



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: BLUE MOUNTAIN ELK FENCE, SCHOOL FIRE
RECONSTRUCTION

Description of Proposal: Reconstruction of approximately 8.5 miles of the elk fence that was damaged in the School fire of 2005 will include demolition and removal of the existing damaged elk fence and construction in the same alignment, using the same type materials.

Demolition will consist of removing burned wood fence materials and piling in stacks of 20 pieces, more or less, on WDFW property near the fence and removing steel fencing wire from the site. Construction will consist of embedding treated wood fence posts 2.5' into the ground and stapling 8' tall 6" x 6" wire mesh to them. Some 12' wide swing gates and some one-way gates will be installed at their original locations. Where posts cannot be buried due to the rocky soil, rockjacks will be constructed to provide fence stability (see the drawings for a rockjack example). Due to the remote location of parts of this fence, materials may be brought to the fence site by helicopter. Equipment used will be restricted to hand operated tools only. Please see attached plans for construction techniques and design.

The fence will be constructed by Department of Corrections (DOC) inmate crews working under the direction of Department of Natural Resources (DNR) supervisors, and will be guarded by DOC guards. The work force of approximately 80 personnel will camp near the WDFW Wooten Wildlife Area Headquarters on Tucannon Road, with DNR supplying all sanitary, cooking and lodging needs

Proponent/Applicant:

Washington Dept of Fish and Wildlife
Capitol Programs & Engineering Division
M. Peoples
600 Capitol Way North
Olympia, WA 98501-1091

Location of Proposal, including street, if any: The main access point for this repair work will be the Wooten Wildlife Area, located on the Tucannon Road, 19 miles from State Route 12. The secondary access point will be the Mountain Road, 8 miles from Pomeroy. Fence repair will occur on the boundary of the Wooten Wildlife Area between these two access points. As shown on the attached site plan, work will done from point F to point FF, and from point K to point W.

The work will be in Section 3 of T9N, R42E; Sections 19, 20, 29 of T10N, R42E; Sections 13, 15, 16, 21, 22, 23, 24 of T10N, R41E, W.M.
Garfield County; Washington

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 22, 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 8, 2008 **SIGNATURE:** 

Footnotes

1. RCW 43.21C.030(2)(c)
2. WAC 197-11-340(2).

SEPA Log Number: 08 -030. dns

Distribution of Environmental Document:

Department of Ecology, Environmental Review Section, Olympia
Department of Natural Resources, SEPA Center, Olympia
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Upper Columbia River Basin Field Office, Spokane
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Seattle
NOAA - Fisheries, Seattle
State Parks and Recreation Commission, Olympia
Dept of Archaeology and Historic Preservation
Garfield County Planning Board, Pomeroy
Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fisheries Commission, Portland, OR
Nez Perce Department of Fisheries Management
Department of Transportation, So. Central Region, Yakima
WDFW, Habitat Program, Region 1, Spokane
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