



**WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT
OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
FINAL DETERMINATION OF
NON-SIGNIFICANCE
January 23, 2007**

State of Washington

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

Mailing Address: 600 Capitol Way N - Olympia, Washington 98501-1091 - (360) 902-2200, TDD (360) 902-2207
Main Office location: Natural Resources Building - 1111 Washington Street SE - Olympia, WA

DETERMINATION OF NONSIGNIFICANCE

Name of Proposal: TYPE N EXPERIMENTAL BUFFER TREATMENT STUDY

Description of Proposal: This research addresses amphibian sampling methods, the most stream disturbing of which involves removal and replacement of streambed materials (cobble, debris, sand, gravel) from a randomly selected one-meter unit from every 10 meters for 200 m of a non-fishbearing reach above the fish end point on a series of headwater streams (sample size of 18). One other sampling method requires surveyors to walk in or along the stream channel turning only the surface layer of moveable cover objects in search of amphibians. Cover objects are returned to their original position. These methods are being used to quantify stream-associated amphibian presence and abundance as part of a larger study assessing the effectiveness of Forest and Fish Report patch buffers prescriptions in protecting resources along non-fishbearing streams on managed headwater landscapes in Washington State. Permanent monitoring points will be installed at each site. Monitoring points will be installed using rebar. Eight rebar will be installed in each stream for the purpose of holding periphyton tiles in water in order to quantify primary productivity through *chlorophyll a* and ash free dry mass analyses. Twenty photo points will be installed at each site by mounting rebar along the valley wall (outside of the ordinary high water width).

Proponent:

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
600 Capitol Way N
Mailstop 43143
Olympia, WA 98501-1091

Project Contact:

Aimee McIntyre, Wildlife Biologist
Science Division, Habitat Program
(360) 902-2560

**Location of Proposal, including street, if any:
18 headwater basins in the following locations:**

Clearwater River Basin, Jefferson County
T 25N, R 12W, Section 25

Humptulips River Basin, Grays Harbor County
T 21N, R 08W, Sections 08 and 19

Wishkah River Basin, Grays Harbor County

T 21N, R 08W, Section 19

North River Basin, Grays Harbor County

T 15N, R 10W, Section 01

Smith Creek Basin, Pacific County

T 15N, R 09W, Section 21

Willapa River Basin, Pacific County

T 13N, R 08W, Sections 19 and 30

Nemah River Basin, Pacific County

T 12N, R 09W, Sections 35 and 36

T 11N, R 09W, Section 8

Grays River Basin, Wahkiakum County

T 10N, R 06W, Section 3

Skamakowa River Basin, Wahkiakum County

T 10N, R 06W, Section 14

Wind River Basin, Skamania County

T 04N, R 07E, Section 30

Columbia River Tributary, Skamania County

T 03N, R 06E, Section 34

Washougal River Basin, Clark County

T 02N, R 04E, Section 12

Lead Agency: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

The lead agency for this proposal has determined that it does not have a probable significant adverse impact on the environment. An environmental impact statement (EIS) is not required under RCW 43.21C.030(2)(c). This decision was made after review of the completed environmental checklist and other information on file with the lead agency. This information is available to the public on request.

This DNS is issued under WAC 197-11-340(2); the lead agency will **not act on this proposal for 14 days** from the date of issue below. Comments must be submitted by: **January 22, 2007**

Responsible Official: Teresa A. Eturaspe

Position/Title: SEPA/NEPA Coordinator, Regulatory Services Section

Address: 600 Capitol Way North, Olympia, WA 98501

Please contact: Teresa A. Eturaspe **Phone:** (360) 902-2575 **Fax:** (360) 902-2946 or **e-mail:** habitatSEPA@dfw.wa.gov if you have questions or comments about this determination.

DATE OF ISSUE: January 8, 2007 **SIGNATURE**



Distribution of Environmental Document:

Department of Ecology, Environmental Review Section, Olympia
Department of Natural Resources, SEPA Center, Olympia
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Western Washington Office, Lacey
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Seattle
NOAA - Fisheries, Seattle
Jefferson County Planning and Building Department, Port Townsend
Lower Elwha Tribe, Port Angeles
Jamestown 'Klallam Tribes, Sequim
Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe, Kingston
Skokomish Tribe, Shelton
Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission, Olympia
WDFW, Habitat Program, Region 6, Montesano
WDFW, Fish Program, Region 6, Montesano
WDFW, Wildlife Program, Region 6, Montesano
Grays Harbor County Planning and Building Department, Montesano
Chehalis Tribe, Oakville
Quinault Indian Nation, Taholah
Pacific County Planning Department, South Bend
Wahkiakum County Planning Department, Cathlamet
Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fisheries Commission, Portland, OR
WDFW, Habitat Program, Region 5, Vancouver
WDFW, Fish Program, Region 5, Vancouver
WDFW, Wildlife Program, Region 5, Vancouver
Skamania County Planning Department, Stevenson
Yakima Indian Nation, Toppenish
Clark County Planning Division, Vancouver