transfer. Since it is unrelated, it is not considered further in this checklist. At present, hatchery and fishway operations are independent and will remain so until future plans are implemented following environmental review and agency approvals. As noted in response to previous questions, no immediate changes to hatchery or fishway operations are anticipated. WDFW approval of future operational or structural changes will be accompanied by the appropriate SEPA review.

Proponent: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. **Project Contact:** Bill Tweit, Intergovernmental Resource Management, 600 Capitol Way North, Olympia WA 98501-1091, (360) 902-2723

Location of Proposal, including street, if any: See attached topographic maps for general area. The hatchery parcel proposed for transfer is located in Klickitat County, and is described as: Lots One (1) and Two (2) containing one hundred sixty-six and ninety-nine hundredths (166.99) acres.

Washington, Klickitat County; the South half of the Northeast quarter (S½ NE¼) of Section 04, Township 06 North, Range 13 East W.M.

The fishway parcel subject to the proposed long-term use agreement is located in Klickitat County and is described as:

Washington, Klickitat County, the south 100 feet of the Northeast quarter (NE 1/4) and the north five hundred sixty (560) feet of the Southeast quarter (SE 1/4) of Section 26, all lying easterly of the Spokane, Portland and Seattle Railway right of way; ALSO, the north 75 feet of the southwest quarter (SW 1/4) and the south 100 feet of the northwest quarter (NW 1/4) of Section 25, Township 03, Range 12 East W.M.

Lead Agency: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

The lead agency for this proposal has determined that it does not have a probable significant adverse impact on the environment. An environmental impact statement (EIS) is not required under RCW 43.21C.030(2)(c). This decision was made after review of the completed environmental checklist and other information on file with the lead agency. This information is available to the public on request.

This DNS is issued under WAC 197-11-340(2); the lead agency will **not act on this proposal for 14 days** from the date of issue below. Comments must be submitted by: **May 4, 2005**

Responsible Official: Teresa A. Eturaspe

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

Please contact: Teresa A. Eturaspe **Phone:** (360) 902-2575 **Fax:** (360) 902-2946 or

Address: 600 Capitol Way North, Olympia, WA 98501

e-mail: <habitatSEPA@dfw.wa.gov> if you have questions or comments about this determination.

DATE OF ISSUE: April 20, 2005 **SIGNATURE:**



SEPA Log Number: 05 -033. dns

Distribution of Environmental Document:

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