



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: WDFW AUTHORIZED NET PEN PROJECTS

Description of Proposal: This proposal is intended to cover the installation and removal of fish net pens (both WDFW operated and cooperator operated) at various locations throughout Washington. At the present time this would include approximately 25 net pen projects. This proposal does not cover, and will not include in the future, any commercially operated net pen projects. This proposal covers the installation and removal of net pens only and not any associated fish rearing activities. For cooperator (non-WDFW) operated net pens projects, those fish rearing activities are covered under separate agreements with the WDFW. Cooperators are responsible for installation and removal of net pens and obtaining all other necessary permits. Projects that are included in this proposal have previously been reviewed by WDFW and Tribal/Federal co-managers and have been established in the Future Brood Document as approved projects. During the review process, project suitability (location, size, number etc.) for a given site is considered. To be considered for inclusion under a programmatic HPA, future projects will first need to be established through the Future Brood Document project review and approval process.

Proponent/Applicant:

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW)
600 Capitol Way N, Olympia, WA 98501-1091
Phone: 360-902-2685
Contact Person: Joshua Nicholas

Location of Proposal, including street, if any: Statewide, Washington,

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

WDFW has determined that this proposal will likely not have a significant adverse impact on the environment. Therefore, state law¹ does not require an environmental impact statement (EIS). WDFW made this determination of nonsignificance (DNS) after we reviewed the environmental checklist and other information on file with us.

We issued this DNS according to state rules.² We will **not act on this proposal for 14 days** from the date we issued the DNS. Agencies, affected tribes, and members of the public are invited to comment on this proposal or DNS. We must receive your comments within 14 days of the date of this letter. This means we must receive your comments by **April 21, 2010**

You can submit your comments by email to SEPAdesk2@dfw.wa.gov, through the WDFW SEPA website comment link at <http://www.wdfw.wa.gov/hab/sepa/sepa.htm>, fax to (360) 902-2946, or mail to the address below. When you send us your comments, please provide the name of the proposal in your comment letter.

Responsible Official: Teresa A. Eturaspe

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

Address: 600 Capitol Way North, Olympia, WA 98501-1091

After the comment period closes, applicants may view the updated status of this proposal on the WDFW SEPA website: <http://www.wdfw.wa.gov/hab/sepa/sepa.htm>. Once the status is posted as final, applicants and permittees may take action on the proposal. When a proposal is modified or withdrawn, notice will be given in accordance with state law.¹

If you have questions about this DNS or the details of the proposal, contact Teresa Eturaspe at the address, e-mail, or fax number above; you can also call her at (360) 902-2575.

DATE OF ISSUE: April 7, 2010 **SIGNATURE:** 

Footnotes

1. RCW 43.21C.030(2)(c)
2. WAC 197-11-340(2).

SEPA Log Number: 10 -023. dns