



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 22-048: KACHESS DAM SAFETY OF DAMS MODIFICATIONS

Description of Proposal:

The U.S. Bureau of Reclamation identified seepage and internal erosion issues through the Kachess Dam embankment along the outlet works conduit, which conveys water from the reservoir to the Kachess River downstream (see drawings for more detail). Reclamation is proposing to rectify the issue by:

- Constructing an access road and installing a box culvert
- Improving the outfall structure, including the following activities:
- Extending and lining the conduit
- Installing a diaphragm filter around the conduit
- Constructing a stability berm on top of the filter
- Installing an auxiliary drain below the outlet channel
- Removing a weir and improving the tributary channel to the Kachess River
- Revegetating after construction activities

WDFW has made a Determination of Non-Significance, and is adopting a NEPA Environmental Assessment under SEPA rules.

Proponent/Applicant: U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
Columbia-Pacific Northwest Regional Office
Contact: Keenan Arnold
1150 North Curtis Road, Suite 100
Boise, ID 3706-1234
(208) 378-5246
Karnold@usbr.gov

Location of Proposal: U.S. Bureau of Reclamation Kachess Dam located approximately 14 miles northwest of Cle Elum, Easton, Kittitas County, Washington: Township 21N, Range 13E, Section 34.

Title and Date of Document being Adopted: Final Environmental Assessment titled, “Kachess Dam Safety of Dams Modification Project” dated September 2022 and Finding of No Significant Impact for the proposal dated September 22, 2022, which together make up the Environmental Assessment.

Agency that Prepared Document Being Adopted: U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation.

Description of Document (or Portion) Being Adopted: The entire Environmental Assessment 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, 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 determination. The comment period will end at **5:00 pm on November 8, 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/KachessDam>
- Email to: KachessDam@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: October 25, 2022 **SIGNATURE:**

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lisa Wood". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "L".

Footnotes

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

SEPA Log Number: 22-048.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).