



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: MINERAL PROSPECTING RULES

Description of Proposal: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) is adopting rules that apply to mineral prospecting activities that use, divert, obstruct, or change the natural flow or bed of any of the salt or fresh waters of the state. The existing rules contained in WAC 220-110-200 through 220-110-209 were adopted in 1998 and implemented in 1999. In 2006 the Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission directed WDFW to revise these rules. The proposed rules reflect the latest available information on the impacts of mineral prospecting activities and methods to mitigate those impacts. Following rule adoption, a new G&F pamphlet describing the rules and containing other information related to mineral prospecting will be published. The G&F pamphlet will serve as the HPA for those activities described in it. The proposed rules and the G&F pamphlet will apply to all waters of Washington.

Proponent/Applicant:

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Contact:

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Location of Proposal, including street, if any: The proposed rules and the G&F pamphlet will apply to all waters of Washington. The rules bar mineral prospecting in lakes, saltwater and waters within state park, national park, or wilderness boundaries, except if individual site specific HPA is granted by WDFW. Statewide, Washington.

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 **January 22, 2008**.

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

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

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

DATE OF ISSUE: January 7, 2008 **SIGNATURE:**

