



State of Washington
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

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Main Office Location: Natural Resources Building · 1111 Washington Street SE · Olympia, WA

April 28, 2014

Terri Costello,
SEPA Coordinator
4601 N Monroe Street
Spokane, WA

Re: Wooten Wildlife Area Campground Relocation, File # 14-020

Dear Terri Costello,

Thank you, and your Department of Ecology colleagues, for commenting on the Determination of Nonsignificance for the proposed Wooten Wildlife Area Campground Relocation project. The project includes removal of two existing campgrounds from the floodplain, returning the floodplain to a more riparian state, and the construction of three new campgrounds to replace the two that will be decommissioned.

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) wishes to clarify any questions about regulatory compliance with our responses per the areas of concern outlined below. As the lead agency protecting, or managing the wise use, of Washington State's fish and wildlife resources, WDFW takes regulatory compliance very seriously.

Air Quality Program

WDFW will evaluate alternatives to burning natural vegetation prior to it being cleared from the land. Any plans to burn vegetation after it has been cleared, will include a call to Kary Peterson at (509) 329-3523 prior to burning. If it is determined that burning is allowed, an Ecology burn permit will be acquired. The project is not in an Urban Growth Areas (UGAs). All construction or demolition waste will be removed from the site and treated as solid waste.

Tree removal is also regulated under the Forest Practices Act (chapter 76.09 RCW). WDFW applied for and received FPA Permit #2705557 on March 25, 2014 for the Class III forest. Tree removal will be performed in accordance with this permit.

Shorelands and Environmental Assistance Program-Wetlands

A wetland reconnaissance is scheduled to be performed by a qualified wetland specialist or biologist in early May of this year to determine if wetlands are present. If potential wetlands are observed a

delineation will be performed, as will mitigation planning, and required permitting. We will contact David Moore at (509) 329-3474 with any questions regarding on this reconnaissance.

Shorelands and Environmental Assistance Program-Floodplains

As the on-site project lead I met on January 30, 2014 with Jeromy Phinney, Columbia County Planning and Building Department, regarding any County permits that may be required to move forward with the project. In a follow-up meeting, April 25, 2014, with Kim Lyonais, Director of Planning and Building, specifically addressed Critical Areas, including Special Flood Hazard Areas. It is the considered opinion of the Columbia County staff that the project does not require attention under the Critical Areas Codes nor their Shoreline Master Program, for which a Shoreline Exemption was issued February 10, 2014.

Water Quality Program

WDFW is appreciative of the Department of Ecology's attention to the water quality aspects of this project. Initially the project, that affects less than five acres, was thought to be dry enough to qualify for the Construction Rainfall Erosivity Waiver. WDFW has filed a NOI under the NPDES Construction Stormwater General Permit (#2190). Therefore a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan, implementation of all erosion and sediment control Best Management Practices (BMPs), and engaging the WDFW Certified Erosion and Sediment Control Lead (CESCL) will be part of the project's implementation.

Proper erosion and sediment control practices will be used on the construction site and adjacent areas to prevent upland sediments from entering surface water. All ground disturbed by construction activities will be stabilized. Native vegetation typical of the site will be used.

Any component of the project that would generate a waste discharge or have the potential to impact the quality of state waters, will be brought to the attention of the Department of Ecology to assure that WDFW would have prior authorization as provided under Chapter 90.48 RCW, Chapter 173-216 WAC, Chapter 173-220 WAC, Chapter 173-200 WAC and Chapter 173-201A WAC.

WDFW's response is based on Ecology's comments with the understanding that there may be other legal requirements that must be fulfilled in order to carry out the proposed action. WDFW seeks to be fully compliant with all federal, state, and local laws and regulations.

Sincerely,


Kari Dingman

Cc: Lisa Wood, SRO, WDFW
James Gigstead, Project Manager, WDFW
Douglas Mackey, Project Fish and Wildlife Biologist, WDFW
Kary Peterson, Outdoor Burning Permits, Department of Ecology
David Moore, SEA Program, Department of Ecology
Kim Lyonais, Director, Planning and Building Department, Columbia County