



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) AND ADOPTION OF EXISTING ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT

Name of Proposal: DUNGENESS CHINOOK ACCLIMATION TANKS

Description of Proposal:

The purpose of the project is to expand sub-yearling Chinook acclimation in the upper anadromous reaches of the Dungeness River, by setting up two acclimation tanks by the 2880 Dungeness bridge. The footprint of the operations described below would be within an existing dispersed campsite on the eastside (opposite side of the Dungeness Forks Campground) of the 2880 bridge. There will be no excavation involved with the operations of the acclimation tanks.

All of the materials to be used at the site including tanks, pumps, piping and other equipment will be set up and torn down every season. The rearing tanks will measure 5 foot wide by 40 foot long and either be fiberglass or metal frames with a vinyl liner. The 2 pumps used to supply water (one primary and one backup) will be housed inside an insulated box to keep the noise down or have a muffler attached. Each pump will have an intake pipe with a screened end to draw water from the river. The outlet of the pump will be piped to the head end of each pond. The ponds will have a common drain to discharge effluent water and will also be used to release the fish. A travel trailer will be placed near the tanks to house staff. The approximate footprint of the site will be 20 feet by 100 feet.

Operation (April- June):

- The ponds will be used to acclimate and release one group of accelerated sub-yearling Dungeness, Spring Chinook. The Chinook will be transferred to the pond, from Hurd Creek Hatchery in April, to be released in June. While fish are in the tanks on site, a pump will constantly (24 hours/7 days) be running to circulate water. Pumps will be housed in an insulated box to reduce noise.
- During operation of the Pond, a hatchery worker will stay in a travel trailer at the site to care for the fish and respond to emergencies. A generator housed inside an insulated box will be used to power the travel trailer.
- A radio alarm system may be used to alert staff at the Dungeness Hatchery of low flow conditions in the ponds.
- Low profile netting over the pond will be employed to protect the fish from predators.

Proponent/Applicant: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW)

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Location of Proposal Clallam County, Washington, Southeast ¼ Section 30, Township 29 North, Range 03 West, WM.

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

Adoption of Existing Environmental Document: After independent review the lead agency has identified and adopted the US Forest Service Decision Memo document as being appropriate for this proposal. The document meets our environmental review needs for the current proposal and will accompany the proposal to the decision maker.

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, the adopted document and other information on file with us.

Title of document being adopted: US Forest Service: Decision Memo: Dungeness Chinook Acclimation Tanks.

Agency that prepared document being adopted: US Forest Service

Date adopted document was prepared: March 6, 2012

Description of document (or portion) being adopted: US Forest Service Decision Memo, March 6, 2012

The document is available to be read at:

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife - Natural Resources Building,
1111 Washington Street SE, Olympia, WA, Monday - Friday 8:00 am - 5:00 pm.

This document and supplemental information is also available for review on-line at:

<http://wdfw.wa.gov/licensing/sepa/>

Name of agency adopting the document: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

We issued this DNS/Adoption according to state rules.² We will **not act on this proposal for 14 days** from the date we issued the DNS/Adoption. Agencies, affected tribes, and members of the public are invited to comment on this proposal. We must receive your comments within 14 days of the date of this letter. This means we must receive your comments by **March 28, 2012**.

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
- 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: Bob Zeigler

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.¹

If you have questions about this DNS/Adoption or the details of the proposal, contact Bob Zeigler at the address, e-mail, or fax number above; you can also call him at (360) 902-2578.

DATE OF ISSUE: March 13, 2012

SIGNATURE:

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bob Zeigler".

Footnotes

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

SEPA Log Number: 12 -020. dns/adopt