



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

**DETERMINATION OF NONSIGNIFICANCE (DNS)**

**Name of Proposal:** DNS 18-028: STEFFEN'S MEADOW RESTORATION AND ROAD RELOCATION

**Description of Proposal:**

The main objective of the proposal is to remove a road from a sensitive meadow and restore the natural hydrology of the meadow. The current road through the meadow is a public access, green dot road, and is part of the Upper Basin Loop green dot road system in the Stemilt Basin. Vehicle traffic on the road and associated 4x4 vehicle traffic illegally entering the meadow from the green dot road are creating damage to the natural hydrology of the meadow when soils are saturated. Soil saturation usually persists into early summer, and begins again in early fall with the return of precipitation to the forested uplands. Deep ruts, expanding road width, and pooling of water in the road surface are indicators showing increasing damage and hydrologic alteration in the meadow. The County identified a reasonable re-route for the green dot road on an existing road system in a nearby upland area. This re-route was approved over several site visits with County, WDFW, and DNR staff. The road re-route will require maintenance and improvements to 2,400 ft of road, including a culvert replacement for an Np stream, and 650' of new road construction following the path of an abandoned two-track. The new road construction will extend about 200' onto County land, and will tie into existing road. Once the road re-route is complete, meadow restoration will commence. Machinery will be used to remove 2 small culverts, one of which conveys an Np stream. Low-grade banks will be constructed to simulate a natural stream channel on the Np stream. The road surface in the meadow will be decompacted using machinery, and roadside ditches and deep ruts will be filled and blended to a level surface. The area will be replanted with native grass seed, riparian shrubs, and limited conifer species. When restoration is complete, the meadow will be permanently gated off using gates that were installed in 2017 to permanently restrict vehicle traffic from the meadow.

**Proponent/Applicant:** Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW)  
Contact: Pete Lopushinsky  
9002 Tarpiscan Road  
Malaga, WA 98828  
(509) 663-6260  
[Pete.Lopushinsky@dfw.wa.gov](mailto:Pete.Lopushinsky@dfw.wa.gov)

**Location of Proposal, including street, if any:** Approximately 10 miles south of Wenatchee, Chelan County, Washington: Township 21N, Range 20E, Section 28.

**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 22, 2018**.

**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 Habitat Program, Protection Division

**Address:** P.O. Box 43200, Olympia, WA 98504-3200

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:** May 8, 2018

**SIGNATURE:**



Footnotes

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

SEPA Log Number: 18-028.dns