



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) AND ADOPTION OF EXISTING ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT (ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT)**

**Name of Proposal:** DNS/Adoption 22-045: TWISP RIVER WOOD AMENDMENT: POORMAN AND LITTLE BRIDGE CREEKS

**Description of Proposal:**

The objective of the Twisp River Project Wood Amendment project is to use streamside felling to increase cover and instream complexity and encourage formation of pools in 8 miles of Poorman and Little Bridge creeks in the Twisp River watershed. USFS aquatic habitat surveys identified that small to large sized wood levels are below desired amounts in reaches where spawning and rearing occurs. Currently, steelhead spawn and rear in Little Bridge Creek and resident rainbow spawn and rear in both Little Bridge and Poorman Creeks. Past riparian harvest limited potential for natural wood recruitment and the USFS identified the need to add wood to increase pool habitat, fish cover, and spawning gravel in the Mission Project. This project will fell a total of 128 streamside trees directly into 6.5 miles of stream between the two basins. Wood will increase cover and instream complexity and encourage the development of pools and the aggradation of spawning gravels in reaches used for both spawning and rearing of ESA-listed fish.

The wood amendment project would take place in Little Bridge Creek and Poorman Creek, tributaries to the Twisp River (Table 1, Figure 1-3). Both basins have experienced many decades of timber harvest, fire suppression, livestock grazing, firewood cutting, recreation impacts, and road construction. Through the Twisp Aquatic Restoration Project, the Methow Ranger District identified, developed, and completed NEPA for aquatic restoration projects in these tributaries. This proposal covers a subset of the instream wood addition work identified through the Project. The proposed treatment is to fell dead and live trees into key locations in stream reaches. All wood would be individually identified for use and directionally felled by chainsaw in locations to interact with the channels. Tree species include Douglas fir, spruce, and ponderosa pine.

Table 1. Location, size, and number of trees for felling.

| Site          | Specific location | mi  | # trees | Size | Description          |
|---------------|-------------------|-----|---------|------|----------------------|
| Little Bridge | 2.8mi - 6.8mi     | 4   | 80      | S-L  | up to 80 trees 6-20" |
| Poorman       | 1.7mi - 4.2mi     | 2.5 | 80      | S-L  | up to 80 trees 6-20" |

**Proponent/Applicant:** Cascade Fisheries  
Contact: Kristen Kirkby, Project Manager  
PO Box 3162  
Wenatchee, WA 98807  
(509) 449-2346  
[kristen@ccfeg.org](mailto:kristen@ccfeg.org)

**Location of Proposal:** Poorman and Little Bridge Creeks in the Twisp River watershed, within the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, south and west of Twisp, Okanogan County, Washington:

- Township 33N, Range 21E, Sections 16, PB39, 28, and 29.
- Township 34N, Range 20E, Sections 17, 20, 21, 27, 28, and 34

**Title of Document being Adopted:** Final Environmental Assessment titled, “Pacific Northwest Region Aquatic Restoration Project” with Final Decision Notice for that Environmental Assessment, which together make up the Environmental Assessment.

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

**Date Adopted Document was Prepared:** Environmental Assessment dated November 2019 and Decision Notice dated December 18, 2019.

**Description of Document (or Portion) Being Adopted:** The Environmental Assessment describes 1,800 proposed aquatic restoration activities across 17 National Forest Service units in Oregon and Washington. WDFW is adopting the portions of the Environmental Assessment that apply to the currently-proposed wood amendment projects in Poorman and Little Bridge Creeks.

**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)

**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.

**The following documents are incorporated by reference:** These documents provide site-specific information on the proposal.

- February 2022 letter from USFS District Ranger Chris W. Furr
- Undated project summary from Cascade Fisheries Project Manager Kristen Kirkby

**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> and

[Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest - Projects \(usda.gov\)](https://www.usda.gov/land-management/okanogan-wenatchee-national-forest/projects)

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 October 27, 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/PoormanLittleBridge>
- Email to: [PoormanLittleBridge@PublicInput.com](mailto:PoormanLittleBridge@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>. After 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.<sup>1</sup>

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](mailto:SEPADesk2@dfw.wa.gov).

**DATE OF ISSUE:** October 13, 2022    **SIGNATURE:**



Footnotes

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

SEPA Log Number: 22-045.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](mailto:Title6@dfw.wa.gov)).*