



State of Washington
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 43200, Olympia, WA 98504-3200 • (360) 902-2200 • TDD (360) 902-2207
Main Office Location: Natural Resources Building, 1111 Washington Street SE, Olympia, WA

**ADDENDUM 17-038 TO DETERMINATION OF NONSIGNIFICANCE (DNS) 14-030
DATED: MAY 20, 2014**

Name of Proposal: DNS 14-030: COWICHE CREEK FLOODPLAIN RESTORATION

Description of Original Proposal:

The purpose of this project is to restore floodplain, riparian, and instream processes that will create and maintain habitat for fish and wildlife. Local fish and wildlife planning efforts have identified the Cowiche Watershed as having excellent potential for increasing steelhead and salmon production. Monitoring efforts have documented juvenile salmon, resident salmonids, and spawning coho salmon near the project area. Impacts to floodplain and riparian processes and habitat have been identified as key limiting factors for this watershed and restoring these processes is the purpose of this project.

The goal of the project is to restore instream, riparian, and floodplain habitat. Restoration actions will include the removal of a railroad bed (approximately 1100 feet; 900 feet on right bank, 200 feet on left bank), removal of concrete, riprap, and other debris along 2000 linear feet of the stream, bank reshaping to more natural contours (3:1 in most areas), construction of porous weirs, and reestablishing native riparian and floodplain vegetation throughout the 2000 linear feet and about 1 acre of floodplain. Foreign materials (e.g. concrete) will be disposed of offsite in an approved location. A small setback berm will be constructed on the left bank near the downstream location of railroad bed removal to protect downstream infrastructure. All disturbed areas will be planted with suitable native vegetation.

Description of Addendum 17-038:

The Environmental Checklist for the original DNS 14-030 proposed work timing of May 15 through December 15, 2014. The project was not implemented in 2014 as planned due to permitting delays. In 2017 or later, the project proponent hopes to implement a very small portion of the original scope. The planned work was included in the original scope. The 2017 or later work consists of removal of embedded concrete and garbage from the stream banks and channel on the downstream portion of the original project area (known as Ketchen), and revegetation. The project will remove up to 140 cubic yards of concrete and garbage from the site and install two in-stream wood structures. The project will not impact the old railroad grade that was the source of some of the delay associated with implementing the larger project addressed in the 2014 DNS. The project area is planned as a future trailhead by the City of Yakima, which owns the land. The project proponent is coordinating with the City regarding their plans for future trailhead development at the site.

Proponent/Applicant: Mid-Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group
Contact: Margaret Neuman, Executive Director
PO Box 2211
White Salmon, WA 98672

(509) 281-1322

fish@midcolumbiafisheries.org

Location of Proposal: Lower Cowiche Creek, 5603 Cowiche Canyon Road, Yakima, Yakima County, Washington: Township 13N, Range 18E, Section 9.

Lead Agency: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW)

This addendum is being distributed pursuant to WACs 197-11-600 and 197-11-625. The updated information provided above does not substantially change the analysis of significant impacts in the existing environmental checklist. Based on the original DNS and the updated information provided in this addendum, we have determined that a new threshold determination is not warranted. There is no comment period associated with this SEPA addendum.

Responsible Official: Lisa Wood

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

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

If you have questions about this action, contact Lisa Wood at the address above, SEPAdesk2@dfw.wa.gov, phone (360) 902-2260, or fax (360) 902-2946.

DATE OF ISSUE: July 7, 2017

SIGNATURE:



SEPA Log Number: 17-038 add to DNS 14-030