



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 20-021: NORTH LEQUE ISLAND RESTORATION

Description of Proposal:

The project will remove a portion of the northern perimeter dike (Referenced as Dike 1 in the drawings) on North Leque Island adjacent to West Pass of the Stillaguamish River and Davis Slough so as to restore tidal function to the island. The vegetation on the dike will be chipped. The dike will then be cut to match estuary elevation. The dike material will be placed in the borrow ditches and used as plugs. Once the dike is removed, channels will be connected to existing channels north of the dike.

The purposes of this habitat restoration project are to restore tidal processes and provide better connectivity for salmonids to important tidal marsh habitat on North Leque Island. A secondary purpose of the project is to relieve hydraulic pressure on an adjacent landowner's bank by allowing more natural tidal flow over a broader area.

Proponent/Applicant: Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW)
Contact: Stephanie Kuhns
600 Capitol Way North
Olympia, WA 98501
(360) 584-3841
Stephanie.Kuhns@dfw.wa.gov

Location of Proposal, including street, if any: North of Highway 532 within the Leque Island Unit of the WDFW Skagit Wildlife Area, west of Stanwood, Skagit County, Washington: Township 32N, Range 3E, Sections 22 and 23.

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 May 18, 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

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: May 4, 2020

SIGNATURE:



Footnotes

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

SEPA Log Number: 20-021.dns