



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 21-014: COLEMAN CREEK RIVER MILE 4.3 STREAM ENHANCEMENTS AND COHO ACCLIMATION

Description of Proposal:

The proposed project is a collaborative effort by Mid-Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group, Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife, the Yakama Nation Yakima-Klickitat Fisheries Project, Kittitas County Conservation District and private landowners to improve Coleman Creek's riparian ecosystem, enhance aquatic habitat and screen irrigation diversions, and support seasonal coho salmon acclimation.

The proposed project is located on Coleman Creek at river mile 4.3 and work will occur on approximately 1 acre. The project will:

- Remove concrete rubble from the stream to restore fish passage for all life stages at all flows
- Add spawning gravels and boulder clusters to enhance suitable spawning habitat
- Retrofit the inlet and outlet of an existing pond to support seasonal juvenile coho salmon acclimation
- Construct a porous weir to control the WSE in the existing pond
- Install compliant fish screens on two irrigation pump diversions
- Plant approximately 975 native riparian trees and shrubs to improve water quality & fish and wildlife habitat
- Install livestock exclusion fencing to protect the newly planted area.

Post-project stewardship (weeding, watering, mulching) of the newly planted trees and shrubs will be coordinated by Mid-Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group. The Yakama Nation YKFP will be the lead on coho acclimation. All activities will be coordinated with the private landowners.

Proponent/Applicant: Mid-Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group
Contact: Landon Shaffer, Stewardship Coordinator
413 N. Main St., Suite K
Ellensburg, WA 98926
(509) 310-9324
landon@midcolumbiafisheries.org

Location of Proposal, including street, if any: River Mile 4.3 of Coleman Creek, north of Kittitas Highway and south of the Palouse to Cascades Trail, about halfway between Ellensburg and Kittitas, Kittitas County, Washington: Township 17N, Range 19E, Section 4.

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 letter. The comment period will end at **5:00 pm on April 23, 2021**.

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

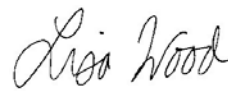
Address: P.O. Box 43200, Olympia, WA 98504-3200

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: April 9, 2021

SIGNATURE:



Footnotes

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

SEPA Log Number: 21-014.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 the Title VI/ADA Compliance Coordinator by phone at 360-902-2349, TTY (711), or email (Title6@dfw.wa.gov).