



State of Washington
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 43200, Olympia, WA 98504-3200 • (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 19-052: TRANSLOCATION OF WESTSLOPE CUTTHROAT TROUT AND SLIMY SCULPIN INTO HIGHLINE CREEK

Description of Proposal:

Highline Creek (tributary to Sullivan Creek) was impounded by a log-crib dam in support of Diamond Match Company operations in the 1940's. The reservoir was stocked with Brook Trout in 1965, which established naturalized Brook Trout populations. The reservoir no longer exists, but the log-crib dam remains as a barrier to upstream fish passage.

Approximately 300 Adult and sub-adult Westslope Cutthroat Trout will be collected from (a) geographically proximate population(s) and translocated to Highline Creek in summer/fall 2019. Fish will be planted throughout the watershed above the log-crib dam to establish a self-sustaining population. Although the initial translocation may be sufficient to fulfill this objective, additional translocations may be necessary to augment numbers or genetics of the population based on continued monitoring.

Following confirmation of natural reproduction and expanding geographic occupancy of Westslope Cutthroat Trout in Highline Creek, 100 Slimy Sculpin will be translocated from mainstem Sullivan Creek into Highline Creek. Fish will be planted throughout the watershed above the log-crib dam to establish a self-sustaining population. Although the initial translocation may be sufficient to fulfill this objective, additional translocations may be necessary to augment numbers or genetics of the population based on continued monitoring.

Proponent/Applicant: Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW)
Contact: Brian Walker
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Colville, WA 99114
(509) 563-5490
Brian.Walker2@dfw.wa.gov

Location of Proposal, including street, if any: Highline Creek is a tributary to Sullivan Creek, located approximately 7 miles east of Metaline Falls, Pend Oreille County, Washington: Township 39N, Range 44E, Sections 29 and 30.

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 notice. The comment period will end at **5:00 pm on September 30, 2019.**

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: <https://wdfw.wa.gov/licenses/environmental/sepa/open-comments>
- Fax to (360) 902-2946
- Mail to the address below.

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, contact Lisa Wood at the address, e-mail, or fax number above; you can also call her at (360) 902-2260.

DATE OF ISSUE: September 16, 2019

SIGNATURE:



Footnotes

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

SEPA Log Number: 19-052.dns