



State of Washington
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

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

**ADDENDUM 20-027 TO FINAL SUPPLEMENTAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT
STATEMENTS**

Dated: August 1992 and January 2002

Name of FSEIS:

1. Lake and Stream Rehabilitations Final Supplemental Impact Statement (FSEIS), 1992-1993 and
2. Lake and Stream Rehabilitation: Rotenone Use and Health Risks FSEIS, 2002

Description of Proposal:

The original FSEISs were reviewed as a statewide proposal and they apply to statewide coverage. Implementation of the FSEISs includes the following waters for the **2020** season.

This proposal includes the rehabilitation of four (4) lakes in eastern Washington managed for trout only (McDowell Lake, Hatch Lake, Little Hatch lake, and Keogh Lake; all are in Stevens County). The rehabilitation treatment will be the use of rotenone to improve fishing for trout via the elimination of undesirable and/or illegally stocked fish which compete with or prey upon stocked trout fry/fingerlings. It will also restore the economic strategy of stocking fingerling trout instead of the much more expensive and larger “catchables” which are used to temporarily “prop up” underperforming trout fisheries when stocking fry/fingerlings becomes ineffective. Post-treatment, these lakes will be stocked with “catchable-size” Rainbow Trout *Oncorhynchus mykiss* in March-April of 2021 to support fisheries in the spring of 2021. They will also be stocked with Rainbow Trout fry/fingerlings in spring 2021 in order to create a more economically and biologically sustainable trout-only fishery. All stocking after that will consist of fry or fingerling-size trout.

The competing/predatory species targeted for removal in these lakes this year are Yellow Perch *Perca flavescens* (Hatch Lake, Little Hatch Lake, Keogh Lake), Pumpkinseed Sunfish *Lepomis gibbosus* (McDowell Lake) and Tench *Tinca tinca* (McDowell Lake). The presence of those species is likely a result of illegal stocking (Hatch Lake, Little Hatch Lake, Keogh Lake) or immigration resulting from a faulty water management structure which was subsequently repaired in 2015 (McDowell Lake).

Our program proposal this year includes the treatment of Upper Flume Creek in Pend Oreille County with Rotenone to remove nonnative Eastern Brook Trout *Salvelinus fontinalis*. A temporary fish management structure (tFMS) was constructed on the mainstem Flume Creek in October 2019, approximately 0.25 miles downstream of the confluence with the Middle Fork Flume Creek to facilitate effective treatment of the watershed (portion upstream of the tFMS is referred to as Upper Flume Creek; 5.13 miles). Confirmation of removal of Eastern Brook Trout from Upper Flume Creek will be followed by proposed treatment of the section below the tFMS (Lower Flume Creek; 6.0 miles) in subsequent years. This will be the second year for the Flume Creek project. The current plan for Flume Creek calls for the restocking of native Westslope Cutthroat Trout *Oncorhynchus clarki lewisi* in the Summer - Fall of 2021 with 300 fish, representing three size categories, of genetically pure stocks translocated from Slate Creek followed by stocking events in

the Summer - Fall of 2022-2025 with genetically pure stocks from the Native Salmonid Conservation Hatchery. Westslope Cutthroat Trout will be stocked at six discrete locations with consistent densities and size distributions. Before stocking occurs, ground truthing surveys (environmental DNA; eDNA sampling) will be conducted in the summer of 2021 to confirm the absence of Eastern Brook Trout in the creek. If no Eastern Brook Trout DNA is detected, no rotenone treatment will take place that year and Westslope Cutthroat Trout will be stocked. If Eastern Brook Trout eDNA is detected, follow-up sampling with traditional gear (e.g., backpack electrofishing) will be conducted to determine presence/absence. If removal of remaining fish cannot be accomplished via mechanical removal, a rotenone treatment will be proposed to take place that year and the restocking of native Westslope Cutthroat Trout will take place once the Eastern Brook Trout population is deemed to be functionally extirpated.

Proponent/Applicant: Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW)
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Location of Current Proposals: Implementation of the FSEIS includes the following waters for the **2020** season:

Stevens County

- McDowell Lake** – Sections 6, 7, and 8, Township 34 North, Range 41 East, WM.
- Hatch Lake** – Section 30 and 31, Township 35 North, Range 40 East, WM.
- Little Hatch Lake** – Section 30, Township 35 North, Range 40 East, WM.
- Keogh Lake** – Section 19, Township 35 North, Range 40 East, WM.

Pend Oreille County

- Upper Flume Creek** – Sections 4, 5, and 9, Township 39 North, Range 43 East, WM.

Lead Agency: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW)

The updated information provided above does not substantially change the analysis of significant impacts in the existing FSEISs (dated August 1992 and January 2002). Based on the FSEISs and the updated information provided in this addendum, the lead agency has determined that a new threshold determination is not warranted.

The FSEISs are available on WDFW Web page:

<https://wdfw.wa.gov/licenses/environmental/sepa/open-comments>

The documents are temporarily unavailable to be read in person at the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Natural Resources Building in Olympia. If you need written copies mailed to you, please contact Lisa Wood, SEPA Responsible Official, through the contact information below.

We issued this Addendum according to state rules¹. We will **not act on this proposal for 21 days** from the date of issue below. Agencies, affected tribes, and members of the public are invited to comment on this proposal. We must receive your comments within 21 days of the date of this letter. This means we must receive your comments by **5:00 pm on June 10, 2020**.

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

Comments must be received by **5:00 pm on June 10, 2020**.

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.

If you have questions about this addendum or the details of the proposal, contact Lisa Wood at SEPADesk2@dfw.wa.gov.

DATE OF ISSUE: May 20, 2020

SIGNATURE:



¹WACs 197-11-600 and 197-11-625

SEPA Log Number: 20-027 add (Addendum to Lake and Stream Rehabilitation FSEIS, 1992 and Lake and Stream Rehabilitation: Rotenone Use and Health Risks FSEIS, 2002)

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 Dolores Noyes at (360-902-2349), or TTY 771, or email (dolores.noyes@dfw.wa.gov). For more information https://wdfw.wa.gov/accessibility/reasonable_request.html.