



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 22-008: RULE MAKING TO MODIFY WAC 220-413-030
REGARDING IMPORTATION AND RETENTION OF DEAD
NONRESIDENT WILDLIFE

Description of Proposal:

Chronic wasting disease is a fatal disease of moose, elk, mule and white-tailed deer in North America that has been demonstrated to have significant population impacts if the disease is allowed to increase in prevalence (i.e., the proportion of animals that test positive out of the total number tested). Due to the nature of the disease and its ability to spread directly and indirectly through contaminated environments to susceptible animals, eradication is unlikely and prevention is the best management practice for states that do not currently have the disease within their borders. Preventing CWD from entering Washington state relies heavily on public outreach and communication to minimize movement of infectious materials, such as carcasses from areas with CWD. CWD has been recently detected in Montana, Idaho and Alberta and given the proximity of these states and provinces it is very important to make sure that hunters that reside in Washington and may hunt these areas do not bring contaminated cervid (deer, elk, moose and caribou) parts into the state.

The proposed rule change would expand the current prohibition against the importation of cervid parts that are likely to carry the disease into Washington from states and provinces that have CWD in wild cervids, to all areas outside the state.

Proponent/Applicant: Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW)
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Location of Proposal, including street, if any: This rule change would apply statewide

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 47 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 47 days of the date of this letter. The comment period will end at **5:00 pm on March 21, 2022.**

Method of Comment:

SEPA documents related to this proposal can be reviewed at the WDFW SEPA website at: <http://wdfw.wa.gov/licenses/environmental/sepa/open-comments>.

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 through one of the following ways:

- Online at the Public Input comment portal for this proposal:
<https://publicinput.com/2022CWDSEPA>
- Email to 2022CWDSEPA@PublicInput.com

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, or have difficulty with the Public Input comment portal, contact Lisa Wood at SEPADesk2@dfw.wa.gov.

DATE OF ISSUE: February 2, 2022

SIGNATURE:



Footnotes

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

SEPA Log Number: 22-008.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).