



May 6, 2015

Lisa Wood; SEPA/NEPA Coordinator
WDFW Regulatory Services Section
600 Capitol Way North
Olympia, WA 98501-1091

Subject: DNR Comments for WDFW DNS 15-028

Ms. Wood:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on the Beaver Creek Hatchery Intake Improvements DNS 15-028 located near Cathlamet, WA. The Department of Natural Resources is steward of Washington's aquatic lands and their resources. Aquatic lands are managed for current and future citizens of the state to sustain long-term ecosystem and economic vitality, and to ensure access to the aquatic lands and the benefits derived from them. Washington DNR's management authority derives from the State's Constitution (Articles XV, XVII, XXVII), Revised Code (RCW 79.02 and 79.105) and Administrative Code (WAC 332-30). As proprietary manager of state-owned aquatic lands, DNR has been directed to manage the lands "...for the benefit of the public" in a manner that provides "...a balance of public benefits for all citizens of the state" that includes"

Encouraging direct public use and access

Fostering water-dependent uses

Ensuring environmental protection, and

Utilizing renewable resources.

In addition, generating revenue in a manner consistent with subsections 1) through 4) of this section is a public benefit (RCW 79.105.030).

DNR has completed a preliminary review of your project. Portions of your existing facility, as well as proposed maintenance activities, are located on bedlands and shorelands of the Elochoman River owned by the State of Washington and managed by DNR. A DNR use authorization will likely be necessary for the proposed project. Please contact me at your earliest convenience to discuss options moving forward.

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To ensure sustainable management of state-owned aquatic lands, DNR has established environmental protection goals. These goals seek to ensure uses of state-owned land do not result in: shading that harms aquatic vegetation and fish migration; compaction, disruption, or impeding the natural movement of sediments; underwater noise that can disrupt important aquatic species when they are most vulnerable; or, release harmful contamination and waste. DNR is committed to working with applicants, in coordination with permitting agencies, to find ways to avoid impacts to aquatic habitats and species on state-owned aquatic land.

If you have not already submitted an application to authorize state-owned aquatic lands, please contact me. I can provide you with an application and discuss the authorization process before you apply for permits. I am also available to meet with regulatory agencies to discuss the proposal in an effort to meet mutual goals while avoiding unnecessary expense or delays in the review of project proposals. Please do not hesitate to call 360-740-6806 should you need additional information, or to arrange a meeting.

DNR reserves the right to comment on future amendments and revisions to this proposal.

Sincerely,



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Cc: Doug Mackey