



State of Washington
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

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Main Office Location: Natural Resources Building, 1111 Washington Street SE, Olympia, WA

REVISED DETERMINATION OF NONSIGNIFICANCE (DNS)

Name of Proposal: DNS 23-046: MINTER CREEK HATCHERY INTAKE
REPLACEMENT (Revised from DNS 19-054)

Description of Revised Proposal:

The screens and fish ladders at the intakes do not meet state and federal standards and need to be brought up to current standards. WDFW will take this opportunity to eliminate one surface water intake, and take all surface water from the upper intake so that it will be gravity fed. The current upper intake takes water in at two locations. The new intake will eliminate the second location.

This is now a multi-phase project, with the first phase to be implemented in 2024-2026. A future unfunded and undesigned phase will be needed to replace the lower intake and weir, including fish passage, to make the site fully compliant with state and federal screening and fish passage requirements. At this time, there is no timeline set for Phase 2.

Phase 1: A new sediment settling pond will be constructed to significantly reduce sediment passed into the hatchery and the wear it has on hatchery pumps and pipes. The current sand trap will be removed.

There is active erosion of the access road, and WDFW proposes to add wood to deflect flow and hold the wood down with rock above. Oversteepened slopes will be stabilized.

The old concrete fish counting structure will be partially removed. Removal will include the pair of concrete supports in contact with normal flows. Removal will include the concrete base between supports, and restoring the stream bed.

New piping (two side by side pipes) to the upper intake will be installed, along with a buried electrical conduit.

Phase 2: Replace lower intake and weir. Include improved fish passage. Mitigate with left bank riparian restoration near hatchery.

This revised SEPA determination concerns the first phase of environmental review – a review of the actions specified in the revised Environmental Checklist. Proposed actions in Phase 2 will undergo a separate environmental review as appropriate when plans and details are known and funding is available, which may occur several years in the future. Conducting the SEPA review in two phases is not intended to circumvent any requirement for environmental review of an individual project, where required under SEPA, but reflects the current lack of plans, details, timeline, and funding for Phase 2.

Proponent/Applicant: Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW)
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Location of Proposal, including street, if any: WDFW Minter Creek Hatchery, 12710 124th Ave CT KPN, Gig Harbor, Pierce County, Washington: Township 22N, Range 1E, Section 29.

Lead Agency: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW)

This revised DNS is being issued and distributed pursuant to WACs 197-11-100(2) and 197-11-340. The updated information provided above and in the revised checklist does not substantially change the analysis of significant impacts in the original environmental checklist. Based on the original DNS and the updated information provided in this revision, we have determined that a new threshold determination is not warranted. There is no comment period associated with this revised DNS.

Responsible Official: Lisa Wood

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

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Applicants may view the supporting documents for this addendum on the WDFW SEPA website: <https://wdfw.wa.gov/licenses/environmental/sepa/closed-final>.

If you have questions about this revised DNS or the details of the proposal, contact Lisa Wood at: SEPADesk2@dfw.wa.gov.

DATE OF ISSUE: November 21, 2023

SIGNATURE:



SEPA Log Number: 23-046.rev

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).