



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 17-018: OAK CREEK HABITAT RESTORATION

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

The goal of this project is to improve in-stream habitat for resident and anadromous salmonids by reducing road-related degradation, restoring in-stream channel complexity, and enhancing riparian condition along 4.5 miles of Oak Creek and South Fork Oak Creek. Refer to the attached Site Plan Figures.

Up to 2,600 linear feet of decommissioned Forest Service Road (FSR) 1401 will be re-contoured, with the aim of returning the roadbed area to native topography. Additionally, approximately 2,600 feet of FSR 1401 and 1400, and an adjacent 0.07-acre staging area, will be de-compacted using an excavator, which will take scoops of road surface and replace the material in the same location. This will loosen up the top 2-3 feet of road base and roughen the surface. It will also improve seed germination and root penetration, and make material available for redistribution by the creek. No fill material will be brought in and no material will be hauled away. Native trees and shrubs will be planted in both the de-compacted and recontoured areas. Slash and logs will be placed on the road surfaces throughout the project area. This is a design-build project and field modification and fitting is expected.

Large wood will be added to SF Oak Creek and mainstem Oak Creek in five sections located in T14N, R15E, W.M. (Figure 8). The upstream extent of proposed restoration work in SF Oak Creek is located in Section 8, under FS ownership. Restoration work will continue downstream onto Section 9, under TNC ownership, Section 10, FS ownership, and Section 3, WDFW ownership. Work on mainstem Oak Creek will be confined to Section 3, WDFW ownership, and Section 2, FS ownership.

#### **Proponent/Applicant:**

##### **Primary:**

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##### **Secondary:**

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**Location of Proposal, including street, if any:** Oak Creek watershed, approximately 30 miles northwest of Yakima, Yakima County, Washington: Township 14N, Range 15E, Sections 3 and 9.

**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 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.<sup>2</sup> 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 on May 2, 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

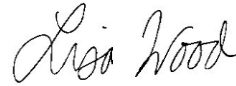
**Address:** 600 Capitol Way North, Olympia, WA 98501-1091

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 DNS 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:** April 18, 2017

**SIGNATURE:**



Footnotes

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

SEPA Log Number: 17-018.dns