



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 15-001: TUMWATER FALLS HATCHERY REDEVELOPMENT

**Description of Proposal:**

The Tumwater Falls Park is approximately 16 acres, with WDFW currently utilizing 1.5 acres. Development of additional facilities would disturb approximately one acre. Existing park facilities include: access roads, public parking, walking trails, picnic/play areas, restrooms and an Olympia-Tumwater Foundation office/shop building. Existing fish culture facilities at this site include: fish ladders, two adult holding ponds, spawning area, surface water intake and pump station, and an office/storage building. Currently, adult salmon are collected at this site, held until spawning, and then eggs are collected and shipped to a number of hatcheries outside of the Deschutes watershed and health management zones. Juveniles are returned to the site for limited acclimation prior to release.

Proposed new facilities include: three adult holding ponds with fish viewing windows, a new section of adult fish ladder connecting to the existing ladder at the falls, re-located surface water intake and pump station (to alleviate sedimentation and future-phase trail access issues), effluent treatment clarifier, and public viewing area. Proposed action also calls for repair of those elements within the existing fish ladders requiring critical maintenance.

The proposed site will continue to collect and spawn returning hatchery-origin Chinook salmon, and acclimate and release Chinook salmon juveniles. Approximately 800,000 sub-yearling Chinook salmon would be released from the Tumwater Falls Park facility. The facility will utilize an existing water right for a surface water supply of 54 cfs (9 cfs for rearing and 45 cfs for operation of the fish ladders). Water usage for fish rearing will be non-consumptive and will be returned to the Deschutes River through the fish ladders.

The Tumwater Falls facility will only collect and rear fish of hatchery origin, and the Co-Managers Fish Health Policy that regulates movements of eggs and fish between management zones will be adhered to. The proposed project does not increase the number of fish released within the Deschutes River.

**Proponent/Applicant:** Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW)  
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[Douglas.Mackey@dfw.wa.gov](mailto:Douglas.Mackey@dfw.wa.gov)

**Location of Proposal, including street, if any:** Tumwater Falls Park on the Deschutes River, 114 Deschutes Way SW, Tumwater, Thurston County, Washington: Township 18N, Range 2W, Section 26.

**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. The comment period will end at **5:00 pm on January 20, 2015**.

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

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 5, 2015

**SIGNATURE:**



Footnotes

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

SEPA Log Number: 15-001.dns