



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:** COWLITZ WILDLIFE AREA KOSMOS UNIT GATE AND PULLOUT

**Description of Proposal:**

A gate and a 30' x 30' pull out are being proposed for installation along the old road known locally as the Old Glenoma Highway. This "road" penetrates into the Kosmos Unit of the wildlife area to the old Kosmos town site. Vehicular traffic has been restricted beyond this point since 1995 to protect cultural resources, prevent wetland habitat destruction, and wildlife harassment by the use of ecology blocks and signage. This has become more challenging in recent years due to vandals moving the ecology blocks and erosion around the old bridge. When the ecology blocks are removed a potentially dangerous situation arises as a vehicle could mistakenly drive into Frost Creek not realizing the road across the bridge is gone. The installation of the proposed gate will block access to an additional 1600 feet however; this will mitigate the hazard to the public, continue meeting the objectives of the management plan and will not appreciably restrict public use. Public access will be preserved by seasonally opening the gate when water levels on the reservoir prevent vehicular access to the area near the bridge.

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

Mark Grabski  
PO BOX 758 / 350 SR 7  
Morton, WA 98356  
360.496.6223

**Location of Proposal, including street, if any:** Kosmos Unit, WDFW Cowlitz Wildlife Area, Washington, Lewis County; Section 28, Township 12 North, Range 05 East WM

**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 **April 10, 2013**.

**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:** 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.<sup>1</sup>

If you have questions about this DNS 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 26, 2013

**SIGNATURE:**



Footnotes

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

SEPA Log Number: 13 -031. dns