



State of Washington
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

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Main Office Location: Natural Resources Building · 1111 Washington Street SE · Olympia, WA

October 31, 2016

Department of Ecology
Eastern Region: SEA, Water Resources, and SEPA Programs
Attn: Lynn Schmidt, SEA; Herm Spangle, WR; and Terri Costello, SEPA
4601 N Monroe
Spokane, WA 99205-1295

Re: Wooten Wildlife Area Floodplain Management Plan Implementation, File # 16-054

Dear Lynn Schmidt, SEA; Herm Spangle, WR; and Terri Costello, SEPA:

Thank you all for commenting on the Determination of Nonsignificance for the proposed Wooten Wildlife Area Floodplain Management Plan Implementation project. The project includes on-going floodplain habitat restoration to the Wooten Wildlife Area to include large woody debris and channel modifications, reconstruction of Rainbow Lake and three other man-made lakes, rehabilitation of Campground 3 at Rainbow Lake, and installation of an underground powerline from the Hatchery to Camp Wooten.

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) wishes to clarify any questions about regulatory compliance with our responses per the areas of concern outlined below. As the lead agency protecting, or managing the wise use, of Washington State's fish and wildlife resources, WDFW takes regulatory compliance very seriously.

Shorelands and Environmental Assistance

WDFW has met with Columbia County to discuss potential need for Floodplain Development Permit(s) as well as Shoreline Substantial Development Permit(s) for the work outlined in the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA). The County will be reviewing the project plans in these next few months, with correspondence likely with the Department of Ecology's SEA Program around the project's potential impact upon wetlands adjacent to Rainbow Lake.

Water Resources

The current planning documents are based upon the using the existing surface water diversions which are complex compared to other hatchery intake facilities. Any proposed changes in the surface water diversion system will be processed through your office. We will be reviewing these with WDFW's new hire in our Real Estate Division for Water Rights, Cynthia Knudsen, and with Ecology's Herm Spangle.

Other SEPA issues that may be related to the project

WDFW is aware that several components of the overarching WWA-Floodplain Management Plan Implementation will receive a more detailed description as engineered drawings are developed to reconstruct the other Tucannon Lakes, for instance. WDFW will work with our SEPA Responsible

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Official, Lisa Wood, and Ecology's Terri Costello, as these details come forward and WDFW discerns the most appropriate response under the State Environment Policy Act.

Should any of you have further questions, do not hesitate to enquire.

Sincerely,



Douglas Mackey
Fish and Wildlife Biologist
(360) 902-8380

Cc:

Lynn Schmidt, SEA, Eastern Region, Department of Ecology
Herm Spangle, WR, Eastern Region, Department of Ecology
Terri Costello, SEPA Eastern Region, Department of Ecology
Lisa Wood, SEPA/NEPA Coordinator, WDFW