



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)

Name of Proposal: DNS 24-018: STOCKING TIGER TROUT INTO DEEP LAKE

Description of Proposal:

WDFW proposes to stock tiger trout in Deep Lake beginning in 2024 to augment and enhance an established recreational fishery. Deep Lake has been stocked with fish since 1909, and is currently stocked annually by WDFW with Kokanee *Oncorhynchus nerka* and Rainbow Trout *Oncorhynchus mykiss*. A naturalized, self-perpetuating population of Brook Trout resulting from past stockings is present in Deep Lake, as are illegally-introduced Largemouth Bass *Micropterus salmoides* and Yellow Perch *Perca flavescens*. Native minnow species (*Cyprinidae*) and native sucker species (*Catostomus*) are also present in the lake, the lake's inlet, and the lake's outlet.

Tiger trout are a sterile hybrid between Brown Trout and Brook Trout, and are often piscivorous. WDFW proposes to stock tiger trout into Deep Lake on an annual basis to augment the current recreational fishery, but also to increase predation on juvenile Largescale Suckers. Reduction in the overall number of Largescale Suckers should reduce both inter- and intra-specific competition, resulting in better survival and growth for salmonids and better health/condition of Largescale Suckers.

Proponent/Applicant: Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW)
Contact: Brian Walker
755 S. Main Street
Colville, WA 99114
509-563-5490
Brian.Walker2@dfw.wa.gov

Location of Proposal, including street, if any: Deep Lake, approximately 9 miles southeast of Northport, Stevens County, Washington: Township 39N, Range 41E, Sections 22, 23, 26, 27, 34, and 35.

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 14 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 14 days of the date of this letter. The comment period will end at **5:00 pm on May 8, 2024**.

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/DeepLakeTigerTrout>
- Email to: DeepLakeTigerTrout@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: April 24, 2024

SIGNATURE:



Footnotes

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

SEPA Log Number: 24-018.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).