



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 20-056: CHIEF JOSEPH WILDLIFE AREA ACCESS ROAD REPAIR

Description of Proposal:

WDFW proposes to install a permanent fix to an eroding bank of Joseph Creek, which threatens a single lane gravel access road to the WDFW Wildlife Area Headquarters Building. This remediation of the eroding bank will include adding sections of articulated concrete mats (ACM) along the bank and anchor the mats in place with buried ecology blocks as well as deadman anchors and manta ray anchors. Geotextile fabric will be placed on the hillside prior to installation of the ACM to prevent further erosion from rain events. The ACM will cover approximately 2,900 sf of eroding bank. Additionally, a log pile dike diversion structure is proposed upstream of the project site to act in diverting a portion of the flow, mainly during high flow events, back into the main channel of the creek. This will further mitigate any potential habitat damage. A sandbag coffer dam will be installed to exclude the work site from fish and contain suspended sediment. A biologist will be present on site during the installation of the coffer dam and will remove all fish from the area prior to any equipment working in water. This will require the use of seining fish downstream and out of the excluded area and electrofishing to capture any remaining fish present.

A temporary fix was applied to the bank in October 2019. The temporary fix consisted of an anchored series of logs at the base of the eroded bank. A jute mat wrap was applied to the rest of the bank and keyed into the top with a sandbag lining the top. The logs used for the current temporary fix will be reapplied to mitigate a hard surface-water contact (habitat).

Proponent/Applicant: Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW)
Contact: Anna Sample
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Olympia, WA 98501
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Location of Proposal, including street, if any: Joseph Creek Road on the WDFW Chief Joseph Wildlife Area, Rogersburg, Asotin County, Washington: Township 7N, Range 46E, Section 2.

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 17 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 17 days of the date of this letter. The comment period will end at **5:00 pm on December 28, 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: <http://wdfw.wa.gov/licenses/environmental/sepa/open-comments>
- Fax to (360) 902-2946
- Mail to the address below.

Responsible Official: Lisa Wood

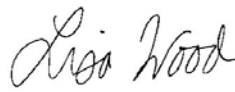
Position/Title: SEPA/NEPA Coordinator, WDFW Habitat Program, Protection Division

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 above or email SEPADesk2@dfw.wa.gov.

DATE OF ISSUE: December 11, 2020

SIGNATURE: 

Footnotes

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

SEPA Log Number: 20-056.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 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.