



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) AND ADOPTION OF EXISTING ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT (CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION)

Name of Proposal: DNS/Adoption 21-031: MARTIN CREEK ROAD ABANDONMENT

Description of Proposal:

The Forest Service is proposing to issue a 3-year special use permit to Nielsen Brothers, Inc. to reopen an old road prism, and construct a temporary spur road, log landing, and yarding corridors, in order to harvest timber and conduct reforestation activities on private land. A special use permit is required to facilitate legal and adequate access to a private timber company's land per Section 1323 of the Alaska National Interests Land Conservation Act (ANILCA). WDFW proposes to issue a Hydraulic Project Approval for culvert replacement and related work as part of this proposal.

A single-lane logging road with turnouts would be reconstructed upon an existing road prism, approximately 3,000 feet (0.57 mile) and 40 feet wide (this road prism was left in storage after the Forest Service completed timber harvests in the area during the 1990s). One new short spur road is proposed, which would be approximately 100 ft. or less and 40 feet wide, to extend the road to the private property line (this would occupy 0.25 acre, including area for a truck turning radius at the intersection). A temporary 18" culvert would be installed at the intersection. Prior to reopening the existing road prism, certain targeted weed species would be treated in select locations along the right-of-way prior to construction, with EPA-registered herbicides, according to Forest Service specifications.

Two proposed yarding corridors would occupy 0.55 acre, with small diameter saplings and poled trees to be removed on 0.47 acre, and approximately 15 second-growth conifers (avg. 17" d.b.h.) would be removed on 0.08 acre (4 of those trees are above 20" d.b.h.). Saplings and shrubs would be cleared from, and around the perimeter of, an existing log landing that occupies approx. 0.16 acre. Logging slash generated from clearing the yarding corridors, landing, and temporary spur road on National Forest land would be moved onto the private property and burned. After the timber harvest and reforestation is completed on the private land, the 3,000-foot logging road and 100-foot spur would be decommissioned, seeded with certified weed-free seed, and covered in weed-free straw or wood mulch, according to Forest Service specifications. Five culverts would be removed from the existing road prism, including two deep-fill culverts. Excavated material from the pulled culverts would be placed in four existing turnouts and planted with the weed-free seed mix and mulch.

Proponent/Applicant: Nielson Brothers Inc.
Contact: Samuel Petska
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Bellingham, WA 98227
(360) 630-0725
SamP@NielsonBrothers.net

Location of Proposal: North of the Tye River and west of Martin Creek, approximately 6 miles east of Skykomish, King County, Washington: Township 26N, Range 12E, Section 25.

Title of Document being Adopted: “Nielson Bros. Martin Cr. Timber Access Road” Decision Memo which comprises the Categorical Exclusion.

Agency that Prepared Document Being Adopted: U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service

Date Adopted Document was Prepared: May 28, 2020

Description of Document (or Portion) Being Adopted: The entire contents of the Decision Memo which comprises the Categorical Exclusion.

If the Document Being Adopted has been Challenged, Please Describe: N/A

Name of Agency Adopting the Document: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW)

The Document is Available to be Read at:

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife - Natural Resources Building,
1111 Washington Street SE, Olympia, WA, Monday - Friday 8:00 am - 5:00 pm.
(Note: the office is temporarily closed)

This document is also available for review online at:

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

Adoption of Existing Environmental Document: After independent review, we have identified and adopted the referenced document as being appropriate for this proposal. The document meets our environmental review needs for the current proposal and will accompany the proposal to the decision maker.

We issued this Determination of Nonsignificance/Adoption Notice under WAC 197-11-340(2), WAC 197-11-610, and WAC 197-11-630. 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 July 16, 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: <https://wdfw.wa.gov/licenses/environmental/sepa/open-comments>
- Fax to (360) 902-2946;
- Mail to the address below.

Responsible Official: Lisa Wood

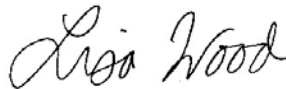
Position/Title: SEPA/NEPA Coordinator, WDFW Habitat Program, Protection Division

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/Adoption or the details of the proposal, contact Lisa Wood at the address above or email SEPAdesk2@dfw.wa.gov.

DATE OF ISSUE: July 2, 2021 **SIGNATURE:**



Footnotes

1. RCW 43.21C.030(2)(c)

SEPA Log Number: 21-031 dns/adpt

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).