



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 (DNS)

**Name of Proposal:** EWC CANAL SIPHON UNDER CURRIER CREEK: FISH PASSAGE AND SCREENING PROJECT

**Description of Proposal:** The Yakima Tributary Access and Habitat Program (YTAHP) was developed to improve accessibility and habitat for fish in tributaries of the Yakima Basin. The present intersection and intermingling of canal water with Currier Creek and the associated fish passage barrier in Currier Creek were identified as priorities to correct in 2002. The purpose of the proposed project is: 1) to install a NOAA Fisheries and WDFW compliant fish screen for the EWC diversion from the creek; 2) to provide juvenile and adult fish passage in compliance with state and federal regulations; and 3) to separate the EWC Canal water from mingling with Currier Creek water to protect water quality. These improvements will prevent entrainment of fish and other aquatic species into the irrigation canal, protect creek water quality from canal pollutants; regulate and meter the irrigation diversion, and control any operational spill that may occur from the canal into the stream. Streambed grade control structures will eliminate the existing fish passage barrier on Currier Creek, allowing juvenile and adult migration through the intersection/diversion site. Water quantity (in-stream flow) will be more consistent by becoming independent of canal operations and the flow needed to operate the fishway at the screens (3 cfs minimum) will remain in-stream when creek water is present upstream of the fish screen.

**Proponent/Applicant:**

**Applicant**

**Ellensburg Water Company (EWC)**  
**Larry Browne, superintendent**  
**502 E. 3<sup>rd</sup> Street**  
**Ellensburg, WA 98926**  
**(509) 925-5498**  
[eburgwater@yahoo.com](mailto:eburgwater@yahoo.com)

**Contact**

**Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife**  
**Jennifer Scott**  
**1701 South 24<sup>th</sup> Avenue**  
**Yakima, WA 98902**  
**(509) 457-9307**  
[scottjls@dfw.wa.gov](mailto:scottjls@dfw.wa.gov)

**Location of Proposal, including street, if any:** The project site is located approximately ¾ mile west of Reecer Creek Road along EWC main canal, an access road to point of intersection currently exists, Ellensburg Washington, Kittitas County; 1/4 of Section 22, Township 18 North, Range 18 EastWM

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

WDFW has determined that this proposal will have no probable significant adverse impacts on the environment. Therefore, an environmental impact statement (EIS) is not required under RCW 43.21C.030(2)(c). We made this determination of nonsignificance (DNS) after review of the environmental checklist and other information on file with us. This information is available to the public on request.

Agencies, affected tribes and members of the public are invited to comment on this proposal.

We issued this DNS under WAC 197-11-340(2). We will **not act on this proposal for 14 days** from the date of issuance of this DNS. If you have comments about this DNS or this proposal, we must receive your comments by **August 24, 2007**.

When you send us your comments, please provide the name of proposal in your comment letter and mail it to:

**Responsible Official:** Teresa A. Eturaspe

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

**Address:** 600 Capitol Way North, Olympia, WA 98501

You can also send your comments via email to: [SEPAdesk@dfw.wa.gov](mailto:SEPAdesk@dfw.wa.gov)

You can also send you comments via fax to: (360) 902-2946.

If you have questions about details of the proposal, contact:

If you have questions about this action, please contact:

Teresa A. Eturaspe **Phone:** (360) 902-2575 **Fax:** (360) 902-2946 or

**email:** [SEPAdesk@dfw.wa.gov](mailto:SEPAdesk@dfw.wa.gov)

**DATE OF ISSUE:** August 10, 2007 **SIGNATURE:** 

SEPA Log Number: 07 -071. dns

#### **Distribution of Environmental Document:**

Department of Ecology, Environmental Review Section, Olympia

Department of Natural Resources, SEPA Center, Olympia

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