



State of Washington

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

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Main Office location: Natural Resources Building - 1111 Washington Street SE - Olympia, WA

DETERMINATION OF NONSIGNIFICANCE (DNS)

Name of Proposal: LEWIS RIVER HATCHERY INTAKE STRUCTURE REPAIR

Description of Proposal: Repair Hatchery Intake to be in compliance with NMFS requirements

The upper intake that serves as one of the two intakes for the Lewis River Hatchery is in need of repair and is currently out of compliance with National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) pump screen criteria. The upper intake is located along the north bank of the Lewis River at RM 16 within Cowlitz County, Washington. The upper intake supplies water to the hatchery buildings and ponds 13, 14, and 15 (see photos in Appendix B). This intake consists of a "river torpedo" connected to a concrete wet well with two 36-inch diameter buried intake pipes. In 1989, the wet well was covered by a 63-ft long, static screen panel placed in the river at a 39-degree angle (to horizontal). In 2009, the upstream intake screen panel suffered a structural collapse due to debris racking during a flood event. The screen buckled inward and collapsed, leaving several approximately 3 to 12-inch wide gaps between the screen panels and concrete support walls, resulting in noncompliance with NMFS screen criteria.

To bring the upstream intake screen panel into compliance with NMFS criteria, the screen panel and wet well support wall will be repaired using divers and small hand tools. Divers will remove the existing fish screen and place it in an upland area where it will be cleaned and straightened to its original design. Divers will bolt a new, pre-fabricated steel support frame along the top of the existing concrete wet well wall to provide a flat and level surface for the screen panel. The straightened screen panel will then be reinstalled and welded to the new steel support frame (see plan sheets in Appendix C). It is anticipated that in-water work will be completed within a 24-hour period. In total, less than ½ cubic yard of new fill material (i.e. the steel support frame and bolts) will be added to the existing facility. The remainder of the project will involve repairs to an existing facility that will not require the additional placement of fill within the Lewis River.

Proponent/Applicant:

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Location of Proposal: Lewis River Hatchery, Washington, Cowlitz County; Northwest 1/4 of Section 07, Township 05 North, Range 02 East WM

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 **June 11, 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: May 25, 2012

SIGNATURE:



Footnotes

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

SEPA Log Number: 12 -042. dns