



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

### MITIGATED DETERMINATION OF NONSIGNIFICANCE (MDNS)

**Name of Proposal:** MDNS 17-009: PIONEER PARK HATCHERY DEVELOPMENT

#### **Description of Proposal:**

The project proposed for Pioneer Park is a new Washington State Fish Hatchery facility.

The project involves the construction of a hatchery building containing an office, crew area, and incubation/early rearing room; a utility building for storage of equipment, vehicles and fish feed; twenty-four 10' x 100' concrete fish rearing ponds with perimeter and overhead netting, constructed in two groups; a concrete and steel surface water intake built into the bank of the Deschutes River; a pump station to convey water from the intake to a concrete settling pond; a concrete settling pond that will receive water from the river and an existing well and distribute the water to the hatchery building and the various ponds; a pollution abatement pond for removing settleable solids from pond cleaning operations; a standby generator; a pipe outfall at the river bank for returning process water to the stream; underground electrical, domestic water and sewer utilities; underground piping; asphalt and concrete pavement; seeding and plantings.

The project also includes construction of an education building next to the hatchery building. The education building will be administered by the landowner for educational and interpretive functions and will contain interpretive exhibits, public restrooms, and educational space.

To ensure the project does not adversely affect Deschutes River flood levels, an approximately 850' long x 45' wide swale will be constructed within the existing channel migration zone to convey overbank flood flows. Construction impacts to wetlands, wetland buffers, or other critical areas will be mitigated by wetland creation and enhancement with plantings outlined in a Wetland Report specific to the project. Sufficient mitigation is being designed within the project to assure compliance with City of Tumwater, Department of Ecology, and US Army Corps of Engineers mitigation requirements.

The project provides a Deschutes River Basin rearing facility for the existing Deschutes River fisheries program in alignment with WDFW Policy Hatchery and Fishery Reform (POL-C3619). In implementing the policy guidelines, the Department shall work with the tribes in a manner that is consistent with U.S. v. Washington and U.S. v. Oregon and other applicable state laws and agreements or federal laws and agreements. The project has been developed through an interagency and community planning effort, open to the public, for over eight years.

#### **The proponent shall incorporate the following mitigation measures into the project:**

##### Fish

- Construction activities for the swale will not directly affect Deschutes River fish populations as the swale will be isolated from all waters connected to the Deschutes River when its construction begins.
- A soil plug will be left in place between the swale and the wetted river channel during swale excavation and enhancement actions. A bulk bag coffer dam will be built at the mouth of the swale to allow for connection to the wetted river channel. Once swale

excavation and enhancement actions are completed the soil plug will be removed and the resulting turbid waters will be allowed to settle in place. Once the water in the swale is clean, the bulk bag coffer dam will be removed methodically, and at a slow pace, to maintain state water quality standards specified in the project's water quality monitoring plan.

### Water Quality

- State of Washington water quality standards must be met during construction of the swale.
- Appropriate water quality best management practices will be implemented at the project site during construction.
- Areas of the project site disturbed during construction will be re-vegetated to stabilize the soils and minimize sediment inputs to watercourses.
- The restored riparian communities and/or wetlands will provide bio-filtration benefits for the return water from the pollution abatement pond.

### Wetlands Impacts and Mitigation

- Potential wetland impacts, including up to .6 acres of Category I wetlands, shall be kept to an absolute minimum to construct the swale that will provide flood capacity to meet the no-net-rise requirements of the jurisdictional municipality, the City of Tumwater.
- To ensure the project does not adversely affect Deschutes River flood levels, an approximately 850' long x 45' wide swale will be constructed within the existing channel migration zone to convey overbank flood flows. Construction impacts to wetlands, wetland buffers, or other critical areas will be mitigated by wetland creation and enhancement with plantings outlined in the Wetland Report being prepared for this project. Sufficient mitigation is being designed within the project to assure compliance with City of Tumwater, Department of Ecology, and US Army Corps of Engineers mitigation requirements.
- The draft mitigation plan has identified sufficient adjacent land where wetlands creation or enhancement can be established, and shall utilize those sites closest to the areas of wetland impacts.
- The mitigation plan shall include contingencies that can be readily implemented to assure no loss of ecological function.

### Public Access and Recreation

- Existing recreation activities will be retained and to the extent practicable enhanced with regard to public access and safety.
- The trails system shall be redesigned to maintain the quality and quantity of trails, per RCO commitments, near the proposed hatchery.

**Proponent/Applicant:** Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW)  
Contact: Doug Mackey  
600 Capitol Way North  
Olympia, WA 98501  
(360) 902-8380  
[Douglas.Mackey@dfw.wa.gov](mailto:Douglas.Mackey@dfw.wa.gov)

**Location of Proposal:** Pioneer Park, 5749 Henderson Blvd SE, Tumwater, Thurston County, Washington: Township 17N, Range 2W, Section 1; and Township 18N, Range 2W, Section 36.

**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 law<sup>1</sup> does not require an environmental impact statement (EIS). WDFW made this mitigated determination of nonsignificance (MDNS) after we reviewed the

environmental checklist and other information on file with us.

We issued this MDNS according to state rules.<sup>2</sup> We will **not act on this proposal for 14 days** from the date we issued the MDNS. Agencies, affected tribes, and members of the public are invited to comment on this proposal or MDNS. We must receive your comments within 14 days of the date of this letter. The comment period will end at **5:00 pm on March 21, 2017**.

**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](mailto: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:** 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.<sup>1</sup>

If you have questions about this MDNS or the details of the proposal, contact Lisa Wood at the address, e-mail, or fax number above; you can also call her at (360) 902-2260.

**DATE OF ISSUE:** March 7, 2017

**SIGNATURE:**



Footnotes

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

SEPA Log Number: 17-009.mdns