



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 14-034: COLOCKUM HAZARD TREE REMOVAL

Description of Proposal:

Hazard Tree Treatment (Approximately 7.8 linear miles plus adjacent campsites –Approximately 280 acres):

This project would cut down hazard trees along approximately 7.8 miles of road and associated campgrounds. Hazard trees will be removed within 1.5 tree heights (usually about 150 feet) of roads and campgrounds per Labor and Industry safety standards. Trees cut within riparian buffers will be left on the ground. Outside of riparian buffers cut Douglas fir will be harvested to offset project costs, partially restore biomass levels, support local economies and help create fuel breaks. Non merchantable slash outside of riparian buffers will be piled and burned to create road side fuel breaks.

Proactive treatment of unburned forest (Approximately 42 acres):

Grand fir and Douglas fir will be selectively thinned from a 42-acre unburned forest stand to improve forest health and reduce susceptibility to stand replacing wildfires. WDFW will retain an average of at least 25 large, fire-resistant trees (ponderosa line, western larch or Douglas fir).

Thin Douglas fir from a burned Ponderosa pine-dominated forest (Approximately 144 acres):

Douglas fir will be removed from a burned ridge that was dominated by ponderosa pine but had a substantial component of younger Douglas fir in it. All old, wolfy Douglas-fir (live + dead) will be retained. In most cases there will be sufficient Ponderosa pine trees in the dominant size class to meet or exceed the retention standard of 10-15 large or old trees (snags + live trees). If there are areas without sufficient dominant ponderosa pine or old, wolfy Douglas fir, additional Douglas-fir will be retained to meet the retention standard.

Reforestation:

Harvested areas will be planted with ponderosa pine where necessary to meet Forest Practice standards.

Proponent/Applicant: Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW)
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Location of Proposal, including street, if any: WDFW Colockum Wildlife Area, Tarpiscan Road, Malaga, Kittitas County, Washington; Township 20N, Ranges 20E and 21E.

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. The comment period will end at **5:00 pm on June 13, 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: May 29, 2014

SIGNATURE:



Footnotes

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

SEPA Log Number: 14-034.dns