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: LAKE SCANEWA MERWIN TRAPS: COLLECTION EFFICIENCY IMPROVEMENT RESEARCH

Description of Proposal: The project proposal is to place a Flow Velocity Enhancement System (FVES) on the north side of Lake Scanewa immediately upstream from the Merwin traps being operated by WDFW and generate a current diagonally across the reservoir towards the southside Merwin trap. The purpose of this project is to improve the collection efficiency of the Merwin traps and overall fish passage survival of summer migrating Chinook smolts. The FVES will be placed on the bottom of the reservoir in approximately thirty (30) feet of water and connected to a work barge anchored above it. Motive water for the FVES will be supplied by gas engine pumps mounted on the work barge. The pump suction will be screened. This work is part of the Cowlitz Falls Anadromous Fish Re-introduction Program and seeks to improve an interim measure requested of Tacoma Power by NOAA Fisheries.

The deployment and operation of the FVES will be conducted by Natural Solutions personnel. Smolt collection, enumeration, and transportation will be conducted by WDFW according to normal procedure. Assistance in planning, oversight, and procedure for this project will be provided by WDFW, Tacoma Power, USGS, Lewis County PUD, and Oak Ridge Lab. This work will be conducted from June 21 – July 15, 2005.

Proponent: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife & Natural Solutions

Project Contacts:

John Serl, Fish Biologist
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
1379B Falls Rd
Randle WA 98377

Gordon Burns
Natural Solutions
1890 Sierra Rd. East
Helena, MT 59602

Location of Proposal, including street, if any: The FVES system will be placed immediately upstream from the Merwin traps operated in Lake Scanewa. The Merwin trap location is approximately one-half mile below the confluence of the Cowlitz and Cispus arms of Lake Scanewa. The Cowlitz Falls project is located at River Mile 88.5 on the Cowlitz River. The Cowlitz Falls Dam is located at 13798 Falls Road, Randle, WA 98377.
Lewis County; NE 1/4 of Section 06, Township 11 North, Range 06 EastWM

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 18, 2005**

Responsible Official: Teresa A. Eturaspe

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

Address: 600 Capitol Way North, Olympia, WA 98501

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: May 4, 2005 **SIGNATURE:** Teresa A. Eturaspe

SEPA Log Number: 05 -042. dns

Distribution of Environmental Document:

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