



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 14-037: COLOCKUM-TARPS FIRE FENCE REPLACEMENT

Description of Proposal:

The Colockum-Tarps fire of 2013 burned barbed-wire fencing that was used to exclude cattle from the Colockum Wildlife Area. This project will replace the existing burned barbed wire fence for about 11 miles in the same alignment of the old fence along WDFW property boundary lines. The existing barbed wire fence will be demolished. The project will construct a 4-strand barbed wire fence, 42" height, with steel posts spaced 16 feet apart. Posts will be drilled 16" in rocky areas that cannot be otherwise driven in. The steel posts and wire presently along the fence line will be removed from the site and taken to a local landfill or recycled. Burned wood posts will be stacked at intervals along the fence line to provide habitat.

An Environmental Impact Study (FEIS) publication is entitled: Livestock Grazing Management on the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife's Quilomene and Whiskey Dick Wildlife Areas in Kittitas County, Washington. This FEIS environmental study is part of the "Greater Wild Horse Coordinated Resource Management Planning Process, November 2009, Washington Dept. of Fish and Wildlife". Copies are available at this link:

<http://wdfw.wa.gov/licensing/sepa/2009/09082eis.pdf>.

To minimize possible effects to sage grouse, and in accordance with the recommendations of the FEIS written for this general area the fence wire will be spaced 16" bottom, then 7", 7", and top at 12" for a total of 42 inches, with hang tags to provide safer flight and migration for sage grouse along one mile of the fence where sage grouse could possibly be located.

Where the fence crosses creeks, an end brace will be constructed each side of the creek out of the ordinary high water line. Breakaway fence panels will be stretched over the water so if a high water event occurs the wires will separate from the rest of the fence without damaging it.

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

Contact: Cindy Knudsen

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Olympia, WA 98501

(360) 902-8422

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Location of Proposal, including street, if any: North boundary of the Colockum Wildlife Area, Chelan and Kittitas Counties, Washington: Township 20N, Range 21E, Sections 3, 9, and 10; Township 21N, Range 21E, Sections 25 and 35; and Township 21N, Range 22E, Sections 29 and 30.

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 18, 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: June 3, 2014

SIGNATURE:



Footnotes

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

SEPA Log Number: 14-037.dns