



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:** RED SALMON SLOUGH RESTORATION PHASE 3

**Description of Proposal:** The Nisqually Indian Tribe, Natural Resources Department is proposing to restore the ecological functions of the Nisqually River Estuary in the Red Salmon Slough areas by removing approximately 6000 feet of man-made dikes in 2011. The removal of these dikes will fully reconnect the slough with its outside areas and therefore restore and/or improve fish access, tidal exchange, freshwater mixing, salt marsh erosion and sedimentation. This is the 3<sup>rd</sup> phase of a very successful effort to restore fish and wildlife habitat in the Red Salmon Slough area and the 4<sup>th</sup> project in the Nisqually Estuary overall to restore fish and wildlife habitat in over 900 acres of the delta.

**Proponent/Applicant:**

Nisqually Indian Tribe-Natural Resources Department  
Florian Leischner, Restoration Biologist  
12501 Yelm Hwy SE.  
Olympia, WA 98513  
(360) 438-8687 x 2145

**Location of Proposal, including street, if any:** Nisqually Delta, Red Salmon Slough, End of Mounds Road, near town of DuPont, Washington, Pierce County; Section 33, Township 19 North, Range 01 EastWM

**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 law<sup>1</sup> 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.<sup>2</sup> 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 **February 2, 2011**

**Method of Comment:**

The following procedures shall govern the method to comment on agency SEPA proposals. Comments received through these procedures are part of the official SEPA record for this proposal.

You can submit your comments any one of the following ways:

- Email to [SEPAdesk2@dfw.wa.gov](mailto:SEPAdesk2@dfw.wa.gov)
- Online at the WDFW SEPA website comment link at: <http://wdfw.wa.gov/licensing/sepa/>
- Fax to (360) 902-2946;
- Mail to the address below.

**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://wdfw.wa.gov/licensing/sepa/> 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.<sup>1</sup>

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:** January 19, 2011    **SIGNATURE:** 

Footnotes

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

SEPA Log Number: 11-002. dns

**Distribution of Environmental Document:**

Department of Ecology, Environmental Review Section, Olympia  
Department of Natural Resources, SEPA Center, Olympia  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Seattle  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Western Washington Office, Lacey  
NOAA - Fisheries, Seattle  
Pierce County Department of Planning and Land Services, Tacoma  
State Parks and Recreation Commission, Olympia  
Dept of Archaeology and Historic Preservation  
Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission, Olympia  
Muckleshoot Tribe, Auburn  
Nisqually Tribe, Olympia  
Puyallup Tribe, Tacoma  
Squaxin Island Tribe, Shelton  
Yakima Tribe, Toppenish  
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