



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:

WDFW ABERNATHY CREEK WILDLIFE AREA TIDAL RESTORATION PROJECT

Description of Proposal:

The Abernathy Creek Tidal Restoration project is roughly a 20 acre site within the tidal reach of Abernathy Creek., about 250 feet from the creek's confluence with the Columbia River. The project will involve excavation of one existing and two new backwater channels, the removal of a gravel road in the path of the new channels, and the planting of native plants to provide stability to the creek banks and shade for habitat. Proposed improvements include;

- Construction of three backwater channels measuring approximately 900ft long by 30 ft wide and 6 ft deep, 700ft long by 22 ft wide and 6 feet deep, and 300ft long by 10 ft wide and 3.5 ft deep.
- Removal of a single vehicle access road totaling approximately 1,900 feet in length.
- Installation of approximately 150 pieces of large wood to create habitat log structures in both the mainstem and backwater channels.
- Installation of two log toe structures along the left bank of Abernathy Creek near the entrance of Channel A & B.
- Re-location of a fish weir upstream from the restoration site.
- Planting of native vegetation over approximately 7 acres.

Proponent/Applicant: WDFW Habitat Program

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VANCOUVER, WA. 98661
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Location of Proposal: WDFW Abernathy Creek Wildlife Area Washington, Cowlitz County; Section 3 & 10, Township 08 North, Range 04 West WM. It is located about 10 miles west of Longview, Washington on State Highway 4.

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

WDFW has determined that this proposal will likely 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.

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. Agencies, affected tribes, and members of the public are invited to comment on this proposal or DNS. We must receive your comments within 14 days of the date of this letter. This means we must receive your comments by: **May 10, 2012**

Method of Comment:

The following procedures shall govern the method to comment on agency SEPA proposals. Comments received through these procedures are part of the official SEPA record for this proposal.

You can submit your comments any one of the following ways:

- Email to SEPAdesk2@dfw.wa.gov
- Online at the WDFW SEPA website comment link at: <http://wdfw.wa.gov/licensing/sepa/>
- Fax to (360) 902-2946;
- Mail to the address below.

Responsible Official: Bob Zeigler

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

Address: 600 Capitol Way North, Olympia, WA 98501-1091

After the comment period closes, applicants may view the updated status of this proposal on the WDFW SEPA website: <http://wdfw.wa.gov/licensing/sepa/> Once the status is posted as final, applicants and permittees may take action on the proposal. When a proposal is modified or withdrawn, notice will be given in accordance with state law.¹

If you have questions about this DNS or the details of the proposal, contact Bob Zeigler at the address, e-mail, or fax number above; you can also call him at (360) 902-2578.

DATE OF ISSUE: April 25, 2012

SIGNATURE:



Footnotes

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

SEPA Log Number: 12 -033. dns