



State of Washington
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

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

DETERMINATION OF NONSIGNIFICANCE (DNS)

Name of Proposal: DNS 24-015: SKAGIT WILDLIFE AREA MANAGEMENT PLAN

Description of Proposal:

This is a new management plan for the Skagit Wildlife Area. Over the next 10 years, the plan will direct management activities on 21 units totaling 17,968 acres. The primary management focus is on estuary and floodplain restoration, providing forage for wintering waterfowl, recovering federal and state listed species, and providing recreation. Supported recreation activities include fishing, hunting, wildlife viewing, photography, boating, walking, and hiking.

Restoration activities that may occur on the wildlife area units include estuary restoration, forest management, and wetland enhancements. See table 7 for a complete list of goals and objectives. Specific projects or actions may be taken to implement elements of this plan. Where appropriate, project specific SEPA review will occur.

Proponent/Applicant: Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW)
Contact: Lauri Vigue
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360-902-2549
Lauri.Vigue@dfw.wa.gov

Location of Proposal, including street, if any: WDFW Skagit Wildlife Area, 21 units predominantly located on the Skagit River Delta and Skagit Bay Estuary between La Conner and Conway, northwestern Snohomish County, to the west on isolated parcels in the San Juan Islands, and in eastern Skagit County near the cities of Marblemount and Concrete. San Juan, Island, Skagit, and Snohomish Counties, Washington.

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 threshold determination according to state rules.² Agencies, tribes, and members of the public are invited to comment on this determination. We must receive your comments within 33 days of the date of this determination. The comment period will end at **5:00 pm on April 22, 2024.**

Method of Comment:

SEPA documents related to this proposal can be reviewed at the WDFW SEPA website at: <http://wdfw.wa.gov/licenses/environmental/sepa/open-comments>.

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 through one of the following ways:

- Online at the Public Input comment portal for this proposal: <https://publicinput.com/SkagitWLAPlan>
- Email to: SkagitWLAPlan@PublicInput.com

Responsible Official: Lisa Wood

Position/Title: SEPA/NEPA Coordinator, WDFW Habitat Program, Protection Division

Address: P.O. Box 43200, Olympia, WA 98504-3200

After the comment period closes, applicants may view the updated status of this proposal on the WDFW SEPA website: <https://wdfw.wa.gov/licenses/environmental/sepa/closed-final>. 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, or have difficulty with the Public Input comment portal, contact Lisa Wood at: SEPADesk2@dfw.wa.gov.

DATE OF ISSUE: March 20, 2024

SIGNATURE:



Footnotes

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

SEPA Log Number: 24-015.dns

Individuals who need to receive this information in an alternative format or language, or who need reasonable accommodations to participate in WDFW-sponsored public meetings or other activities may contact the Title VI/ADA Compliance Coordinator by phone at 360-902-2349, TTY (711), or email (Title6@dfw.wa.gov).