



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 15-018: CHEWUCH RIVER CAMPGROUND HABITAT ENHANCEMENT

Description of Proposal:

The Yakama Nation, in partnership with Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW), is proposing to improve riparian and instream habitat function along the Chewuch River from river mile 13 to 14. Specific activities associated with this proposal include the following:

- Installation of Engineered Log Structures (ELs) in and adjacent to the Chewuch River
- Installation of Engineered Log Cover Habitat in and adjacent to the Chewuch River
- Replanting of native grasses, shrubs, and trees in disturbed areas with some expanded riparian buffer.

As a habitat restoration project, our design is meant to improve ecological conditions within the project area by improving and adding habitat complexity via large wood installations that benefit fish and wildlife.

The project does not create upland; it changes the hydrology and the type of aquatic habitat. The project includes the incorporation of two engineered log structures. Large wood= 69 pieces

Fill material will be required to stabilize the ELJs. The fill source is native materials excavated onsite during excavation. Approximately 46 cubic yards of material will be removed. The total area of impact is 1,300 sqf.

Proponent/Applicant: Yakama Nation

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Contact: Chris Butler, Habitat Fisheries Biologist
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Location of Proposal: Chewuch River between river miles 13 and 14 between East Chewuch Road and West Chewuch Road, north of Winthrop, Okanogan County, Washington: Township 36N, Range 21E, Section 13.

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 March 26, 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
- 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: March 12, 2015

SIGNATURE: 

Footnotes

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

SEPA Log Number: 15-018.dns