



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 22-032: WILLAPA NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE DEBRIS REMOVAL

Description of Proposal:

The Willapa National Wildlife Refuge proposes to remove and dispose of dilapidated and unnecessary infrastructure at the Wheaton Unit, including:

- debris from a former road bridge that collapsed into Mill Creek and was transported onto a neighboring property by stormwater,
- remaining bridge components (e.g., wood abutments, pilings, and an asphalt approach slab),
- a metal clad building and concrete foundation (~936 sq. ft.),
- and a concrete mobile home pad (~2,340 sq. ft.)

The bridge spanning Mill Creek was acquired with the property but was unusable due to its poor structural integrity. In Fall 2021, the bridge collapsed and was subsequently transported by a storm surge onto a neighboring property. Remaining bridge components are unusable and create a public safety concern. We propose to remove the bridge debris and the remaining components, thereby restoring the riverbanks to a more natural condition. Additional facilities at this location include a metal clad shop building and a mobile home pad, which have not been maintained or used for several years. We propose to remove these facilities as well.

WDFW has made a determination of Non-Significance, and is adopting a NEPA Categorical Exclusion under SEPA rules.

Proponent/Applicant: USFWS Willapa National Wildlife Refuge
Contact: Jackie Ferrier
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Location of Proposal: Mill Creek at Butz Road, Wheaton Management Unit of the USFWS Willapa National Wildlife Refuge southeast of Raymond in Pacific County: Township 13N, Range 8E, Section 2.

Title and Date of Document being Adopted: USFWS Environmental Action Statement and Categorical Exclusion Checklist, both dated April 28, 2022, which together make up the Categorical Exclusion.

Agency that Prepared Document Being Adopted: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Description of Document (or Portion) Being Adopted: The entire Categorical Exclusion for this project

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 Documents are 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.

These documents are also available for review online at:

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

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 June 1, 2022**.

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 through one of the following ways:

- Online at the Public Input comment portal for this proposal:
<https://publicinput.com/WillapaNWRDebris>
- Email to: WillapaNWRDebris@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/Adoption 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: May 18, 2022 **SIGNATURE:**

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lisa Wood". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Footnotes

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

SEPA Log Number: 22-032.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).