



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: DNS 16-014: CARTER MOUNTAIN UNIT – TRAIL AND HANDLINE PROJECT

Description of Proposal:

This is a 2-month project to improve a primitive trail and develop hand lines for prescribed burning on the Carter Mountain Unit of the Sinlahekin Wildlife Area.

This project will include -

- Clearing and improving ~ 5 miles of existing roads and cattle trails to be used as hiking/horse riding paths and hand line for prescribed burning
- Placing erosion control measures (water bars, deflections, etc.) where needed along the trail.
- Cutting brush where needed to improve usability (less than 5 yds³)
- Placing informative or safety signs where needed

There are no recorded cultural resources for the project areas for at least 2 miles in any direction as ascertained by checking with the Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation cultural resources database (WISAARD – Washington Information System for Architectural and Archaeological Records Data). A cultural resource survey has been performed (Sinlahekin Small Projects – Log # 051914-01-WDFW) near this site by a WDFW archaeologist and has been reviewed by DAHP who has issued a letter of concurrence stating that there will be no impacts to cultural resources. An additional pedestrian survey and report have submitted for review as of March 22nd 2016 as part of this project.

Proponent/Applicant: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
Sinlahekin Wildlife Area
Justin Haug, Wildlife Area Manager
1680 Sinlahekin Road
P.O. Box C
Loomis, WA 98827
(509) 223-3358

Location of Proposal, including street, if any:

Street address (adjacent landowner to North): 30791 Highway 97 - Tonasket, WA 98855. The Carter Mountain Unit of the Sinlahekin Wildlife Area is located in North-Central Washington, about 5 miles South of the City of Tonasket, Okanogan County. The worksite is approximately 100 meter of the road on the agency access road of Highway 97. All lands pertinent to this project on Carter Mountain Wildlife Area are located in T36N R26E Section 13.

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 rules². 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. The comment period will end at **5:00 pm April 9, 2016**.

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/sepa_comment_docs.html
- Fax to (360) 902-2946;
- Mail to the address below.

Responsible Official: Steve Bell on behalf of Lisa Wood

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

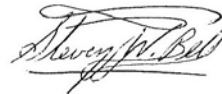
Address: 600 Capitol Way North, Olympia, WA 98501-1091

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 Steve Bell at the address, e-mail, or fax number above; you can also call him at (360) 902-2598.

DATE OF ISSUE: March 25, 2016

SIGNATURE:



Footnotes

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

SEPA Log Number: 16-014.dns