



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: OLYMPIC / WILLAPA HILLS WILDLIFE AREA SALVAGE AND THINNING PROJECT

Description of Proposal: This project will salvage wind thrown timber on approximately 327 acres at the Olympic and John's River Wildlife Area Units. The wind throw is a result of the December 3-4, 2007 storm that brought high winds and substantial rains to Grays Harbor County. Sustained winds reached 80+ mph and approximately 10+” of rain accumulated in a 24 hour period. This project will also serve as an opportunity to thin high density stands, while salvaging wind thrown timber, to improve wildlife habitat conditions by opening up the existing even-aged, single-story canopy forest structure. Thinning will occur on 239 acres within the 260 salvage acres at the Olympic Unit. Salvage will occur on approximately 77 acres at the Johns River Unit.

Proponent/Applicant:

Kyle Guzlas
WDFW Biologist
48 Devonshire Road
Montesano, WA 98563

Location of Proposal, including street, if any:

Olympic Unit – 963 acres
Johns River Unit – 1501

The Olympic unit is located in Grays Harbor County 15 miles north of Aberdeen in the Wishkah River Valley and upper Wynoochee River Valley. The proposed areas for salvage and thinning lies within portions of Sections 1, 10, 11, 12 of Township 19 North, Range 9 West and Section 29 of Township 20 North, Range 8 West. Refer to attached maps.

The Johns River unit is located approximately 10 miles southwest of Aberdeen in Grays Harbor County. The proposed areas for salvage and thinning lies within portions of Sections 1 & 12 of Township 16 North, Range 11 West and Section 32 of Township 17 North, Range 10 West. Refer to attached maps, Washington, WestWM

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

WDFW has determined that this proposal likely will 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. If you want to review this information, please contact WDFW at the address below.

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

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. If you have comments about this DNS or the proposal, you must send your comments to us so that we receive them within 14 days. This means we must receive your comments by **May 20, 2008**.

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

Responsible Official: Teresa A. Eturaspe

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

Address: 600 Capitol Way North, Olympia, WA 98501

You can also send your comments via email to SEPAdesk@dfw.wa.gov, or via fax to (360) 902-2946.

If you have questions about this DNS or the details of the proposal, contact Teresa Eturaspe at the address, e-mail, or fax number above; you can also call her at (360) 902-2575.

DATE OF ISSUE: May 6, 2008 **SIGNATURE:** 

Footnotes

1. RCW 43.21C.030(2)(c)

2. WAC 197-11-340(2).

SEPA Log Number: 08 -026. dns

Distribution of Environmental Document:

Department of Ecology, Environmental Review Section, Olympia
Department of Natural Resources, SEPA Center, Olympia
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Seattle
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Western Washington Office, Lacey
NOAA – Fisheries, Seattle
State Parks and Recreation Commission, Olympia
Dept of Archaeology and Historic Preservation
Grays Harbor County Planning and Building Department, Montesano
Chehalis Tribe, Oakville
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WDFW, Habitat Program, Region 6, Montesano
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