



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: DNS 14-001: WENAS ELK FENCE REPLACEMENT

Description of Proposal:

This project will allow for the complete demolition and replacement of approximately 3.76 miles of 8' high cross-country damaged elk drift fence. The fence will be built in three sections; Kelley-BelTel (priority 1) at 1.01 miles, Mellotte (priority 2), at 1.14 miles, and Kelley Gate (priority 3) at 1.61 miles. Previously the fence was constructed of wood post and typical wire mesh. The old wood posts will be cut off at ground level, removed from the site and disposed of. The new steel post (2 7/8 inches outside diameter in 11 foot lengths) will be constructed by positioning the steel posts at least 6 inches away from the damaged wood post. The fence posts will be mechanically impact driven with typical wire mesh fencing installed to match the adjoining sections. Drilling may be required to set a small portion of fence posts in the BelTel section of the project. Any fence gate posts installed will be cemented in.

At two points, the fencing crosses Wenas Creek in the Mellotte-Hoover Gate section. At no time will any equipment enter the water. All access will be gained from access roads as indicated on the permit drawings. Elk fencing will be placed on either side of Wenas Creek and wire will be stretched across the creek. No fence posts will be driven into Wenas Creek.

Old fence sections deemed to have salvage value will be selected by WDFW staff and will be recovered and stored at a department facility for later use by the agency. All materials but wire mesh hangers shall be furnished by the contractor. Wire mesh hangers will be supplied by WDFW. Access to this project shall be limited to WDFW owned or controlled properties only. All work to be performed shall be in accordance with all local, state and federal codes laws and in accordance with permit guidelines.

Proponent/Applicant: Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW)
Cindy Knudsen
600 Capitol Way North
Olympia, WA. 98501
(360) 902 8422
Cindy.knudsen@wdfw.wa.gov

Location of Proposal, including street, if any: WDFW Wenas Wildlife Area, Yakima County, Washington: **There are three locations for this project:**

Bel Tel: 46.811053,-120.61476, – 46.796479,-120.614458 entirely within (T 15 N R 18 E S 07). Length of fence 1.01 miles.

Mellotte-Hoover Gate: 46.829772,-120.709165 – 46.838836,-120.723557 (T16 N R 17 E S 39 through T 16 N R 17 E S 32) 1.14 miles

Kelley Gate: 46.811225,-120.633753 – 46.811154,-120.65732 (T 15N R 18 E S 07 – T 15 N, R 17 E S 12) 1.61 miles

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 **January 24, 2014**.

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: Lisa Wood

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

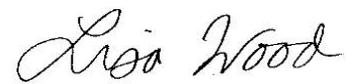
Address: 600 Capitol Way North, Olympia, WA 98501-1091

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 or the details of the proposal, contact Lisa Wood at the address, e-mail, or fax number above; you can also call her at (360) 902-2260.

DATE OF ISSUE: January 9, 2014

SIGNATURE: _____



Footnotes

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

SEPA Log Number: 14-001. dns