



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 18-051: MISSION RIDGE TEMPORARY ROAD

Description of Current Proposal:

The purpose of this proposal is to construct a temporary road across USFS land (Section 24) to the proposed Mission Ridge Expansion Area (Section 19). The temporary road will provide access to conduct a geologic site assessment and determine the feasibility of a future access road from the existing Mission Ridge Base Area to the proposed Mission Ridge Expansion Project which will be developed on private land, purchased in 2014 (Figure 1). Detailed evaluation of the geologic units and associated risks of geologic hazards will require some degree of surface and subsurface exploration. Exploration techniques at the site may include exploratory test-pits, borings, and/or geophysical surveys such as seismic refraction. The temporary road will allow access for subsurface exploration equipment, as well as provide a surface area for possible performance of geophysical surveys. Additionally, the limited upslope cuts of the temporary road may expose the near surface geologic units sufficiently enough to require only minimal additional exploration and inspection. At this time, the precise number, locations and methods for necessary points of exploration cannot be determined for certain until a temporary road is constructed and observed/documentated.

In addition to providing access for a geologic survey along and within the path of the proposed expansion area access road, the temporary road would provide access to the private parcel in Section 19 which would allow Mission Ridge and other regulatory and permitting agency personnel to access the site to collect information and gather data relative to design and mitigation of the proposed Mission Ridge Expansion Project. Typically, two to ten people would be on-site working at any one time. This use would be on average less than one time per week. Use of this road would be limited to dry or frozen conditions to minimize rutting and compaction.

Public access would not be allowed on the temporary road. To block access, a gate would be installed at the junction with the existing Mission Ridge parking lot. The road would be designed to meet USFS standards for short-term use. The geologic site assessment would be conducted in accordance with Chapter 11.86 of Chelan County Code.

The major components of the temporary road project are comprised of the following:

- 1) New special use permit for USFS land (Appendix C of this SEPA checklist)
- 2) Temporary road footprint:
 - a. approximate length up to 0.67 miles
 - b. approximate width of temporary road surface up to but not exceeding 16 feet
 - c. approximate ground disturbance not exceeding 1-acre
 - d. two temporary bridges placed on temporary supports (above ordinary high water)
- 3) Assessment of geologic risk and feasibility of an expansion area road

4) Soil erosion control and rehabilitation

Trees greater than 8 inches diameter at breast height (DBH) would not be removed, however some trees less than eight inches DBH and shrubs may need to be cleared. The temporary road will fall within the proposed expansion area road corridor width of 32 feet and length of 0.67 miles. This would allow the trackhoe to avoid larger trees and minimize vegetation removal to the extent practicable while minimizing the final length of the road.

The temporary road would require two stream crossings, one at each end of the route (Figure 2 – Figure 4). Temporary bridges set on temporary supports above the ordinary high water mark (OHWM) would be used at both crossings. Both temporary bridges would be designed with hydraulic capacity to pass the 100-year flood event (Q_{100}) and associated debris flow.

Proponent/Applicant:

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Location of Proposal: Mission Ridge Special Use Permit Site within the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, approximately 12 miles south of Wenatchee, Chelan County, Washington: Township 21N, Range 20E, Section 24.

Title of Document being Adopted: “Categorical Exclusion/Mission Ridge Expansion Area Temporary Road” cover letter and “Small Project Internal Scoping Request and CE Tracking Form”.

Agency that Prepared Document Being Adopted: U.S. Forest Service

Date Adopted Document was Prepared: December 15, 2017

Description of Document (or Portion) Being Adopted: The entire contents of the “Categorical Exclusion/Mission Ridge Expansion Area Temporary Road” cover letter and “Small Project Internal Scoping Request and CE Tracking Form”, which together make up the Categorical Exclusion.

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

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. 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 August 28, 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
- 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

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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.¹

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: August 14, 2018 **SIGNATURE:**

