



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 (DNS)

Name of Proposal: NEW WAC- CHAPTER 232-13; PUBLIC CONDUCT ON WILDLIFE AREAS AND ACCESS SITES OWNED AND CONTROLLED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE.

Description of Proposal: New WAC Chapter 232-13

The purpose of this new chapter is to establish allowed and prohibited activities on Department of Fish and Wildlife owned or controlled lands, waters or access areas. These include activities relating to: aircraft use, proper behavior and conduct, camping, commercial use or activities, dumping and sanitation, erecting structures, fires and campfires, firearms and target practice, fireworks, livestock, noncommercial use or activities, parking, pets, resource removal, and vehicle use. It also establishes the authority to regulate public use, clarifies enforcement authority, and establishes violations of this chapter as misdemeanors. **See the proposed new WAC chapter 232-13 in Appendix A.**

Repeals WACs: 232-12-174; 232-12-177; 232-12-184; 232-12-187; 232-12-251

These WAC topics will be consolidated into the new Chapter 13.

Reasons for supporting the proposal

The Department's paramount responsibilities are to preserve, protect, perpetuate, and manage fish and wildlife species of the state and maximize opportunities for people to hunt, fish and appreciate fish and wildlife. It has been observed in recent years that many activities currently occurring on department lands are inconsistent with fish and wildlife management goals, damage habitat, disturb wildlife, or prevent others from enjoying fish and wildlife recreational opportunities. The new chapter serves to curb these undesirable effects. Regulations directing public use activities are currently scattered among other regulations. There is the need to consolidate them under one heading for clarity, better enforcement and to ultimately allow the department to fulfill its responsibilities.

Proponent/Applicant: Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW)
Mark Quinn: Department of Fish and Wildlife, 600 Capital Way North; Olympia, WA 98501-1091,
(360) 902-2515

Location of Proposal, including street, if any: The proposal covers all department managed lands that cover a large geographic area stretching from the outer coast of Washington State to the Idaho-Washington state line and extends from the U.S.-Canadian border down to the Columbia River which is made up of wildlife areas and access sites owned or controlled by WDFW. These lands vary in size, location and topography and are situated in many counties of the State. **See the statewide map of WDFW administered lands in Appendix B.**

Lead Agency: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW)

WDFW has determined that this proposal will have no probable significant adverse impacts on the environment. Therefore, an environmental impact statement (EIS) is not required under RCW 43.21C.030(2)(c). We made this determination of nonsignificance (DNS) after review of the environmental checklist and other information on file with us. This information is available to the public on request.

Agencies, affected tribes and members of the public are invited to comment on this proposal.

We issued this DNS under WAC 197-11-340(2). We will **not act on this proposal for 14 days** from the date of issuance of this DNS. If you have comments about this DNS or this proposal, we must receive your comments by **September 21, 2007**.

When you send us your comments, please provide the name of proposal in your comment letter and mail it to:

Responsible Official: Teresa A. Eturaspe

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

Address: 600 Capitol Way North, Olympia, WA 98501

You can also send your comments via email to: SEPAdesk@dfw.wa.gov

You can also send you comments via fax to: (360) 902-2946.

If you have questions about details of the proposal, contact: Mark Quinn: Department of Fish and Wildlife- (360) 902-2515

If you have questions about this action, please contact:

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

email: SEPAdesk@dfw.wa.gov

DATE OF ISSUE: September 7, 2007

SIGNATURE: 