



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:** WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE (WDFW)  
NORTHERN LEOPARD FROG (NLF) HABITAT ENHANCEMENT PROJECT

**Description of Proposal:** Project purpose is to enhance existing NLF habitat and assist in controlling predation that is a serious threat to the reproduction and survival of the state-endangered species. NLF is listed as a state endangered species and as a federal species of concern and the Northern Leopard Frog Management Area (NLFMA) located within Columbia Basin Wildlife Area in Grant County, Washington currently contains the only known populations in the state. The proposed NLF habitat enhancement project involves the creation of upland berms to provide surface water breaks as well as wetland breeding habitat. Construction of 26 berms is proposed including 16 within 12 wetland study areas. A total of 2.09 acres of Category II wetlands will be impacted due to the construction of the upland berms. Wetland creation to provide additional habitat for NLF will produce 1.51 acres of Category II wetlands that will also serve as mitigation for the wetland impacts due to the berm construction.

**Proponent/Applicant:**

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife  
JoAnne Wisniewski/ Rich Finger  
1550 Alder Street NW  
Ephrata, WA 98823

**Location of Proposal, including street, if any:** Columbia Basin Wildlife Area, Washington, Grant County; Section 1, Township 18 North, Range 27 East and Section 36, Township 19 North, Range 27 East WM

**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 law<sup>1</sup> 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.<sup>2</sup> 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 **September 16, 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](mailto: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:** September 2, 2008

**SIGNATURE:** 

Footnotes

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

SEPA Log Number: 08 -061. 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

Grant County Planning Department, Ephrata

Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fisheries Commission, Portland, OR

Colville Confederated Tribes, Nespelem

WDFW, Habitat Program, Region 2, Ephrata

WDFW, Fish Program, Region 2, Ephrata

WDFW, Wildlife Program, Region 2, Ephrata