



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

1250 West Alder Street • Union Gap, Washington 98903-0009 • (509) 575-2490

June 11, 2020

Lisa Wood
SEPA\NEPA Coordinator
WDFW Regulatory Services Section
600 Capital Way North
Olympia, WA 98501-1091

Re: Teanaway Community Forest Grazing Improvements

Dear Lisa Wood:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the determination of nonsignificance for the Teanaway Community Forest Grazing Improvements. We have reviewed the documents and have the following comments.

SHORELANDS/ENVIRONMENTAL ASSISTANCE

Ecology Shorelines and Environmental Assistance (SEA) Program staff reviewed the provided SEPA checklist for the project and provides the following comments below.

Conflicting information was presented in the SEPA checklist and the plansheets. Per information provided in the SEPA Checklist, work below the ordinary high water mark (OHWM) of 10 streams is not being proposed; however, the plan sheets provided show dewatering occurring and quarry spalls below the streambed suggesting work will be occurring below the OHWM. Any work which creates a discharge below the ordinary high water mark (OHWM) of a state water, requires authorization prior to commencement per Section 401 of the Clean Water Act and RCW 90.48, the Pollution Control Act.

In addition, any excavation or placement of fill below the OHWM of a water of the United States requires authorization from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) per Section 404 of the Clean Water Act and Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act.

Work occurring within 200' of the North Fork Teanaway River's OHWM or mapped floodway will require review under the local government's Shore Master Program (SMP). Ecology recommends WDFW contact Kittitas County's Community Development Services for more information.

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The provided SEPA checklist indicated fencing to be placed surrounding existing wetlands. Ecology recommends surrounding the wetland's upland buffer with fencing as well. This would allow the buffer the opportunity to grow and provide additional functions to minimize indirect impacts to the wetland of interest. In addition, wetland buffers are regulated by the local government under their Critical Areas Ordinance (CAO). Any work taking place within a wetland's buffer will need review and approval by Kittitas County's Community Development Services. Any wetland or wetland buffer located within 200 feet of Teanaway River's OHWM or mapped floodway, would be regulated under the County's SMP, and would require additional review. A Joint Aquatic Resources Application (JARPA) and supplemental material should be submitted to the Corps and Ecology detailing the work that has occurred. Supplemental materials should include detailed plan sheets of cross-sectional and plan views of the stream and structures with labeled features, amount of impacts, and revegetation plans.

Please contact **Lori White** at 509-575-2616 or lori.white@ecy.wa.gov should you have any questions.

WATER QUALITY

Erosion control measures must be in place prior to any clearing, grading, or construction. These control measures must prevent soil from being carried by stormwater runoff into surface waters, or into stormwater drains that may discharge directly to surface water. Sand, silt, and soil will damage aquatic habitat and are considered pollutants.

If you have any questions concerning the Water Quality comments, please contact **Wendy Neet** at 509-454-7277 or email at wendy.neet@ecy.wa.gov.

Sincerely,



Gwen Clear
Environmental Review Coordinator
Central Regional Office
509-575-2012
crosepa@ecy.wa.gov

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