



State of Washington

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

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Main Office location: Natural Resources Building - 1111 Washington Street SE - Olympia, WA

DETERMINATION OF NONSIGNIFICANCE (DNS)

Name of Proposal: MAINTENANCE ACTIVITIES WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE (WDFW) STATEWIDE FISHWAYS UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE TECHNICAL APPLICATIONS (TAPPS) DIVISION/HABITAT PROGRAM

Description of Proposal: This SEPA is for the maintenance of all TAPPS owned fishways. Currently, WDFW; TAPPS Division/Habitat Program is responsible for the oversight and maintenance of 82 fishways statewide. Future similar fishways may be developed and this SEPA would cover their maintenance as well. The fishway types range from log controls to complex and formal vertical slot fishways built under the Mitchell Act. The following activities are typical maintenance needs required to safely and freely pass fish (including ESA listed species). The proposed timing of those activities are also noted:

- Replace and or adjusted stop logs and guides associated with weir/pool, pool-chute, or vertical slot fishways damaged by weather related events*, normal hydraulic action or vandalism. Proposed timing: needed year-around.
- Remove both inorganic (sediment, gravels, large rocks) and organic (trees, limbs, etc.) material using hand tools, e.g. chainsaws and where appropriate heavy equipment, e.g., track hoe excavator from weir/pool, pool/chute, baffle and/or streambed control, blasted chute, vertical slot, denil and steep pass type fishways. In selected cases, pre-existing sluice gates are used to evacuate gravels from fishways. Proposed timing: needed year-around.
- Repair or replace concrete weirs and walls associated with formal concrete fishways damage by weather related events* or normal hydraulic action. Proposed timing: year-around w/all work to be done in isolation of flowing water w/sufficient cure time to protect fish life.
- Repair or replace metal trash racks, guides, intake screens, walkways, ladders and grates normally associated with weir-pool, pool-chute, or vertical slot fishways damaged by weather related events* or vandalism. Proposed timing: needed year-around.
- Repair log control(s), filter fabric, ballast damaged by weather related events*. Proposed timing: Will comply with HPA fish window. All instream work will be tight lined prior to repair.

*Weather related events include such events as flooding, freezes and/or wind storms.

Proponent/Applicant: WDFW TAPPS Division, Habitat Program, 600 Capital Way N, Olympia WA 98501-1091

Location of Proposal, including street, if any: Statewide, Washington, All Counties: See attached report for legal locations and counties of currently owned and operated TAPPS fishways. If additional fishways are developed, their maintenance will be covered under this SEPA action.

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 **November 06, 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 this action, please contact:

Teresa A. Eturaspe **Phone:** (360) 902-2575 **Fax:** (360) 902-2946 or
email: SEPAdesk@dfw.wa.gov

DATE OF ISSUE: October 23, 2007 **SIGNATURE:** 

SEPA Log Number: 07 -088. dns