From: Lauffer, Leland C (DFW)

To: ECY RE ERO SEPA

 Cc:
 Pfeifle, Rod W (DFW); SEPADesk2 (DFW); Anderson, Cindy (ECY)

 Subject:
 FW: SEPA comment for DNS 24-046 4-0 Ranch Forest Restoration

Date: Friday, November 15, 2024 4:13:25 PM

Attachments: SEPA Response 4-0.pdf

image001.png

Hello.

Please see the attached pdf of our response to comment for DNS 24-046. Do let me know if you have any further questions, thank you and take care!



Leland Lauffer
Statewide Forester
Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife
1130 West University Way
Ellensburg, WA 98926
360-584-8180
Leland.Lauffer@dfw.wa.gov

Thank you for your comments regarding the WDFW's "4-0 Ranch Forest Restoration project". Below you will find our responses to the comments.

Water Quality:

Trees will be removed under a thinning program with reasonable expectation to maximize the long-term production of commercial timber as well as salvaging of dead and dying trees in high severity burned areas. In areas of high severity burn, live green trees will be left, and site will be assessed for natural regeneration 1 year post operations. If site is deemed deficient in natural regeneration, WDFW will interplant of preferred conifer seed mixes from appropriate seed zones. Target over-story leave tree density of burned and unburned areas is 21 – 25 trees per acre. A typo has been identified within WDFW's submitted SEPA checklist displaying 21 – 15 trees per acre under 4. b. this should state the aforementioned prescription of 21 – 25 trees per acre. WDFW will keep in mind that any surface water diversion that occurs during the 4-0 Ranch Forest Restoration project will require an application to the Department of Ecology for a water right permit. Currently, WDFW does not foresee the need to divert any surface water for the 4-0 Ranch Forest Restoration project. Thank you for you comments on WDFW's 4-0 Ranch Forest Restoration project. Please do not hesitate to reach out for questions or any further information.

Leland Lauffer – WDFW Statewide Forester 360-584-8180