



State of Washington

## **DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE**

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### **DETERMINATION OF NONSIGNIFICANCE (DNS) AND ADOPTION OF EXISTING ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT (CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION)**

**Name of Proposal:** DNS/Adoption 17-022: SKAGIT DISTRICT DOCKS REPAIR

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

Dock facilities on Gorge, Diablo, and Ross Lakes have been exposed to substantial winds and harsh wave action over the past 30 years and have reached the end of their useful life. Major components, including decks, flotation, cleats, anchoring systems, bumpers, and gangways are beginning to fail. Specifically, dock pontoons have rusted through to expose the Styrofoam filler, which breaks loose and litters the lake and adjacent beach areas. The steel has degraded to the point where welds regularly fail. Walking surfaces are worn and slick, and the docks contain bent and damaged steel that protrudes from the deck, creating potential threats to visitor and employee safety.

To address these issues, this project will:

1. Replace, in kind, 9 docks - composed of 2-3 dock sections (8' feet wide by 20' feet long) including flotation (pontoons) - and attachment systems (using existing bulkheads), and 9 gangway ramps (30' feet long by 5' feet wide) at the following campgrounds and public marinas on Ross and Diablo Lakes: Buster Brown, Colonial Creek Boat Launch, Thunder Point, and Hidden Cove on Diablo Lake and Silver Creek, Little Beaver, Big Beaver, Devil's Creek, and the Hozomeen Public Launch on Ross Lake.
2. Add cement and rocks to the base of the bulkheads at Little Beaver and Desolation Trailhead for preservation, and replace a metal bracket on the bulkhead at Green Point.
3. Re-anchor the wave logs at Lightening Boat and McMillan camps.
4. Replace the decking on the boat ramp and Gorge Campground with yellow cedar lumber.
5. Widen the stairs 36 inches down to the NPS dock on the NPS Haul Road between Diablo and Ross Lakes.

This project will be completed over the course of two years, beginning in 2017. While all work on bulkheads, wave logs, and decking (#2-5) would be completed in the off-season and in the dry with hand tools, dock/gangway replacement will likely need to occur at full pool (during the visitor use season) with the use of cranes and barges at least on Ross Lake. All docks would be replaced in kind; no pressure treated wood would be used. Please see attachments: Dock Replacement Project Work Plan and Dock Specifications for more information.

**Proponent/Applicant:** National Park Service  
North Cascades National Park Service Complex  
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[Rob\\_Burrows@nps.gov](mailto:Rob_Burrows@nps.gov)

**Location of Current Proposal:** Multiple locations on Gorge, Diablo, and Ross Lakes, Whatcom County, Washington: Townships 37N, 38N, 39N, and 40N; Ranges 13E and 14E.

**Title of Document being Adopted:** Categorical Exclusion Form for “Repair and Rehabilitate Skagit District Docks and Marinas”

**Agency that Prepared Document Being Adopted:** National Park Service

**Date Adopted Document was Prepared:** March 20, 2017

**Description of Document (or Portion) Being Adopted:** The entire contents of the Categorical Exclusion Form.

**If the Document Being Adopted has been Challenged, Please Describe:** N/A

**Name of Agency Adopting the Document:** Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW)

**The Document is Available to be Read at:**

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife - Natural Resources Building,  
1111 Washington Street SE, Olympia, WA, Monday - Friday 8:00 am - 5:00 pm.

This document is also available for review online at:

[http://wdfw.wa.gov/licensing/sepa/sepa\\_comment\\_docs.html](http://wdfw.wa.gov/licensing/sepa/sepa_comment_docs.html)

**Adoption of Existing Environmental Document:** After independent review, we have identified and adopted the referenced document as being appropriate for this proposal. The document meets our environmental review needs for the current proposal and will accompany the proposal to the decision maker.

We issued this Determination of Nonsignificance/Adoption Notice under WAC 197-11-340(2), WAC 197-11-610, and WAC 197-11-630. We will **not act on this proposal for 14 days** from the date of issue below. 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 10, 2017**.

**Responsible official:** Lisa Wood

**Position/title:** SEPA/NEPA Coordinator, WDFW Regulatory Services Section

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**DATE OF ISSUE:** April 26, 2017 **SIGNATURE:**

